BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp d/b/a Liberty Filing of its Revised Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) Tariff

Filing No. GT-2023-0088 Tariff No. JG-2023-0048

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF SHEETS

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COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Staff Recommendation for Approval of Tariff Sheets* states as follows:

1. On September 1, 2022, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty ("Liberty) filed four tariff sheets to adjust its weather adjustment normalization rider ("WNAR") rates with a requested effective date of October 1, 2022. On September 6, 2022, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation on the pending tariff sheets no later than September 14, 2022.

2. On September 13, 2022, Liberty filed a substitute tariff sheet, and noted that the substitute tariff sheet was revised to correct typographical errors Staff had raised with Liberty regarding Liberty's original tariff sheets filing. Staff's Recommendation is based on the tariff sheets as filed and substituted, the worksheets, and the accuracy presumed therein.

3. Weather has an impact on the use of natural gas in Liberty's service areas. Customers who reside in the Northeast and West rate districts will pay less while using the proposed WNAR rate. The Southeast rate district's residents will pay more due to the proposed WNAR rate. This means a residential customer who used 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see an approximate \$0.56 reduction in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate if located in the Northeast or West rate districts. Alternatively, a residential customer in the Southeast rate district using 100 Ccf of gas

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would see an approximate \$0.49 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate.

4. As further explained in the attached memorandum, Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets, and the sheet as substituted by Liberty on September 13, 2022, with requested effective dates of October 1, 2022. Staff recommends approval of:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

9th Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.2

9th Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.3

9th Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.4

9th Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.5

WHEREFORE, as set forth above and in the attached memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the WNAR tariff sheets filed by Liberty and as substituted on September 13, 2022, to go into effect as requested for service on October 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Isl Jamie S. Myers

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Attorney for Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to counsel of record on this 14th day of September, 2022.

/s/ Jamie S. Myers

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File File No. GT-2023-0088, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2023-0048 Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Hari Poudel, Economist, Tariff/Rate Design Unit FROM: /s/ Hari Poudel 9/14/2022 /s/ Jamie Myers 9/14/2022 Tariff/Rate Design / Date Staff Counsel Division / Date Staff Recommendation for the Approval of the Tariff Sheets Filed by SUBJECT: Liberty Utilities to Adjust its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider to go Into Effect on October 1, 2022. September 14, 2022 DATE:

On September 1, 2022, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) d/b/a Liberty ("Liberty") filed four tariff sheets to adjust its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with a requested effective date of October 1, 2022. On September 6, 2022, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2023-0048 no later than September 14, 2022. On September 13, 2022 Liberty filed a substitute tariff sheet to address two typographical errors in the substitute for Sheet No. 67.4. Staff's Recommendation is based on the tariff sheets, a substituted tariff sheet, worksheets, and the accuracy presumed therein.

Liberty's WNAR became effective on July 1, 2018. The purpose of the tariff is to adjust revenues for differences between actual heating degree days (AHDD) and normal heating degree days (NHDD). This is Liberty's ninth WNAR filing. Liberty's current and proposed rates are included in Table 1 below.

	Current		Proposed	
District	Residential	Small General Service	Residential	Small General Service
		(SGS)		(SGS)
Northeast and West	\$0.04679	\$0.02220	\$0.04117	\$0.02010
Southeast	\$0.04472	\$0.01108	\$0.04958	\$0.01302

Table 1: Current and Proposed WNAR Rates per hundred cubic feet (Ccf) by District and Class.

Weather has an impact on the use of natural gas in Liberty's service areas. Customers who reside in the Northeast and West rate districts will pay less while using the proposed WNAR rate. The Southeast rate district's residents will pay more due to the proposed WNAR rate. This means a residential customer who used 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see an approximate \$0.56 reduction in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate if located in the MO PSC Case No. GT-2023-0088 Official Case File Memorandum September 14, 2022 – Page 2 of 2

Northeast or West rate districts. Alternatively, a residential customer in the Southeast rate district using 100 Ccf of gas would see an approximate \$0.49 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate.

Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets, to go into effect for service on and after October 1, 2022, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2 9th Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.2 9th Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.3 9th Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.4 9th Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 67.5

Staff has verified that Liberty Utilities has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

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AFFIDAVIT OF HARI K. POUDEL, PhD

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF COLE)

COMES NOW, Hari K. Poudel, PhD, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation in Memorandum form*; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

Hari K. Poudel, PhD

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this $/3^{+1}$ day of September, 2022.

Dianne L. Vaught-Notary Public

DIANNA L VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal STATE OF MISSOURI Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2023 Commission #: 15207377