

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

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire )  
District Electric Company, The Empire District )  
Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Midstates )  
Natural Gas) Corp., and Liberty Utilities )  
(Missouri Water), LLC for Approval of Their )  
Cost Allocation Manual )

**File No. AO-2017-0360**

**JUNE 28, 2019, STAFF STATUS REPORT**

**COMES NOW** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through Staff Counsel’s Office, and submits the June 28, 2019, Staff Status Report in response to the Commission’s December 28, 2018, Order Directing Filing Of Status Report and requests, on behalf of itself and the other Parties<sup>1</sup> that Staff be ordered to submit another Status Report by no later than December 28, 2019. In support of the instant Staff Status Report, Staff states as follows:

1. In Staff’s December 28, 2018 Status Report, Staff noted that ongoing developments respecting CAMs of other entities also before the Commission had occurred and were occurring having relevance for the CAMs of the Applicants. As a consequence, in part, the Parties sought authorization from the Commission for a further extension of time until June 28, 2019, to file an agreed upon CAM, or alternatively, a further status report respecting the progress made by the Parties identifying whether a revised procedural schedule will be needed to resolve any outstanding and necessary CAM issues remaining among them.

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<sup>1</sup> The Parties in File No. AO-2017-0360 are the Applicants: The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire Electric”), The Empire District Gas Company (“Empire Gas”), Liberty Utilities Corp. (“Midstates Gas”), and Liberty Utilities, LLC (“Missouri Water”); two Parties as a matter of right: Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”); and an intervenor: Midwest Energy Consumers Group (“MECG”).

2. Since Staff's December 28, 2018, Status Report, the Parties have continued discussions; however, cases respecting the CAMs of other utilities have continued to move forward,<sup>2</sup> and the Applicants, the OPC, and Staff have engaged in litigation concerning another matter regarding the Commission's Affiliate Transaction Rules.<sup>3</sup> Due to the press of these matters, and the press of other Commission business, the Parties have not been able to reach agreement on a CAM, and require further time to continue discussions. Therefore, the Parties request until December 28, 2019, to file an agreed upon CAM with the Commission, or alternatively, a further status report respecting the progress made by the Parties identifying whether a revised procedural schedule will be needed to resolve any outstanding and necessary CAM issues remaining among them.

3. The Parties agree that this request does not prejudice any Party's right to make a filing prior to December 28, 2019, if a Party believes that sufficient progress is not being made, and the delay of setting a procedural schedule should be lifted and a procedural schedule should thereafter be put in place to resolve this docket.

**WHEREFORE** Staff submits this Status Report in response to the Commission's December 28, 2018, Order Directing Filing Of Status Report and requests, on behalf of all Parties, that the Commission issue an Order directing the Parties to file an agreed upon CAM with the Commission by December 28, 2019, or alternatively, a further status report by Staff identifying the progress made by the Parties in this docket and stating whether they have determined by that time that a revised procedural schedule will be needed to resolve any outstanding and necessary CAM issues remaining among them.

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<sup>2</sup> Procedural Schedules have been adopted in Case Nos. GO-2012-0322 and EO-2017-0179, with hearing dates set for September 9-10, 2019, and October 29-30, 2019, respectively.

<sup>3</sup> The Commission held a hearing on June 27, 2019, in Case No. AO-2018-0179 regarding the Applicants' "money pool" request.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Mark Johnson**

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**/s/ Steven Dottheim**

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**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 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

**/s/ Mark Johnson**