

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Gas)	
Company d/b/a Liberty (Empire) for the)	<u>Case No. GT-2026-0053</u>
Filing of its Revised Weather)	Tracking No. JG-2026-0026
Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR))	
Tariff)	

STAFF’S TARIFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”),
by and through counsel, and for its *Tariff Recommendation* states as follows:

1. On August 29, 2025, The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty (“Empire”) filed proposed revisions to its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (“WNAR”) tariff sheet assigned Tracking Number JG-2026-0026.

2. Accompanying this pleading, and incorporated herein by reference, is Staff’s Memorandum recommending Commission approval of the WNAR rates Empire filed in its August 29, 2025, tariff sheet.

3. The effect of Empire’s WNAR tariff sheet filing means that residential customers of Empire who used 100 Ccf¹ of natural gas in a given billing month would see an approximate \$1.65 bill decrease compared to the currently effective rate, and small general service class customers using 100 Ccf of gas will see an approximately \$1.34 bill decrease in their bill compared to the currently effective rate.

4. Staff has verified that Empire has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing. Due to the expedited nature of the review, Staff’s recommendation is based on a limited

¹ Ccf stands for one hundred cubic feet of gas.

review of the application and supporting materials. Staff further recommends the tariff language be revisited and revised if needed during the next rate case to allow longer processing time sufficient for all parties.

5. Staff recommends approval of the filed tariff sheet in Tracking No. JG-2026-0026, as follows:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

6th Revised Sheet No. 68 Cancelling 5th Revised Sheet No. 68

WHEREFORE, as set forth in Staff's Memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving Empire's WNAR tariff sheet to go into effect on October 1, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alexandra Klaus

Alexandra Klaus

Senior Staff Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 67196

P.O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

(573) 751-9533

lexi.klaus@psc.mo.gov

Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri

Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all parties and/or counsel of record as reflected on the certified service list maintained by the Commission in its Electronic Filing Information System this 15th day of September, 2025.

/s/ Alexandra Klaus

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. GT-2026-0053, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2026-0026
The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty

FROM: Melissa J. Reynolds – Water, Sewer, Gas, and Steam Department

/s/ Melissa J. Reynolds / 09-15-2025
Industry Analysis Division / Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for the **Approval** of the Revised Tariff Sheet Filed by The Empire District Gas Company to reflect its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) to go into effect on October 1, 2025.

DATE: September 15, 2025

On August 29, 2025, The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty (“Empire”) filed a tariff sheet designed to reflect the annual adjustment made pursuant to the Company’s Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (“WNAR”) with a requested effective date of October 1, 2025. On September 2, 2025, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding the WNAR Tariff Sheet in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2026-0026 no later than September 15, 2025. The WNAR is applicable only to the Residential and Small General Service rate classes. After its review, Staff recommends approval of the tariff sheet in Tracking No. JG-2026-0026.

Empire’s WNAR became effective August 17, 2020. The purpose of the tariff is to reflect the annual adjustment made pursuant to the Empire’s WNAR for the twelve-month period ending September 30, 2026. Empire calculated the rates annually to account for variations in temperature based on the difference between the actual heating degree days and the normalized heating degree days. Empire’s current and proposed rates are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Current and Proposed WNAR Rates by Class.¹

Class	WNA Rider Rate	
	Current	Proposed
Residential	\$0.03506/Ccf ²	\$0.01852/Ccf
Small General Service Sales	\$0.03099/Ccf	\$0.01756/Ccf

¹ The North, Northwest, and South regions utilize the same weather data with a single coefficient and rate.

² Ccf stands for one hundred cubic feet of gas.

Based on weather variations in Empire's service districts, proposed Residential and Small General Service class WNAR rates for the Empire district service areas will be applied as a separate line item and will increase a customer's overall bill. However, a residential customer using 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see a decrease of approximately \$1.65 compared to the currently effective WNAR rate. Likewise, a small general service class customer using 100 Ccf of gas would see a decrease of approximately \$1.34 compared to the currently effective WNAR rate.

Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheet, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheet, as filed on August 29, 2025, to go into effect for service on and after October 1, 2025, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

6th Revised Sheet No. 68 Cancelling 5th Revised Sheet No. 68

Staff has verified Empire has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

Due to the expedited nature of the review, Staff's recommendation is based on a limited review of the application and supporting materials. Staff recommends the tariff language be revised during the next rate case to allow a longer processing time sufficient for all parties.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI


In the Matter of The Empire District Gas)	
Company d/b/a Liberty (Empire) for the)	<u>File No. GT-2026-0053</u>
Filing of its Revised Weather)	Tracking No. JG-2026-0026
Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR))	

AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA J. REYNOLDS

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF COLE)

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

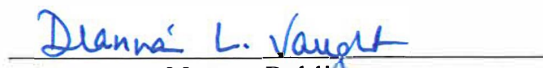
Further the Affiant sayeth not.



MELISSA J. REYNOLDS

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 15th day of September 2025.



Notary Public

