BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Cause of the February 2021 Cold Weather Event and its Impact on The Empire District Gas Co., d/b/a/ Liberty	)))	**File No. GO-2021-0365**

PROTECTIVE ORDER AND ORDER ADDING PARTY

Issue Date: May 4, 2021 Effective Date: May 4, 2021

The Commission opened File No. AO-2021-0264 as a working case to facilitate the investigation into Missouri's electrical and natural gas utilities' preparation for and response to Missouri's February 2021 extreme cold. Staff, particularly, the Regulatory Analysis Department and the Customer Experience Department of Staff, were directed to file a report regarding the investigation no later than April 22, 2021. On April 15, 2021, Staff filed a motion asking the Commission to open ten new files, one for each of the investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities, and to issue a protective order in each new file.

Staff explains that in the course of its investigation it is has obtained market specific information from each of the utilities that should be treated as "Highly Confidential" pursuant to the Commission's confidential information rule, 20 CSR 4240-2.135(4). Staff intends to refer to information designated as "Highly Confidential" in its report regarding each utility, but market specific information cannot be shared with other utilities, and in some instances with certain affiliates of the utilities. To avoid the confidentiality problem, Staff asks the Commission to open new investigative files for each of the utilities. Staff has submitted the general elements of its report in File No. AO-2021-0264. It has now filed its report containing the company-specific information

that has been designated as “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential” in the new files established for the specific utilities. This file has been established for The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty.

The Commission will issue a protective order in this file. The specific additional protections to be afforded to information designated as “Highly Confidential” are set forth as follows.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Liberty is made a party in this file.

2. Information designated as “Highly Confidential” shall be disclosed only to Liberty and to all state agency parties and their employees who are covered by statutory confidentiality requirements, including Section 386.480, RSMo (2016).

3. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 4th day of May, 2021.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 4th day of May, 2021.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Digitally signed by MOPSC
DN: CN=MOPSC, O=MOPSC, OU="",
E=kim.happy@psc.mo.gov, C=US
Reason: I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

May 4, 2021

File/Case No. GO-2021-0365

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Morris L Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.