

**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 Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider Tariff WNAR) **File No. GT-2020-0260**
Tariff No. JG-2020-0147

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF SHEETS
TO ADJUST THE WEATHER NORMALIZATION RIDER**

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

1. On February 28, 2020, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (“Liberty Utilities”) filed tariff sheets (Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0147) to revise its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR). These tariff sheets have issue dates of February 28, 2020, and effective dates of April 1, 2020.

2. On March 2, 2020, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Staff Recommendation and Setting Time for Responses* (Order) ordering Staff to file a recommendation no later than March 12th regarding the WNAR tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0147. The Commission granted Staff an extension to March 13th to file its Recommendation to allow Liberty Utilities additional time to file substitute tariff sheets to correct a WNAR calculation error. Staff’s Recommendation, in memorandum form, is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

3. On March 10, 2020, Liberty Utilities filed substitute tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0147 to correct an error in the original filing. Again on March 13th, Liberty Utilities filed its second set of substitute tariff sheets to address a WNAR calculation error. That same day, Liberty Utilities filed its third set of substitute tariff sheets to correct another error.

4. The ultimate effect of this WNAR tariff sheet filing means that a northeast or west district residential customer that used 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see an approximate \$0.75 bill increase. Likewise, a southeast district residential customer would see an approximate \$2.16 bill increase.

5. As reflected in the attached Recommendation memorandum, Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets filed by Liberty Utilities on February 28, 2020, substituted on March 10, 2020, and substituted twice again on March 13, 2020, and has determined that the tariff sheets are in compliance with the Commission's March 2, 2020 Order and the Company's WNAR tariff. Thus, Staff recommends approval of:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

4th Revised Sheet No. 67.2, Canceling 3rd Revised Sheet 67.2
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.3, Canceling 3rd Revised Sheet 67.3
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.4, Canceling 3rd Revised Sheet 67.4
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.5, Canceling 3rd 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 February 28, 2020, substituted on March 10, 2020, and twice substituted on March 13, 2020, to go into effect for service on the requested effective date of April 1, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

Robert S. Berlin
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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 this 13th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
File No. GT-2020-0260, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2020-0147
Liberty Utilities

FROM: Michael Stahlman, Regulatory Economist III

/s/ Robin Kliethermes 3/13/2020 /s/ Bob Berlin 3/13/2020
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 April 1, 2020.

DATE: March 13, 2020

On February 28, 2020, Liberty Utilities filed four tariff sheets to adjust its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with a requested effective date of April 1, 2020. On March 2, 2020, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation on the pending tariff no later than March 12, 2020. On March 10, 2020, Liberty Utilities filed four substitute tariff sheets. Staff requested and received an Order Delaying Staff Recommendation Filing on March 12th and 13th, 2020 respectively. On March 13, 2020, Liberty filed a second and third set of 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 fourth 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.

District	Current		Proposed	
	Residential	SGS	Residential	SGS
Northeast and West	-0.01127	-0.00477	-0.00376	-0.00027
South	-0.00159	-0.00055	0.01999	0.00685

Because the previous accumulation period experienced warmer weather than normal in Liberty's rate districts, the proposed rates are less negative in the Northeast and West rate districts and positive in South rate district. This means a residential customer that used 100 ccf in a given billing month would see an approximate \$0.75 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate if located in the Northeast or West rate districts, and an approximate \$2.16 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate if located in the Southeast district.

Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, as substituted on March 13, 2020, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets, as substituted on March 13, 2020, to go into effect for service on and after April 1, 2020, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

4th Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.2
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.3
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 67.4
4th Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling 3rd 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.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

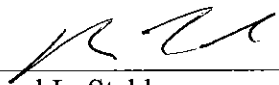
In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (MidStates Natural) **File No. GT-2020-0260**
Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities Filing of its Revised) Tariff No. JG-2020-0147
Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider Tariff WNAR)

AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL L. STAHLMAN

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF COLE)

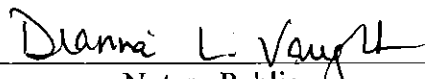
COMES NOW, Michael L. Stahlman, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation* in Memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.



Michael L. Stahlman

Subscribed and sworn to be this 12th day of March, 2020.



Notary Public

DIANNA L. VAUGHN
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 18, 2023
Commission Number: 15207377