

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

In the Matter of the Request of Liberty)
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC d/b/a)
Liberty for Authority to Implement a) Case No. WR-2024-0104
General Rate Increase for Water and)
Wastewater Service Provided in its)
Missouri Service Areas)

PROPOSED HEARING SCHEDULE AND ORDER OF WITNESSES

COMES NOW Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC (“Liberty” or the “Company”), on behalf of all parties, and respectfully proposes the below hearing schedule and order of witnesses in supplement to the List of Issues, Order of Opening Statements, Order of Cross-Examination, and Order of Witnesses filed herein on November 5, 2024:

Monday, November 18, 2024

9:00 a.m. Preliminary Matters

9:30 a.m. Opening Statements

- Depreciation Rates (Issue List Item #2)

Liberty Witness: Dane Watson (virtual witness)

Staff Witness: Amanda Coffey

OPC Witness: John Robinett

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: William Stannard

- Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (#17)
- Excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (#18)

Liberty Witness: Michael McCuen

Staff Witness: Angela Niemeier

OPC Witness: John Riley

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: None

- Payroll Expense, Payroll Taxes, & Employee Benefits (#6) (settlement)¹
- Incentive Compensation (#7 a and b) (a – settlement)
- Training and Travel Expense (#8)
- Contract and Outside Services (#9) (settlement)
- Rate Case Expense (#10)
- Property Tax Exp., Property Tax Tracker, & Prop. Tax Tracker Amort. (#11) (settlement)
- Revenues (#13) (settlement)
- Other Miscellaneous Revenues (#14) (settlement)
- Income Tax Expense (#16)
- Plant in Service (#19) (settlement)
- Depreciation Reserve (#20) (settlement)
- Contributions in Aid of Construction (“CIAC”), CIAC Reserve, Amortization of CIAC (#22) (settlement)
- Deferred Tank Painting (#23) (settlement)
- Rate Case Expense Disallowance (#32)
- Administrative and General (“A&G”) Expenses (#35)

Liberty Witness: Cindy Wilson

Staff Witnesses: Amanda McMellen (settlement issues), Alexis Branson (travel and training expense), Sherrye Lesmes (rate case expense), Michael Irwin (rate case expense disallowance), Jarrod Robertson (rate case expense disallowance), Melanie Marek (rate case disallowance), Angela Niemeier (income tax expense)

OPC Witness: Manzell Payne (rate case expense)

Bolivar Witnesses: James Leyko (payroll expense, payroll taxes, employee benefits, rate case expense, A&G expenses) and Jessica York (Revenues and Plant in Service)

HIVC Witness: None

¹ Issues designated with (settlement) are addressed by a partial stipulation and agreement between Liberty and Staff to be filed herein. If there are any objections to the Liberty-Staff stipulation and therefore it cannot be treated as unanimous and approved by the Commission, it will become a joint position of Staff and Liberty, as reflected in the filed Position Statements of those parties.

Tuesday, November 19

- Cash Working Capital (#5)

Liberty Witness: Tim Lyons (virtual)

Staff Witness: Angela Niemeier

OPC Witness: None

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: None

- Allocation Factors (#15)
- Rate Design/Rate Consolidation (#31 (a), (b)) (settlement 31(b))
- Normalized Residential Customer Usage (#34) (settlement)

Liberty Witness: Tom O'Neill (virtual)

Staff Witnesses: Michael Irwin (31.a.) Melanie Marek (rate design), Angela Niemeier (allocation factors), Jarrod Robertson (normalized residential customer usage)

OPC Witness: None

Bolivar Witness: Jessica York (31.a.)

HIVC Witness: None

- Bolivar Sewer System (#4(b), (c))
- Bolivar Regulatory Asset (#21)
- Rate Design/Rate Consolidation (#31 (c), (d), (e))

Liberty Witnesses: Tony Penna, Cindy Wilson

Staff Witnesses: Andrew Harris (Bolivar sewer system), Ashley Sarver (Bolivar regulatory asset), Melanie Marek (rate design)

OPC Witness: Angela Schaben

Bolivar Witnesses: Jessica York (4b, 4c, 21a, 31c, 31d, 31e) and James Leyko (21b, 21c)

HIVC Witness: William Stannard

- Customer First O&M (#3)

Liberty Witnesses: Cindy Wilson

Staff Witnesses: Keith Foster

OPC Witness: None

Bolivar Witness: Jessica York

HIVC Witness: None

Wednesday, November 20

- Cost of Capital (#26)

Liberty Witness: John Cochrane (virtual)

Staff Witness: Chris Walters (virtual)

OPC Witness: David Murray

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: None

- Resource Planning (#1) (settlement)
- Venice on the Lake Distribution System (#27)
- Ozark Mountain Water Tank (#28)
- Tank Inspections (#29)
- Bolivar Sewer System (#4(a))
- Water Loss (#30) (c, d, e – settlement)
- Preventative Maintenance Plan (#33)

Liberty Witnesses: Tony Penna, Bruce Robinson

Staff Witnesses: Michael Abbott (resource planning), Daronn Williams (Venice on the Lake, Ozark Mountain, tank inspections, water loss, preventative maintenance)

OPC Witness: None

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: None

- WO-2022-0253 Investigatory Docket (#25) (b, c – settlement)

Liberty Witnesses: Tony Penna, Candice Kelly

Staff Witnesses: Tyrone Thomason, Lisa Stockman

OPC Witness: None

Bolivar Witness: None

HIVC Witness: None

Thursday, November 21

- Customer First (#24)

Liberty Witnesses: Colin Penny, Tony Penna
Staff Witnesses: Ashely Sarver
OPC Witness: Angela Schaben
Bolivar Witness: Jessica York
HIVC Witness: None

- Affordability/Policy (#36)

Liberty Witnesses: Tony Penna, Cindy Wilson
Staff Witness: None
OPC Witness: Angela Schaben
Bolivar Witnesses: Jessica York, Thomas Relford, Michael Methvin, Renee Meyer, Scott Moats*
HIVC Witness: None

*Note: Bolivar’s witnesses Methvin, Meyer and Moats will appear remotely and are only available Thursday morning.

WHEREFORE, Liberty respectfully submits this proposed hearing schedule and order of witnesses for the Commission’s consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Diana C. Carter
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that the above document was filed in EFIS on this 13th day of November, 2024, with notification of the same being sent to all counsel of record. This filing was also sent by electronic transmission to all counsel of record.

/s/ Diana C. Carter