

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District)
Electric Company d/b/a Liberty, The)
Empire District Gas Company, Liberty)
Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a Liberty)
Utilities, and Liberty Utilities (Midstates) **File No. AU-2021-0072**
Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities)
for Accounting Authority Orders Allowing)
the Electric, Gas, Water, and Wastewater)
Utilities to Record and Preserve Costs)
Related to COVID-19)

ORDER DIRECTING JOINT PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Issue Date: October 19, 2020

Effective Date: October 19, 2020

On September 17, 2020, The Empire District Electric Company, The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC, and Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. (collectively "Liberty") applied for accounting authority orders related to COVID-19. On October 19, 2020, the Commission granted the intervention requests of Midwest Energy Consumers Group, Missouri School Boards' Association, the National Housing Trust, and Renew Missouri.

In order to expedite the development of a procedural schedule and in light of the current social distancing restrictions, the Commission will direct the parties to jointly propose a procedural schedule.

The Commission requests the parties include the following as part of a proposed procedural schedule leading to an evidentiary hearing:

- Submission of a Joint Stipulation of Facts;

- Submission of List of Issues and Order of Hearing Components, and Position Statements at least four days in advance of the hearing;
- At least one settlement conference;
- Allowance for ten business days for transcript preparation;
- An evidentiary hearing held via WebEx.

Any request for expedited hearing transcripts must be made before the procedural schedule is established.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than November 9, 2020, the parties shall submit a joint proposed schedule as described in this order.
2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 19th day of November, 2020.