

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by internet and phone audio conference on the 21st day of May, 2020.

In the Matter of Empire District Electric)
Company, Empire District Gas Company,)
Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a)
Liberty Utilities, Liberty Utilities (Midstates)
Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities)
(MNG) Motion for Temporary Variances)
Regarding Electric, Gas, Water, and Sewer)
Tariffs and the Impact of COVID-19 on)
Missouri Customers)

File No. AO-2020-0335

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFFS

Issue Date: May 21, 2020

Effective Date: May 21, 2020

On April 23, 2020, The Empire District Electric Company (EDE), The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC (Liberty Water) and Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. (Midstates), each a Liberty Utilities Company, (collectively Liberty Utilities) filed a motion seeking temporary variances from their tariffs. The Commission granted those temporary variances in an order issued on May 13. EDE, Liberty Water, and EDG also asked the Commission to approve temporary tariff revisions to allow for the payment of credits to customers who use a credit or debit card for electronically submitted payments and are charged a fee for that use. The Commission did not address the proposed tariffs in its May 13 order.

The Commission's Staff advised the Commission to reject the tariff filings. Public Counsel agreed with Staff. Liberty Utilities replied to Staff and Public Counsel's

recommendations on May 11, expressing continued support for the proposed tariffs. Staff and Public Counsel responded on May 15, reiterating their advice to reject the tariffs as unnecessary and inappropriate.

Unless the Commission takes some action, those tariffs will go into effect on May 23 by operation of law. At this point, the Commission lacks a factual basis for either approving or rejecting the proposed tariffs. To allow sufficient time to fully consider those tariffs, the Commission will suspend them for ninety days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The tariff filed by EDE on April 23, 2020, assigned Tariff Tracking No. YE-2020-0186, is suspended ninety days from its effective date of May 23, 2020, to August 21, 2020.

2. The tariff filed by EDG on April 23, 2020, assigned Tariff Tracking No. YG-2020-0187, is suspended ninety days from its effective date of May 23, 2020, to August 21, 2020.

3. The tariff filed by EDE on April 23, 2020, assigned Tariff Tracking No. YW-2020-0188, is suspended ninety days from its effective date of May 23, 2020, to August 21, 2020.

4. The tariff filed by Liberty Water on April 23, 2020, assigned Tariff Tracking No. YW-2020-0189, is suspended ninety days from its effective date of May 23, 2020, to August 21, 2020.

5. The tariff filed by Liberty Water on April 23, 2020, assigned Tariff Tracking No. YS-2020-0190, is suspended ninety days from its effective date of May 23, 2020, to August 21, 2020.

6. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and
Holsman CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge