

# 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 ) **File No. GR-2024-0106**  
Increase for Natural Gas Service in the )  
Missouri Service Areas of the Company )

## ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Issue Date: June 21, 2024

Effective Date: June 21, 2024

On February 9, 2024,<sup>1</sup> Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty or “the Company”) filed proposed tariff sheets to produce an additional approximately \$13.1 million in annual revenues. The Commission directed the parties to submit proposed details for local public hearings, including proposed language to be included in customer notices.

On June 11, 2024, the Staff of the Commission (Staff), on behalf of all parties,<sup>2</sup> submitted a proposed local public hearing schedule, which the Commission finds reasonable and will implement with changes necessary to accommodate the Commission’s calendar. Also submitted was proposed language to be included in customer notices, which the Commission finds reasonable and will order without change.

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

<sup>2</sup> Parties to this file are Staff, Liberty, the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC), and the Missouri School Boards’ Association (MSBA).

The Commission will order eight local public hearings and a corresponding notice. Six hearings will be held in person, and two will be held via video and telephone conference.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Commission’s Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make an informal presentation and conduct a question-and-answer session for the public at the beginning of each local public hearing. Comments to the Commission from the public will begin at the conclusion of the question and answer session.

2. Liberty, Staff, and OPC shall make a representative available to address substantive issues during the question-and-answer sessions. Any other party may also choose to have a representative present.

3. No later than ten days before the virtual public hearings, Liberty shall provide notice of the hearings to each of its customers. Such notice shall be as agreed to by the parties and set forth in Staff’s *Filing of Local Public Hearing Notice*,<sup>3</sup> with the addition of updated meeting access information, as attached.

4. Any person may participate at any of the hearings, but are encouraged to attend the hearing closest to their service area for the most relevant information. Testimony at each hearing will be limited to five minutes per person.

5. In person local public hearings shall be held as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
August 26, 2024	Butler	Noon	Old High School Gym 200 W. Pine Street Butler, MO 64730 (Gym entrance is at the corner of Pine and Havanah)

<sup>3</sup> Filed June 11, 2024.

Date	City	Start Time	Location
August 27, 2024	Hannibal	6:00 p.m.	Hannibal High School Cafeteria 4500 McMasters Avenue Hannibal, MO 63401
August 28, 2024	Kirksville	Noon	Adair County Courthouse Courtroom 106 W. Washington Street Kirksville, MO 63501
September 10, 2024	Kennett	6:00 p.m.	Kennett City Hall City Council Room 200 Cedar St. Kennett, MO 63857
September 11, 2024	Sikeston	Noon	Sikeston City Hall City Council Chambers 105 E. Center Sikeston, MO 63801
September 11, 2024	Cape Girardeau	6:00 p.m.	Cape Girardeau Public Library Oscar Christian Hirsch Community Room 711 N. Clark Street Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

6. The virtual local public hearings shall be as follows:

Date	Start Time	<b>At the time of the hearing, dial 1-855-718-6621 and enter the Access Code/Password</b>
August 29, 2024	Noon	Meeting Number/Access Code: 2632 660 9221 Password: 0106
August 29, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Meeting Number/Access Code: 2631 415 4923 Password: 0106

a. To attend a virtual local public hearing **by telephone**, at the time of the hearing call toll free 1-855-718-6621, listen to the prompt and enter the meeting number/access code set out above, followed by # (pound/hashtag symbol). If prompted for a password, enter 0106.

b. To attend a virtual local public hearing **by video/internet** visit the website at [www.webex.com](http://www.webex.com) or download the Cisco WebEx Meetings application. At hearing time, enter the corresponding meeting number/access code and password listed above.

7. To facilitate an orderly presentation that can be preserved for the record, members of the public who wish to participate in the virtual public hearings should register by sending their first and last name, phone number, email address, and the hearing they wish to attend to [pscinfo@psc.mo.gov](mailto:pscinfo@psc.mo.gov), or by calling (800) 392-4211 by 5:00 p.m. the day before the hearing they wish to attend.

8. Any persons needing an accommodation to participate in the hearings as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

9. Comments may also be submitted to the Commission in writing by mail to the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, or electronically using the Commission's electronic filing system at [https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit\\_Comments](https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit_Comments). When submitting comments please reference File No. GR-2024-0106.

10. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make a copy of this order available to the members of the media representing customers in Liberty's service areas.

11. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order to the county commission for each county in Liberty's service areas.

12. 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 21st day of June, 2024.

Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty Midstates”) has filed a rate increase request with the Missouri Public Service Commission (“PSC”). The requested increase would total approximately \$11.2 million for an approximate increase of 32.57% in the territory served as Liberty Midstates. However, the Public Service Commission may also exceed the utility’s requested increase or limit it.

The proposed base rates increase monthly bills for a residential customer using 54 CCF per month by: \$15.00 or 20.60% in NEMO; \$15.00 or 16.60% in WEMO; and \$15.87 or 28.00% in SEMO. 54 CCF represents the combined average of monthly usage for residential customers in the NEMO, WEMO, and SEMO service areas. Please note that this increase is for the *average residential customer* and individual bills may be higher or lower than the increase summarized here.

The Company is requesting that the Commission allow it to continue its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge (“ISRS”) and receive rate recovery of the property tax tracker established by Senate Bill 745.

### **Local Public Hearing Information**

The PSC is holding public hearings where customers can ask questions and testify about Liberty’s rate request. Customers are encouraged to participate in the hearings.

Each hearing is divided into two parts. In the first part, you may ask questions of Liberty, the Missouri Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”), and the PSC Staff. The PSC Commissioners and the regulatory law judge will not attend the informal question and answer session. Your questions and the answers provided will not be part of the evidence the PSC reviews. In the second part, PSC Commissioners and a regulatory law judge will be present, and you may testify as part of the official record of the case.

Public hearings will be held in person and virtually according to the following schedule:

<b>In Person Public Hearings</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
August 26	Butler	Noon	Old High School Gym 200 W. Pine Street Butler, MO 64730 (Gym entrance is at the corner of Pine and Havanah)
August 27	Hannibal	6:00 p.m.	Hannibal High School Cafeteria 4500 McMasters Avenue Hannibal, MO 63401

<b>In Person Public Hearings</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
August 28	Kirksville	Noon	Adair County Courthouse Courtroom 106 W. Washington Street Kirksville, MO 63501
September 10	Kennett	6:00 p.m.	Kennett City Hall City Council Room 200 Cedar St. Kennett, MO 63857
September 11	Sikeston	Noon	Sikeston City Hall City Council Chambers 105 E Center Sikeston, MO 63801
September 11	Cape Girardeau	6:00 p.m.	Cape Girardeau Public Library Oscar Christian Hirsch Community Room 711 N. Clark Street Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Anyone is welcome to attend the in-person local public hearings at the addresses and times listed above.

<b>Virtual Public Hearings</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Dial-In Information</b>	<b>Start Time</b>
August 29	<b>Dial 1-855-718-6621</b> Access Code: 2632 660 9221 Password: 0106	Noon
August 29	<b>Dial 1-855-718-6621</b> Access Code: 2631 415 4923 Password: 0106	6:00 p.m.

To attend a virtual local public hearing by telephone, at the time of the hearing call the number listed in the table above, listen to the prompt and enter the corresponding meeting number listed above followed by # (pound/hashtag symbol). If prompted for a password, enter the corresponding password listed above. To attend a virtual local public hearing by WebEx video (internet), visit the website [www.webex.com](http://www.webex.com). You can also download the Cisco WebEx meetings application on your

mobile device, laptop, desktop, or tablet prior to the hearing and join the meeting at the hearing time by entering the corresponding meeting number and password listed above.

To facilitate an orderly presentation that can be preserved for the record, members of the public who wish to participate in the WebEx question-and-answer session or make comment to the Commission during a WebEx hearing shall register by calling 800-392-4211 by 5:00 p.m. the day before the hearing.

Any individuals needing special accommodations to participate in the hearings should contact the PSC at least **ten days prior to the hearing** at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

### **Additional Ways to Provide Comments and Feedback**

If you are unable to attend a public hearing, or if you would like to make written comments or receive additional information, you may contact the PSC directly at:

Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Telephone: (800) 392-4211  
Email: [pscinfo@psc.mo.gov](mailto:pscinfo@psc.mo.gov)

In addition, you may also provide comments or request additional information from the OPC, a state agency tasked with representing the interests of the public in proceedings before the PSC, by contacting the OPC directly at:

Office of the Public Counsel  
P.O. Box 2230  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Telephone: (866) 922-2959 (toll free) or (573) 751-4857 Email:  
[opcservice@opc.mo.gov](mailto:opcservice@opc.mo.gov)

Comments may also be submitted electronically using the PSC's Electronic Filing Information System ("EFIS") at [https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit\\_Comments](https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit_Comments). From this webpage, click on "Submit comments" under the heading "Submit Comments in Writing." When submitting comments please reference File No. GR-2024-0106.

All documents filed as part of the rate review can be found on the PSC's EFIS at [psc.mo.gov/general/efis](https://psc.mo.gov/general/efis), click on "Docket Sheet" under the heading "EFIS Shortcuts," and enter Case No. GR-2024-0106.

