

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 19th day of February, 2014.

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities' Tariff Revisions Designed to Implement a General Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service in the Missouri Service Areas of the Company.)))))	
						<u>File No. GR-2014-0152</u>
						Tariff No. YG-2014-0320

**NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND
ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY**

Issue Date: February 19, 2014

Effective Date: February 19, 2014

A. Notice of Contested Case

On February 7, 2014, the Commission suspended the general rate increase tariff filed by Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., d/b/a Liberty Utilities ("Liberty"). Suspension of the tariff may occur only pending a "full" hearing and decision on the tariff's propriety. The provision for a full pre-decision hearing signifies that this action is now a "contested case." A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, but it allows for waiver of procedural formalities and a decision without a hearing, including by stipulation and agreement. This order and notice does not require any party to file an answer. The Commission's discovery regulations are at Commission regulation 4 CSR 240-2.090.

B. Delegation as to Discovery

The Commission may delegate any adjudicative authority to the regulatory law judge assigned to this action.¹ To ensure that all discovery disputes are ruled upon expeditiously,

¹ Section 386.240, RSMo, 2000.

the Commission will delegate its authority to the Regulatory Law Judge to rule on discovery disputes and to rule on all motions to compel discovery.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission delegates full authority to rule on any discovery disputes, including any motion to compel, and including a ruling at any discovery conference, to the regulatory law judge assigned to this file.

2. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

R. Kenney, Chm., Stoll, W. Kenney,
and Hall, CC., concur.

Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge