Exhibit No.:

Issue(s): Resource Planning
Witness: Michael J. Abbott

Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff

Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony
Case No.: WR-2024-0104

Date Testimony Prepared: October 24, 2024

## MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### INDUSTRY ANALYSIS DIVISION

WATER, SEWER, GAS, AND STEAM DEPARTMENT

### SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

**OF** 

MICHAEL J. ABBOTT

# LIBERTY UTILITIES (Missouri Water) LLC, d/b/a Liberty

**CASE NO. WR-2024-0104** 

Jefferson City, Missouri October 2024

1		SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF				
2	MICHAEL J. ABBOTT					
3	LIBERTY UTILITIES (Missouri Water), LLC					
4		d/b/a/ Liberty				
5		CASE NO. WR-2024-0104				
6	Q.	Please state your name and business address.				
7	A.	My name is Michael J. Abbott. My business address is 200 Madison Street, P.O.				
8	Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.					
9	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?				
10	A.	I am employed by the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission")				
11	as a Senior	Project Manager with the Water, Sewer, Gas, and Steam Department,				
12	Industry Analysis Division.					
13	Q.	Are you the same Michael J. Abbott who filed direct testimony on				
14	August 20, 2024, in this case?					
15	A.	Yes, I am.				
16	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY					
17	Q.	What is the purpose of your surrebuttal testimony?				
18	A.	The purpose of my surrebuttal testimony is to address portions of				
19	Mr. Antonio D. Penna Jr.'s rebuttal testimony regarding Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water)					
20	LLC d/b/a Li	berty ("Liberty Water") drought resiliency.				
21	DROUGHT	RESILIENCY				
22	Q.	Did Mr. Penna provide sufficient information to change your determination that				
23	Liberty Wate	er does not have a satisfactory drought resiliency?				

A. No. As described in my direct testimony drought resiliency is the ability of a water entity to manage and even significantly reduce negative impacts caused by drought by developing and implementing strategies, plans and actions. As clearly stated in Mr. Penna's

rebuttal testimony page 2, line 15 "...Liberty does not have a written plan in Missouri."

- Q. Does Mr. Penna provide additional information regarding Liberty Water's strategies, plan, and actions to manage and significantly reduce negative impacts caused by drought?
- A. No. On page 2, line 19 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Penna States that Liberty Water will align with and work with the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") implementing the DNR Drought Response Plan. Liberty Water's alignment does not provide any strategies, plans, or actions focused on managing and significantly reducing negative impacts caused by drought. Rather, Liberty Water's five (5) phases establish that Liberty Water will provide data to Drought Assessment Committee regarding well information, provide drought related or conservation communications with customers, communicate the severity of the drought and the need to conserve water with customers, and implement any restrictions imposed by the state.
  - Q. Do you agree that Liberty Water can develop satisfactory drought resiliency?
- A. Yes. As noted on page 4, lines 7 and 8 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Penna states that Liberty Water does not disagree with my recommendations provided in my direct testimony. Additionally, Liberty Water clearly states that they can file a drought resiliency plan within one (1) year of the effective date of a Commission Order establishing new rates.
  - Q. Does this conclude your surrebuttal testimony?
  - A. Yes, it does.

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

(Missouri Water) LLC d/ Authority to Implement a Increase for Water and W Provided in its Missouri S	b/a Libe General astewate	rty for I Rate er Service	) ) )	Case No. WR-2024-0104
	AFFIDA	AVIT OF MIC	HAEL.	J. ABBOTT
STATE OF MISSOURI	)			
COUNTY OF COLE	)	SS.		
COMES NOW MICH	ITATET 1	ADDOTT on	d on hia	oath declares that he is of sound mind
and lawful age; that he co	ntributed	to the foregoi	ng Surre	buttal Testimony of Michael J. Abbott

and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

MICHAEL J. ABBOTT

**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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of October 2024.

D. SUZIE MANKIN
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: April 04, 2025
Commission Number: 12412070

Musiellankin Notary Public