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 Filing of its Revised	File No. GT-2020-0055
Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider Tariff	Tariff No. JG-2020-0040

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), and for its *Recommendation* in this matter states as follows:

- 1. On August 30, 2019, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities ("Liberty Utilities") filed tariff sheets (Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0040) to revise its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR). These tariff sheets have issue dates of August 30, 2019 and effective dates of October 1, 2019.
- 2. On September 3, 2019, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Staff Recommendation and Setting Time for Responses* ("Order") ordering Staff to file a recommendation no later than September 11, 2019 regarding Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0040. Staff's Recommendation, in memorandum form, is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- 3. On September 11, 2019 Liberty Utilities filed substitute tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0040 to correct an error in the original filing brought to its attention by Staff.
- 4. As reflected in the attached Recommendation memorandum, Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets filed by Liberty Utilities on August 30, 2019 and substituted on September 11, 2019, and has determined that the tariff sheets are in compliance with the Commission's September 3, 2019 Order. Thus, Staff recommends approval of:

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.2, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet 67.2

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.3, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet 67.3

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.4, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet 67.4

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.5, Canceling 2nd Revised Sheet 67.5

WHEREFORE, as set forth in Staff's Recommendation memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the tariff sheets as filed by Liberty Utilities on September 3, 2019 and as substituted on September 11, 2019, to go into effect for service on the requested effective date of October 1, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Ron Irving</u>

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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 11th day of September, 2019.

/s/ Ron Irving

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File

File No. GT-2020-0055, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0040

Liberty Utilities

FROM: Michael Stahlman, Regulatory Economist III

/s/Robin Kliethermes 9/11/2019 /s/ Ron Irving 9/11/2019
Tariff / Rate Design Manager / Date Staff Counsel Division / Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for the Approval of the Tariff Sheets Filed by Liberty

Utilities to adjust its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider to go into effect on

October 1, 2019.

DATE: September 11, 2019

On August 30, 2019, Liberty Utilities filed four tariff sheets to adjust its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with an effective date of October 1, 2019. These tariff sheets incorporate the differences between normal and actual weather for the billing months of February 2019 through July 2019. On September 3, 2019, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation on the pending tariff no later than September 11, 2019. On September 11, 2019, Liberty Utilities filed four substitute tariff sheets.

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 third WNAR filing. Liberty's current and proposed rates are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Current and Proposed WNAR Rates by District and Class.

	Current		Proposed	
District	Residential	SGS	Residential	SGS
Northeast and West	-0.01127	-0.00477	-0.03172	-0.01333
South	-0.00159	-0.00055	0.00078	0.00025

Because the previous period experienced slightly cooler weather than normal in Liberty's Northeast and West rate districts, the proposed rates for its classes remain negative in this filing. Liberty's South rate district experienced slightly warmer weather than normal which resulted in proposed rates that are positive in this filing. This means a residential customer in the northeast or west district that used 100 ccf in a given billing month would see a line item reduction of \$3.17 in their bill, which is an additional \$2.04 reduction in their bill from the current WNAR rate, while a customer in the south district using the same amount of natural gas would see a line item increase of \$0.08 in their bill, which is an \$0.24 increase in their bill from the current WNAR rate.

MO PSC Case No. GT-2020-0055, Tariff File No. JG-2020-0040 OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM PAGE 2 of 2

Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, as substituted on September 11, 2019, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets to go into effect for service on and after October 1, 2019, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 67.2

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 67.3

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 67.4

3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 67.5

Staff has verified that Liberty Utilities is not delinquent on any assessment and 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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In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (MidStates Natural)	File No. GT-2020-0055
Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities Filing of its Revised)	Tariff No. JG-2020-0040
Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider Tariff)	
	,	
AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL	L. STA	HLMAN
STATE OF MISSOURI)		
) ss		
COUNTY OF COLE)		
COMES NOW, Michael L. Stahlman, and on and lawful age; that he contributed to the attached Stag and that the same is true and correct according to his be	ff Recomn	nendation in Memorandum form;
Further the Affiant sayeth not.		
	1	- 7
M	fichael L.	Stahlman
4		
Subscribed and sworn to be this 11 H day of Se	eptember,	2019.
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		Notary Public
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DIANNA L. VAUGHT
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 18, 2023
Commission Number: 15207377