STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 13th day of January, 2021.

) <u>File No. AO-2021-0164</u>

ORDER DENYING RECONSIDERATION OR REHEARING

Issue Date: January 13, 2021

COVID-19 Pandemic.

In the Matter of a Motion for an Emergency Order Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on Utility

Discontinuances to Protect Public Health and Safety by Mitigating the Spread of the

Effective Date: January 13, 2021

On December 16, 2020, the Commission issued its *Order Denying Motion*, which denied a motion filed by Consumer Council of Missouri (Consumers Council) that asked the Commission to issue an emergency order placing a moratorium on involuntary residential disconnections by water, electric, and gas corporations and a waiver of late fees through at least March 31, 2021. Consumers Council filed an *Application for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration* on December 26, 2020. On January 4, 2021, a group of utilities¹ filed a response in opposition to Consumers Council's request for rehearing.

Section 386.500.1, RSMo, states that the Commission shall grant an application for rehearing if "in its judgment sufficient reason therefor be made to appear." Similarly, Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.160 allows for the filing of an application for reconsideration of a procedural or interlocutory Commission order. In the judgment of the

¹ Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri, Evergy Missouri Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro, Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West, Spire Missouri, Inc., Missouri-American Water Company, and Liberty Utilities (The Empire District Electric Company, The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC, and Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp.).

Commission, Consumers Council's application does not demonstrate sufficient reason to rehear or reconsider its *Order Denying Motion*. The Commission will deny the application for rehearing of its order.²

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Application for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration is denied.
- 2. This order is effective January 13, 2021.



BY THE COMMISSION ornis a

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and Holsman CC., concur.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge

² The application also requested that the Commission promulgate an emergency rule and that request will be addressed in a separate order.