

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

In The Matter of the Application of The Empire )  
District Gas Company for a Name Change to ) **File No. GN-2021-0039**  
The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty ) Tariff Nos, YG-2021-0026  
) and YG-2021-0061

In The Matter of the Application of Liberty )  
Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a ) **File No. GN-2021-0041**  
Liberty Utilities (MNG) for a Name Change to ) Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0025  
Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a ) and YG-2021-0060  
Liberty )

In The Matter of the Application of Liberty ) **File No. WN-2021-0042**  
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC. d/b/a Liberty ) Tariff Nos. YW-2021-0028,  
Utilities for a Name Change to Liberty ) YW-2021-0029, YW-2021-  
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC d/b/a Liberty ) 0030, YW-2021-0031, YW-  
) 2021-0032, YW-2021-  
) 0033, YW-2021-0034, YW-  
) 2021-0035, YW-2021-  
) 0038, YW-2021-0039,  
) YW-2021-0040, JW-2021-  
) 0064, YW-2021-0065,  
) YW-2021-0066, YW-2021-  
) YW-2021-0067, YW-2021-  
) 0068, YW-2021-0069,  
) YW-2021-0071, YW-2021-  
) 0072, YW-2021-0074,  
) YW-2021-0075, and  
) YW-2021-0077

In The Matter of the Application of Liberty ) **File No. SN-2021-0043**  
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC. d/b/a Liberty ) Tariff Nos. YS-2021-0027,  
Utilities for a Name Change to Liberty ) YS-2021-0036, YS-2021-  
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC d/b/a Liberty ) 0037, YS-2021-0070, YS-  
) 2021-0073, and  
) YS-2021-0076

## ORDER DIRECTING RESPONSE

Issue Date: October 1, 2020

Effective Date: October 1, 2020

These files were opened on August 15, 2020,<sup>1</sup> when The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC. (collectively “The Companies”) submitted a *Notice of Fictitious Name Registration* indicating they have registered, and intended to use, the fictitious name “Liberty”. However, the title page tariffs and adoption notice tariffs scheduled to become effective on October 16, indicate each of The Companies will use the d/b/a “Liberty Utilities or Liberty”. The Commission also notes that The Empire District Electric Company’s tariff refers to only a single d/b/a of “Liberty”.

The Commission’s Staff recommended on October 1 that the Commission approve those tariffs. Before acting upon those tariffs, the Commission has some questions regarding The Companies’ intentions as to how they use the dual fictitious names. For example:

- Is the listing of the two names simply intended to facilitate a transition from “Liberty Utilities” to “Liberty”?
- Will some customers be billed by “Liberty Utilities” while others are billed by “Liberty”?
- Will The Companies file Annual Reports under both names?

To obtain more information, the Commission will direct The Companies to explain how they intend to use the dual fictitious names.

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<sup>1</sup> All dates refer to 2020 unless otherwise indicated.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC. shall file a pleading no later than October 7, 2020, explaining how they intend to use the dual fictitious names of “Liberty Utilities” and “Liberty”.
2. This order shall be effective when issued.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

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

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2020.