

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

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities )  
(Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a )  
Liberty’s Purchased Gas Adjustment )  
Tariff Filing )

**Case No. GR-2023-0253**  
Tariff No. JG-2024-0059

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

1. On November 3, 2023, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty Midstates”) filed a revised tariff sheet bearing an effective date of December 3, 2023, Tariff File No. JG-2024-0059, and an accompanying cover letter with supporting worksheets. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect changes in Liberty Midstates’ Regular Purchased Gas Adjustment (“RPGA”) factors as a result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas. Also included in this filing is the annual change to the Actual Cost Adjustment (“ACA”).

2. The Commission issued an order on November 7, 2023, directing Staff to file a recommendation regarding Liberty Midstates’ request and corresponding tariff sheets, Tariff File No. JG-2024-0059, no later than November 16, 2023.

3. Staff has reviewed Liberty Midstates’ filings and determined that the rates in the proposed tariff sheet, Tariff No. JG-2024-0059, were calculated in conformance with Liberty Midstates’ PGA Clause.

4. Due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors Liberty Midstates submitted in this filing, Staff recommends the

Commission approve the tariff sheet in Tariff File No. JG-2024-0059, on an interim basis, subject to refund, for service on and after December 3, 2023.

5. Also, due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors Liberty Midstates submitted in this filing, Staff requests the Commission order Staff to submit its results and recommendations regarding the information in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before December 16, 2024.

**WHEREFORE**, for the foregoing reasons and those stated in Staff's Memorandum attached hereto, Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order approving Liberty Midstates' tariff sheet filed in Tariff No. JG-2024-0059, on an interim, subject to refund status; and further order Staff to file its recommendation Liberty Midstates' ACA filing no later than December 16, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**

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**ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File,  
Case No. GR-2023-0253, Tariff No. JG-2024-0059  
Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty

**FROM:** Lisa Schlup – Lead Senior Utility Regulatory Auditor  
Procurement Analysis Department

/s/ David M. Sommerer 11/14/2023  
Financial and Business Analysis Div./Date

**SUBJECT:** Staff Recommendation for Liberty Utilities (Midstates) Annual PGA Tariff Filing  
Effective December 3, 2023

**DATE:** November 14, 2023

On November 3, 2023, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty” or “Company”), filed one (1) tariff sheet bearing a proposed effective date of December 3, 2023. In addition, Liberty filed a single page cover letter and supporting worksheets. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect changes in Liberty’s Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season and changes in the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) factors.

Liberty states the following in its cover letter:

As a result of this filing, Liberty’s West Area (WEMO), the effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA rate from the current \$1.27897 per Ccf (100 cubic feet) to \$0.86923 per Ccf., For the Kirksville area, the effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA rate from the current \$0.91851 per Ccf to \$0.54489 per Ccf. For the Northeast Area (NEMO), the effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA rate from the current \$0.97910 per Ccf to \$0.54904 per Ccf. For the Southeast area (SEMO) the effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA rate from the current \$0.94475 per Ccf to \$0.48712 per Ccf.

On November 7, 2023, the Commission issued “Order Directing Staff Recommendation and Setting Time for Responses” to Liberty’s Purchases Gas Adjustment Tariff Filing no later than November 16, 2023.

Case No. GR-2023-0253, under which these changes were filed, was established to track Liberty’s natural gas costs to be reviewed in its 2022-2023 ACA filing. Case No. GR-2023-0128 was

established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 2021-2022 ACA filing. These rate changes should be made on an interim basis, subject to refund pending final Commission decisions in ACA Case Nos. GR-2023-0128 (2021-2022 ACA period) and GR-2023-0253 (2022-2023 ACA period).

The Staff has verified that the Company has filed its annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment. Staff has reviewed this filing and is not aware of any issue currently pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing, other than those mentioned above.

Due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors submitted in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department (PAD) requests permission to submit its results and recommendations regarding the information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before December 16, 2024.

Staff has reviewed this filing and determined that the rates on the proposed tariff sheet is calculated in conformance with Liberty's PGA Clause. Therefore, Staff recommends that the following tariff sheets filed on November 3, 2023, be approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, with an effective date of December 3, 2023.

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Midstates ) **Case No. GR-2023-0253**  
Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty's Purchased )  
Gas Adjustment Tariff Filing ) **Tracking No. JG-2024-0059**

**AFFIDAVIT OF LISA SCHLUP**

STATE OF MISSOURI )  
 )  
COUNTY OF COLE ) ss.

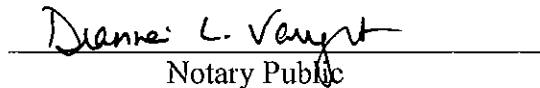
**COMES NOW LISA SCHLUP**, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation, in Memorandum form*; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

  
LISA SCHLUP

**JURAT**

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.

  
Notary Public

DIANNA L. VAU  
Notary Public - Notary at  
State of Missouri  
Commissioned for County  
My Commission Expires: May 23, 2027  
Commission Number: 15203377