# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Request of Liberty
Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a
Liberty to Implement a General Rate
Increase for Natural Gas Service in the
Missouri Service Areas of the Company

File No. GR-2024-0106

#### ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION

Issue Date: March 26, 2024 Effective Date: March 26, 2024

On February 9, 2024,<sup>1</sup> Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty filed proposed tariff sheets requesting a general rate increase. The Commission provided notice of Liberty's filing and set a deadline of March 6 for applications to intervene.

On March 18, the Missouri School Boards' Association (MSBA) late-filed its intervention request. MSBA stated it is a trade association representing approximately 390 school districts, several of which are subject to Liberty's natural gas tariff rates. MSBA further states that it is an interested, if not necessary, party as it is the largest School Transportation Program (STP)<sup>2</sup> association in the Liberty service area and will be affected by tariff alterations in this case, in particular as related to gas transportation to the schools.

MSBA states that its interests in this filing are unique and cannot be reasonably represented by any other entity. MSBA further argues that its intervention would serve the public interest, including numerous schools and school districts. MSBA explains that its intervention request is late due to internal delivery issues, which have since been

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All dates refer to 2024 unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Section 393.310 RSMo, (2016).

corrected. Lastly, MSBA notes that it contacted all counsel of record and none objected to its intervention.

Applications to intervene are governed by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.075, which in subsection (3) requires either: a showing of an interest different than that of the general public which may be adversely affected by a final order; or a showing that granting the intervention would serve the public interest. Late-filed applications are addressed in subsection (10), which provides in part, "Motions to intervene...filed after the intervention date may be granted upon a showing of good cause."

Pursuant to the representation of counsel for MSBA that no parties object, the Commission will consider the request unopposed.

The Commission finds that MSBA has interests which are different from that of the general public and also finds that allowing it to intervene will serve the public interest. The Commission also finds good cause for the late filing shown in that no parties objected to the intervention, and MSBA explained its late-filing and stated that the internal delievery issue causing the late-filed request has been corrected. The Commission anticipates MSBA will be able to timely-file any future intervention requests.

Therefore, in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.075(3) and (10), the Commission will grant the application to intervene.

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The intervention request of MSBA is granted.
- 2. This order shall be effective when issued.



## BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell Secretary

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

### STATE OF MISSOURI

#### OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

SSION OF THE OF

Nancy Dippell Secretary

# MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION March 26, 2024

#### File/Case No. GR-2024-0106

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Nancy Dippell Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.