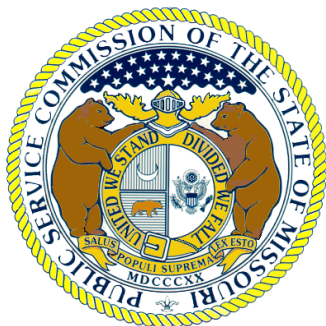


**STATE OF MISSOURI**

**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 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 2024.**



*Nancy Dippell*

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**Nancy Dippell**  
**Secretary**

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**June 21, 2024**

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

**MO PSC Staff**

Staff Counsel Department  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel  
(OPC)**

Marc Poston  
200 Madison Street, Suite 650  
P.O. Box 2230  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
opc@opc.mo.gov

**County of Adair, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
106 W. Washington St., 2nd Fl.  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
scollop@adaircomo.com

**County of Bates, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
1 N. Delaware  
Bates County Courthouse  
Butler, MO 64730  
bates@sos.mo.gov

**County of Butler, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
100 N. Main, Room 202  
Butler County Courthouse  
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901  
tdbutler@tcmax.net

**County of Cape Girardeau,  
Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
1 Barton Square  
Cape Girardeau County  
Administration Bldg.  
Jackson, MO 63755  
kclark@capecounty.us

**County of Cass, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
102 E. Wall St.  
Cass County Courthouse  
Harrisonville, MO 64701  
jfletcher@casscounty.com

**County of Clark, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
111 E. Court Street, Suite 110  
Clark County Courthouse  
Kahoka, MO 63445  
clark@sos.mo.gov

**County of Dunklin, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
Dunklin County Courthouse  
PO Box 188  
Kennett, MO 63857  
dunklin@sos.mo.gov

**County of Henry, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
100 W. Franklin Street  
Henry County Courthouse  
Clinton, MO 64735  
rickw@henrycomo.com

**County of Iron, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
250 S Main St, Iron County  
Courthouse  
P.O. Box 42  
Ironton, MO 63650  
iron@sos.mo.gov

**County of Knox, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
107 N Fourth St.  
Knox County Courthouse  
Edina, MO 63537  
knox@sos.mo.gov

**County of Lewis, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
100 E. Lafayette, Lewis County  
Courthouse  
PO Box 67  
Monticello, MO 63457  
lewis@sos.mo.gov

**County of Marion, Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
100 S Main  
Marion County Courthouse  
Palmyra, MO 63461  
mmeyers@marioncounty-mo.gov

**County of Mississippi,  
Missouri**

County Commission Clerk  
Mississippi County Courthouse  
PO Box 369  
Charleston, MO 63834  
epullen@misscomo.net

**County of New Madrid, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
New Madrid County Courthouse  
P.O. Box 68  
New Madrid, MO 63869

**County of Pemiscot, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
610 Ward Ave., Ste. 2-A  
Pemiscot County Courthouse  
Caruthersville, MO 63830  
pemcoclerk@sbcglobal.net

**County of Pike, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
115 W Main  
Pike County Courthouse  
Bowling Green, MO 63334  
pike@sos.mo.gov

**County of Ralls, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
311 S Main, Ralls County  
Courthouse  
PO Box 400  
New London, MO 63459  
rallsclerk@rallscountymo.gov

**County of Ripley, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
100 Courthouse Sq., Ste. 2  
Ripley County Courthouse  
Doniphan, MO 63935  
ripley@sos.mo.gov

**County of Schuyler, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
PO Box 187  
Schuyler County Courthouse  
Lancaster, MO 63548  
schuyler@sos.mo.gov

**County of Scotland, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
117 S Market St., Ste 100  
Scotland County Courthouse  
Memphis, MO 63555  
scotland@sos.mo.gov

**County of Scott, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
131 S Winchester, Scott County  
Courthouse  
PO Box 188  
Benton, MO 63736  
scottcoclerk@scottcomo.com

**County of St. Clair, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
655 Second St., St. Clair County  
Courthouse  
P.O. Box 525  
Osceola, MO 64776  
stclair@sos.mo.gov

**County of Stoddard, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
316 S Prairie  
PO Box 110  
Bloomfield, MO 63825

**County of Wayne, Missouri**  
County Commission Clerk  
109 Walnut St., Wayne County  
Commission  
P.O. Box 48  
Greenville, MO 63944  
wayne@sos.mo.gov

**Liberty (MNG)**  
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Jefferson City, MO 65101  
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**Liberty (MNG)**  
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jermaine.grubbs@libertyutilities.com

**Missouri School Boards' Association**  
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Jefferson City, MO 65101  
terry@healylawoffices.com

**MO PSC Staff**  
Scott Stacey  
200 Madison Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101  
scott.stacey@psc.mo.gov

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

***Sincerely,***

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Nancy Dippell  
Secretary**

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