

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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.	) ) ) ) ) )	<b><u>File No. GR-2014-0152</u></b> Tariff No. YG-2014-0320
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**ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF, DIRECTING  
NOTICE, SETTING HEARINGS, AND DIRECTING FILINGS**

Issue Date: February 7, 2014

Effective Date: February 7, 2014

On February 6, 2014, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities ("Liberty"), submitted to the Missouri Public Service Commission revised tariff sheets to implement a general rate increase of approximately \$6.3 million. This would result in approximately a 15.9% increase for residential customers. Liberty points out that its rates were last increased on September 1, 2010. The proposed tariff sheets have an effective date of March 8, 2014.

Section 393.150, RSMo, authorizes the Commission to suspend the effective date of the proposed tariff sheets for 120 days, plus an additional six months to allow for a hearing. Accordingly, in order to determine if Liberty's proposed tariff sheets are just, reasonable and in the public interest, the Commission will suspend the tariff sheets for 120 days beyond the effective date. Further, because a hearing cannot be concluded within 120 days, the Commission will suspend the tariff for an additional 6 months.

The Commission will schedule an evidentiary hearing in this order and will reserve dates for a true-up hearing. The Commission will also set an early prehearing conference

and require the parties to agree on a proposed procedural schedule. Staff will have primary responsibility for preparing the proposed procedural schedule.

The Commission will also direct the parties to file recommendations regarding the scheduling locations, dates and times of local public hearings. The Office of the Public Counsel will be responsible for filing these suggestions.

The Commission will direct its Data Center to serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of the counties in Liberty's service area. Additionally, the Commission will direct the Public Information Office to make notice of this order available to the media serving Liberty's service area and to the members of the General Assembly representing those areas. Finally, the Commission will set a date by which applications to intervene shall be filed.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The proposed, revised tariff sheets, filed under Tariff File No. YG-2014-0320, by , Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, are suspended for 120 days from March 8, 2014 to July 6, 2014.

2. The proposed, revised tariff sheets suspended for 120 days in ordered paragraph 1 are suspended for an additional six months beyond July 6, 2014, to January 4, 2015.

3. An early prehearing conference shall be held on March 13, 2014 at 10:00 am, in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.

4. The parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule by March 20, 2014. The Staff of the Commission shall be responsible for filing this schedule.

5. No later than April 3, 2014, the parties shall file recommendations as to the locations, dates and times for local public hearings. The Office of the Public Counsel shall be responsible for this filing.

6. An evidentiary hearing is scheduled for August 25-September 5, 2014, beginning each weekday at 8:30 a.m. September 30-October 1, 2014, is reserved for any true-up hearing. These hearings will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.

7. Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities shall notify each affected customer of the scheduled hearings. The form and time of the notice shall be agreed upon by the parties and filed in this file.

8. The Commission's Data Center shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of each county within Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities service areas.

9. The Commission's Public Information Office shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities Company's service area and to the news media serving therein.

10. All hearings will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If any person needs additional accommodations to participate in any hearing, please call the Missouri Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

11. Any applications to intervene shall be filed no later than February 27, 2014,

with:

Secretary  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

or in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System

12. 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 style.

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014.