

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

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Midstates)
Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty’s) **Case No. GR-2023-0128**
Purchased Gas Adjustment Tariff Filing)

**STAFF’S REPLY AND RECOMMENDATION APPROVING LIBERTY UTILITIES
(MIDSTATES NATURAL GAS) CORP. D/B/A LIBERTY’S 2021-2022 ACTUAL COST
ADJUSTMENT BALANCES**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through counsel, hereby submits *Staff’s Reply and Recommendation Approving Liberty Utilities (“Midstates Natural Gas”) Corp. d/b/a Liberty’s (“Liberty Midstates”) 2021-2022 Actual Cost Adjustment (“ACA”) balances*, and further states as follows:

1. On December 12, 2023, Staff filed its recommendation regarding Liberty Midstates ACA filing.

2. On December 13, 2023, the Commission issued an *Order Directing Response* to Liberty Midstates; wherein, ordering Liberty to respond to Staff’s Recommendation no later than January 11, 2024.

3. On January 11, 2024, Liberty Midstates filed its Response to Commission Order; wherein, Liberty Midstates accepted Staff’s analysis and recommendations with the exception of Staff’s proposed adjustment related to carrying costs for the Storm Uri balance. Liberty Midstates indicated that it would work with Staff to reach agreement on this issue prior to its next Purchased Gas Adjustment (“PGA”) filing.

4. On November 26, 2024, Liberty Midstates filed Liberty’s Further Response to Staff’s Recommendation, along with an Attachment showing its ACA balances, with the Commission indicating it has worked with Staff to reach an agreement on the carrying cost issue on the Storm Uri balance. According to its response, Liberty Midstates indicates it will agree to the calculation of carrying costs using the prime rate less 2%.

5. Staff has reviewed Liberty Midstates' Further Response to Staff's Recommendation that was filed on November 26, 2024, and Staff agrees with Liberty Midstates that prime minus 2% is the appropriate carrying cost in this matter.

6. Staff further agrees with the balances listed in Liberty Midstates Attachment A, which was filed with its Further Response to Staff's Recommendation, and recommends approval of the ACA balances as shown in Liberty Midstates Attachment A.

7. There are no remaining issues that may require a procedural schedule and such matter can be closed upon an Order approving Liberty Midstates' 2021-2022 final ACA balances addressed in paragraph 5 and 6 above, and Liberty Midstates' Attachment A.

WHEREFORE, Staff submits its Staff Reply and Recommendation to Approve ACA Balances, and for the reasons stated above Staff respectfully recommends the Commission issue an order approving Liberty Midstates' ACA balances as set forth in paragraph 5 and 6 above, and in Liberty Midstates Attachment A; close this case file; and any other relief as is just and reasonable under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

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Attorney for Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 5th day of December, 2024.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

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AFFIDAVIT OF LISA SCHLUP

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)

COMES NOW LISA SCHLUP, and on his oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation, in Memorandum form*; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

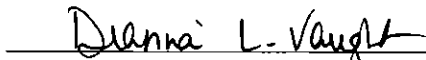


LISA SCHLUP

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 5th day of December 2024.

DIANNA L. VAUGHT
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027
Commission Number: 15207377



Notary Public