STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS Procedural Conference August 10, 2017 Jefferson City, Missouri Volume 1 In the Matter of the Application) of The Empire District Electric) Company, The Empire District Gas Company, Liberty Utilities) File No. A0-2017-0360 (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp., and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC for Approval of Their) Cost Allocation Manual MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding, CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE. **REPORTED BY:** Chevon D. McFadden, CVR, CCR NO. 1399 TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

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PROCEEDINGS 1 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. We're here for a 3 procedural conference in File No. A0-2017-0360, which 4 is the Application by the Empire District and various 5 other companies for approval of the cost allocation 6 manual. 7 And we'll begin by taking entries of 8 appearance beginning with Empire? 9 MS. CARTER: Diana Carter with Bryden, Swearengen & England for the Empire District Electric 10 Company and the other applicants. My address is on the 11 12 written entry that I will give the court reporter. 13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for Staff? 14 MR. JOHNSON: Mark Johnson and Steve Dottheim 15 on behalf of the Staff of the Missouri Public Service 16 Commission. We've provided our information to the 17 court reporter al ready. 18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. And for Public 19 Counsel? 20 MS. SHEMWELL: Good morning, Judge. Lera 21 Shemwell representing the Office of the Public Counsel 22 and the Public Counsel, and I have given the court 23 reporter my information. JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for MECG? 24 25 MR. WOODSMALL: David Woodsmall on behalf of 3

1 Midwest Energy Consumers Group. 2 Okay. Well, I brought you JUDGE WOODRUFF: 3 here today to discuss procedural schedule and where we 4 need to go on this case. Do the parties anticipate 5 that we'll have to have a hearing on this or is this 6 something that the parties will be able to work out? 7 MS. CARTER: Too soon to tell. 8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Too soon to tell. Okay. 9 MS. CARTER: We definitely, I don't think, 10 would want to schedule a hearing now or any time soon so that there's time for the parties to meet and 11 12 discuss if they can. 13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. I'm aware that these 14 matters can take a long time to negotiate and be 15 discussed and proceed. You know, I don't believe the 16 Commission wants to try to push it forward or anything, 17 so it's -- it's up to you to tell me what you want to 18 do. 19 I'll ask you to give me a -- well, I'll call 20 it a proposed procedural schedule by a week from today, 21 the 17th. And you don't have to set a hearing as part 22 of that unless you believe that that's appropriate. 23 But if there's anything that you need from me as far as 24 preliminary scheduling or discovery orders and so 25 forth, just let me know. And then I'll just leave you

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to your discussions today and to tell me what -- what results by filing something next week. Anything you want to discuss while we're on the record? I see a lot of heads shaking no. MS. SHEMWELL: We appreciate a -- some firm discovery rules, but we can talk about that. JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Very good. And with that, then, we are adjourned from the on-the-record portion, and I'll leave you to your discussions. (Record was closed at 10:24 a.m.)

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9	which this proceeding was taken, and further, that I am					
10	not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel					
11	employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or					
12	otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.					
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