

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

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire District )  
Electric Company, The Empire District Gas Company, )  
Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., and ) **Case No. AO-2017-0360**  
Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC for Approval of )  
Their Cost Allocation Manual )

**STATUS REPORT**

**COME NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through the Staff Counsel’s Office, The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire Electric”), The Empire District Gas Company (“Empire Gas”), Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. (“Liberty Midstates”), and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC (“Liberty Utilities”) (collectively, “Applicants”), and Midwest Energy Consumers Group (“MECG”) (collectively, “Signatories”),<sup>1</sup> and hereby file their *Status Report* pursuant to the Commission’s January 5, 2020, *Order Granting Leave to Late File Status Report and Directing Filing of Status Report* (“*January 5<sup>th</sup> Order*”). In support thereof, the Signatories state as follows:

1. The Signatories note that no further progress in the Applicants’ CAM proceedings has occurred since the Commission’s January 5<sup>th</sup> *Order*. That being said, while progress in AW-2018-0394<sup>2</sup> has been stalled, the Signatories continue to agree that future progress in above-captioned CAM proceedings is dependent upon the promulgation of new ATRs; which one can reasonably expect to contain differences from the current electric, gas, and heating rules that are in place, on which CAMs can then be based (and upon which any need for variances will need to be assessed). Therefore, the Signatories recommend the Commission continue its stay of the above-captioned CAM proceedings. The Signatories

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<sup>1</sup> Counsel of the Office of the Public Counsel has indicated to the Signatories will not be joining in this filing, that that it may make its own filing in response to the Commission’s *January 5<sup>th</sup> Order*.

<sup>2</sup> In the Matter of the Establishment of a Working Case for the Review and Consideration of a Rewriting and Writing of Existing and New Affiliate Transaction Rules and HVAC Affiliate Transaction Rules.

recognize that the ATRs continue to be in place and apply to Empire Electric's, Empire Gas', and Liberty Midstates' transactions.

2. Further, on May 28, 2021, Empire Electric filed tariffs designed, in total, to increase Empire Electric's gross annual electric revenues by approximately \$79.9 million, along with supporting direct testimony. Pursuant to the Commission's Report and Order in Empire Electric's last rate case, Case No. ER-2019-0374, Staff, as part of its review, will be conducting an audit of the various types of affiliate transactions Empire Electric engages in, and provide testimony to the Commission supporting its findings.<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREFORE** Staff, the Applicants, and MCEG pray the Commission will accept their June 30, 2021, Status Report.

Respectfully Submitted,

**/s/ Mark Johnson**

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**/s/ Diana C. Carter**

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**Attorney for the Joint Applicants**

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<sup>3</sup> See *Amended Report and Order*, Case No. ER-2019-0374, Issued July 23, 2020, EFIS Item 617, pg. 136.

**/s/ David L. Woodsmall**

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**Attorney for the Midwest  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile, or electronically mailed to all counsel of record on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021.

**/s/ Mark Johnson**