

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

In the Matter of an Investigation into)
Empire District Gas Company d/b/a)
Liberty Concerning Compliance with)
the Commission’s Rules Regarding)
Natural Gas Safety Found at 20 CSR)
4240-40.030)
File No. GS-2026-0099

STAFF’S STATUS REPORT

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

1. On October 8, 2025, Staff, by and through counsel, and for its Motion to Establish a Case, stated that pursuant to Section 386.020 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri (“RSMo”), the Commission has jurisdiction over Empire District Gas Company (“Empire”). Staff stated that on August 29, September 25, and September 29, 2025, natural gas leaks due to excavation damages occurred in Platte City and in Lexington, Missouri.

2. On October 9, 2025, the Commission opened Case No. GS-2026-0099 to receive an incident report from Staff about the natural gas incidents that occurred on August 29, September 25, and September 29, 2025 in Platte City and in Lexington, Missouri. The Commission ordered that Staff shall file its incident report or status report no later than January 16, 2026.

3. On October 15, 2025, the Commission issued an Order nunc pro tunc and stated the October 9, 2025, Order incorrectly stated reportable natural gas incidents and corrected such to read natural gas events.

4. Since the opening of this Case, Staff has conducted written discovery through data requests. Staff have received responses to data requests from Empire and will be submitting additional data requests due to those responses.

5. Following receipt of the additional data requests and review of Empire's damage prevention and emergency response programs and performances, Staff may need to request additional clarification. Staff will require an additional three months to review Empire's deliverables, conduct follow-up discovery, if needed, and to draft and finalize its investigation report.

WHEREFORE, for the above-stated reasons, Staff respectfully requests the Commission order Staff to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the status of Staff's investigation, no later than April 27, 2026, and to grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just and reasonable under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

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**ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE
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 12th day of January, 2026.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey