

**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 Liberty Utilities)
(Missouri Water), LLC for Approval of Their)
Cost Allocation Manual)

File No. AO-2017-0360

JUNE 29, 2018 STAFF STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through Staff Counsel's Office, and submits the June 29, 2018, Staff Status Report in response to the Commission's April 2, 2018, Order Directing Filing Of Status Report and requests, on behalf of itself and the other Parties¹ that Staff be ordered to submit another Status Report by no later than December 28, 2018. In support of the June 29, 2018, Staff Status Report, Staff states as follows:

1. On April 2, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Directing Filing Of Status Report by June 29, 2018, regarding the state of the negotiations by the Parties in File No. AO-2017-0360 regarding a cost allocation manual ("CAM").

2. Due to the press of Commission business in cases with statutory or other deadlines involving the Applicants, Staff, and Public Counsel, and other Commission business, the Parties require additional time respecting the Applicants' CAM filing. Given the schedule already on the calendar, and the work that remains to be done by the Parties, the Parties request until December 28, 2018, to file an agreed upon CAM with the Commission, or alternatively, a further status report respecting the progress made by the Parties and identifying whether a revised procedural schedule will be needed to resolve any outstanding and necessary CAM issues remaining among them.

¹ The Parties in File No. AO-2017-0360 are the Applicants: The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire Electric"), The Empire District Gas Company ("Empire Gas"), Liberty Utilities Corp. ("Midstates Gas"), and Liberty Utilities, LLC ("Missouri Water"); two Parties as a matter of right: Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"); and an intervenor: Midwest Energy Consumers Group ("MECG").

3. The Parties agree that this request does not prejudice any Party's right to make a filing prior to December 28, 2018, if a Party believes that sufficient progress is not being made, and the delay of setting a procedural schedule should be lifted and a procedural schedule should thereafter be put in place to resolve this docket.

WHEREFORE Staff submits its Staff Status Report in response to the Commission's April 2, 2018, Order Directing Filing Of Status Report and requests on behalf of all Parties that the Commission issue an Order directing the Parties to file an agreed upon CAM with the Commission by December 28, 2018, or alternatively, a further status report identifying the progress made by the parties in this docket and stating whether they have determined by that time that a revised procedural schedule will be needed to resolve any outstanding and necessary CAM issues remaining among them.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark Johnson

Mark Johnson
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 64940
P.O Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: (573) 751-7431
Fax: (573) 751-9285
mark.johnson@psc.mo.gov

/s/ Steven Dottheim

Steven Dottheim
Chief Deputy Staff Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 29149
P.O Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: (573) 751-7489
Fax: (573) 751-9285
E-mail: steve.dottheim@psc.mo.gov

Attorneys 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, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 29th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Steven Dottheim