# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Rate Increase	)	
Request for Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC	)	Case No. WR-2018-0170
d/b/a Liberty Utilities	)	

### NOTICE OF EXTENSION

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and for its *Motion for Extension* in this matter hereby states:

- 1. On December 15, 2107, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a Liberty Utilities ("Company") submitted a request to implement a general rate increase in its water and sewer rates, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.050.
- 2. Under 4 CSR 240-3.050(12) Staff and the Company can agree to extend the dates applicable to a small utility rate case up to 60 days from those mandates set out in 4 CSR 240-3.050.
- 3. Staff and the Company have come to a mutual agreement as to an extension. Therefore, Staff gives notice of an extension of the small rate case timeline Day 120 requirement, and all subsequent deadlines, of 10 days. This extension would move the Day 120 requirement to April 24, 2018. A revised timeline is attached to this *Motion*.

WHEREFORE, Staff and the Company have agreed to extend the small rate case timeline by 10 days.

Respectfully Submitted,

# /s/ Casi Aslin

Casi Aslin
Legal Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 67934
Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Mo 65102-0360
(573) 751-8517
casi.aslin@psc.mo.gov

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

/s/ Casi Aslin

# **Small Utility Rate Case Timeline**

## MO PSC Case No. WR-2018-0170, SR-2018-0171

Utility Name & Contact Info Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC

Contact Person Jill Schwartz

Mailing Address 602 S Joplin Avenue

**Joplin, MO 64802** 

Phone Contact 417-626-5941

E-Mail Address jill.schwartz@libertyutilities.com

Date Case Opened December 15, 2017

Agreement Filing Due Date May 24, 2018

9-Month Deadline September 15, 2018

11-Month Deadline November 15, 2018

Set out on the following pages is the activities timeline pertaining to the processing of the above-referenced small utility revenue increase request. This timeline assumes that the Staff's investigation of the revenue increase request will result in a conclusion that an increase in the subject utility's operating revenues is needed, that at least the Utility and Staff will reach an agreement regarding the overall resolution of the request without the need for time extensions, and that the request will be resolved without an arbitration process being used or an evidentiary hearing being held. For cases where an arbitration process is going to be used or an evidentiary hearing is going to be held, it is anticipated that a procedural schedule will be set when that becomes known. In such instances, the 9-month and 11-month deadlines will need to be considered in setting the procedural schedule.

The schedule set out in the timeline establishes the Target Due Date for the completion of certain activities needed to process the request in a timely manner. Extensions of the disposition agreement filing deadline, which is 150 days after the date the utility files its request, and certain other deadlines are allowed (and under some circumstances are required) and if executed will result in changes to the timeline. Agreements for such extensions, which are limited to a maximum of 60 days, will be reduced to writing and filed in the case file, along with an updated timeline.

The entries in the Target Day column represent the number of days from the date the utility filed its request. The entries in the Target Due Date column show the date when the Target Day hits the calendar. To determine the entries for the Calendar Due Date column, Target Due Dates falling on a weekend or a holiday are moved to the next regular working day, except that the effective dates for pending revised tariff sheets cannot be adjusted.

### Page 1 of 5 Pages

				rage rororages	-
Target Day	Target Due Date	Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"	Rule Sectio
0	12/15/17	N/A	Request Letter Filed and Case Opened (agreement filing due date calculated from this date)	Utility	3
5	12/20/17	12/20/17	Compliance with Section 4 of Rule Confirmed (case can be dismissed in case of non-compliance)	Case Manager	4
7	12/22/17	12/22/17	Case Activities Timeline Filed in Case File	Case Manager	5
10	12/25/17	12/26/17	Draft of Initial Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
20	01/04/18	01/04/18	Requests for Information Needed for Audit Communicated to Utility by Assigned Staff (if done in writing, copies also sent to OPC)	Assigned Staff	
30	01/14/18	01/16/18	Initial Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	7
40	01/24/18	01/24/18	Responses to Requests for Information Provided to Staff by Utility (staff provides copies of information received to OPC) <b>OR</b> Extension of Agreement Filing Due Date Agreed to by Utility <b>OR</b> Staff May File Motion to Dismiss Case	Utility & Assigned Staff	4
			Copy of Initial Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	7
50	02/03/18	02/05/18	Follow-Up Requests for Information Communicated to Utility by Assigned Staff (if done in writing, copies also sent to OPC)	Assigned Staff	
60	02/13/18	02/13/18	End of Response Period for Initial Customer Notice	N/A	7
70	02/23/18	02/23/18	Responses to Follow-Up Requests for Information Provided to Staff by Utility (staff provides copies of information received to the OPC) <b>OR</b> Extension of Agreement Filing Due Date Agreed to by Utility <b>OR</b> Staff May File Motion to Dismiss Case	Utility & Assigned Staff; Case Manager	4
75	02/28/18	02/28/18	Deadline for Completion of Construction Projects to be Included in Case <b>OR</b> Agreement Filing Due Date Extended So Projects Can be Included in Case	Utility; Case Manager	
			Continued Compliance with Section 4 of Rule Confirmed (case can be dismissed in case of non-compliance)	Case Manager	4
			Unless Notified Otherwise, or Unless Extensions Have Been Agreed Upon, Utility & OPC Can Assume the Process is On-Track for Timely Completion	Case Manager	

Page 2 of 5 Pages

				rage z or 5 rages	
Target Day	Target Due Date	Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"	Rule Section
80	03/05/18	03/05/18	Basic Audit/Investigation Work Completed	Assigned Staff	
85	03/10/18	03/12/18	Initial Audit/Investigation Reports Completed and Provided to Case Manager	Assigned Staff	
90	03/15/18	03/15/18	Overview of Staff's Initial Audit/Investigation Results Provided to the Utility & OPC	Case Manager	9
100	03/25/18	03/26/18	Utility & OPC Submit Responses Regarding Staff's Case Overview to Case Manager (errors/ommissions to be identified and suggested changes to be included) OR Staff Assumes Information Provided is Acceptable (Staff's audit considered "complete" at this time)	Utility & OPC	
115	04/09/18	04/09/18	Any necessary updates to Audit/Investigation Reports finalized and provided to Case Manager	Assigned Staff	
120	04/24/18	04/24/18	Staff's Settlement Proposal Packet Sent to Utility & OPC and Arrangements Made for Conference Call or Meeting to Discuss the Proposal	Case Manager	10
130	05/04/18	05/04/18	Conference Call or Meeting Held with Utility & OPC to Discuss Staff's Settlement Proposal	Utility, OPC & Staff	
135	135 05/09/18	05/09/18	Utility & OPC Notify Staff of Whether They Agree with the Settlement Proposal (if not, the reasons for that and suggested changes to the settlement proposal documents are provided to the Case Manager)	Utility & OPC	
			Utility Must Respond <b>OR</b> Agree to Extension of Agreement Filing Due Date <b>OR</b> Staff May File Motion to Dismiss Case	Utility; Case Manager	4
140	05/14/18	05/14/18	Agreed-Upon Changes to Settlement Proposal Documents Completed and Final Disposition Agreement Sent to Company for Signing (copy also sent to OPC; OPC may or may not sign)	Case Manager	
			Continued Compliance with Section 4 of Rule Confirmed (case can be dismissed in case of non-compliance)	Case Manager	4
145	05/19/18	05/21/18	Signed Disposition Agreement Returned to Staff	Utility; OPC (if applicable)	
			Staff Sends Revised Tariff Sheets and Draft Tariff Filing Transmittal Letter to the Utility	Case Manager	
150	05/24/18	05/24/18	Staff Files Executed Disposition Agreement	Case Manager	11

Activities needed from this point forward vary based on the approach taken by the OPC. The next three sections set out the activities needed based on the different OPC approaches that are possible.

### Page 3 of 5 Pages

This section pertains to the situation where the Utility, Staff & OPC reach an agreement on the overall disposition of the request, and is thus based on the fact that the Utility will not send out a second customer notice. In this situation, a minimum of 30 days is needed between the filing date and the proposed effective date of the Utility's tariff revisions. The dates shown assume that the Utility will make a 30-day tariff filing on Day 155.

Target Day	Target Due Date	Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"	Rule Section
155	05/29/18	05/29/18	Utility Files Necessary Tariff Revisions	Utility	13
165	06/08/18	06/08/18	Staff Recommendation Filed if applicable <b>OR</b> ordered by the Commission. (includes confirmation of Utility's continued compliance with Section 4 of Rule <b>OR</b> motion for suspension of tariff revisions requesting correction of the deficiencies will be submitted)	Case Manager	
175	06/18/18	06/18/18	Order Approving Tariff Revisions Issued	Assigned RLJ	
185	06/28/18	06/28/18	Tariff Revisions Effective "On and After" this Date	N/A	13
190	07/03/18	07/03/18	Draft of Final Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
200	07/03/18	07/03/18	Final Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	22
210	07/23/18	07/23/18	Copy of Final Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	22
215	07/28/18	07/30/18	Notice Closing Case Issued	Assigned RLJ	

### Page 4 of 5 Pages

This section pertains to the situation where only the Utility and Staff reach an agreement on the overall disposition of the request, and is thus based on the fact that the Utility will send out a second customer notice. This section is also based on the assumption that the OPC will <u>not</u> request a local public hearing. In this situation, a minimum of 45 days is needed between the filing date and the proposed effective date of the Utility's tariff revisions. The dates shown assume that the Utility will make a 45-day tariff filing on Day 155.

Target Day	Target Due Date	Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"	Rule Section
150	05/24/18	05/24/18	Draft of Second Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
155	05/29/18	05/29/18	Utility Files Necessary Tariff Revisions	Utility	14
160	06/03/18	06/04/18	Second Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	14
170	06/13/18	06/13/18	Copy of Second Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	14
180	06/23/18	06/25/18	End of Response Period for Second Customer Notice	N/A	14
187	06/30/18	07/02/18	OPC Files Its Position Statement	OPC	15
188	07/01/18	07/02/18	Staff Recommendation Filed if applicable <b>OR</b> ordered by the Commission. (includes confirmation of Utility's continued compliance with Section 4 of Rule <b>OR</b> motion for suspension of tariff revisions requesting correction of the deficiencies will be submitted)	Case Manager	
190	07/03/18	07/03/18	Order Approving Tariff Revisions Issued	Assigned RLJ	
200	07/13/18	07/13/18	Tariff Revisions Effective "On and After" this Date	N/A	14
205	07/18/18	07/18/18	Draft of Final Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
215	07/28/18	07/30/18	Final Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	22
225	08/07/18	08/07/18	Copy of Final Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	22
230	08/12/18	08/13/18	Notice Closing Case Issued	Assigned RLJ	

This section pertains to the situation where only the Utility and Staff reach an agreement on the overall disposition of the request, and is thus based on the fact that the Utility will send out a second customer notice. This section is also based on the assumption that the OPC will request a local public hearing and that one will be held. In this situation, a minimum of 45 days is needed between the filing date and the proposed effective date of the Utility's tariff revisions. The dates shown assume that the Utility will make a 45-day tariff filing on Day 155. The dates also assume that the tariff revisions will be suspended for 45 days past the proposed effective date, and that the local public hearing will be held 30 days before the end of the suspension period.

Target Day	Target Due Date	Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"	Rule Section
150	05/24/18	05/24/18	Draft of Second Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
155	05/29/18	05/29/18	Utility Files Necessary Tariff Revisions	Utility	14
160	06/03/18	06/04/18	Second Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	14
170	06/13/18	06/13/18	Copy of Second Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	14
180	06/23/18	06/25/18	End of Response Period for Second Customer Notice	N/A	
187	06/30/18	07/02/18	OPC Files Request for Local Public Hearing	OPC	15
190	07/03/18	07/03/18	Order Setting Local Public Hearing and Suspending Tariff Revisions Issued	Assigned RLJ	
195	07/08/18	07/09/18	Draft of LPH Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
200	07/13/18	07/13/18	Notice of Local Public Hearing Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	18
210	07/23/18	07/23/18	Copy of LPH Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	18
215	07/28/18	07/30/18	Local Public Hearing Held	Assigned RLJ	
222	08/04/18	08/06/18	Staff Files Notice re: Possible Changes to the Disposition Agreement Based on Info Provided at the Local Public Hearing (includes motion to suspend tariff revisions if needed) 5 WORKING DAYS	Case Manager	19
229	08/11/18	08/13/18	OPC Files Its Position Statement** 10 WORKING DAYS	OPC	19
230	08/12/18	08/13/18	Staff Recommendation Filed if applicable <b>OR</b> ordered by the Commission. (includes confirmation of Utility's continued compliance with Section 4 of Rule <b>OR</b> motion for suspension of tariff revisions requesting correction of the deficiencies will be submitted)	Case Manager	
235	08/17/18	08/17/18	Order Approving Tariff Revisions Issued	Assigned RLJ	
245	08/27/18	08/27/18	Tariff Revisions Effective "On and After" this Date	N/A	14
250	09/01/18	09/04/18	Draft of Final Customer Notice Sent to Utility & OPC	Case Manager	
260	09/11/18	09/11/18	Final Customer Notice Mailed to Customers (copy sent to Case Manager for filing in case file)	Utility	22
270	09/21/18	09/21/18	Copy of Final Customer Notice Filed in Case File	Case Manager	22
275	09/26/18	09/26/18	Notice Closing Case Issued	Assigned RLJ	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			