

**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.)

Case No. AO-2017-0360

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”), and hereby file their *Status Report* pursuant to the Commission’s July 3, 2023, *Order Directing Filing of a Status Report*. In support thereof, the Signatories state as follows:

1. The Signatories report that no further progress in the Applicants’ CAM proceedings has occurred since the Commission’s *Order* of December 30, 2022. However, while progress has not occurred in AW-2018-0394,¹ the Signatories continue to agree that future progress in this CAM proceeding is dependent upon the promulgation of new Affiliate Transaction Rules (“ATRs”); which will likely contain differences from the current electric, gas, and heating ATRs, 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 this case. The Signatories recognize that

¹*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.*

the ATRs continue to be in place and apply to the transactions of Empire Electric, Empire Gas, and Liberty Midstates.

2. Staff reported on its audit of Empire Electric's affiliate transactions at pages 127-132 of its *Revenue Requirement Cost-of-Service Report*, filed in Case No. ER-2021-0312, on October 29, 2021, Staff witness Ashley Sarver. Case ER-2021-0312 was Empire Electric's most recent general rate case.

WHEREFORE, Staff, the Applicants, and MCEG pray the Commission will accept their January 16, 2024, *Status Report*.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson

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Missouri Public Service Commission.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served electronically or by First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, upon all parties according to the Service List maintained by the Commission's Data Center on this 16th day of January, 2024.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson