

**STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BEFORE THE IOWA UTILITIES BOARD**

IN RE:	:	DOCKET NO.	RPU-2016-0003
	:		TF-2016-0303
LIBERTY UTILITIES (MIDSTATES	:		TF-2016-0304
NATURAL GAS) CORP. D/B/A	:		TF-2016-0305
LIBERTY UTILITIES	:		TF-2016-0306

JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF UNANIMOUS SETTLEMENT

COMES NOW, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (“Liberty Midstates”), the Office of Consumer Advocate (“OCA”), the City of Keokuk, Iowa (the “City”), and Roquette America, Inc. (“Roquette”)(collectively, the “Parties”) and request that the Iowa Utilities Board (the “Board”) approve a unanimous settlement in this proceeding. In support therefore, the Parties state as follows:

1. On July 25, 2016, Liberty Midstates filed an Application for Rate Increase and supporting tariffs. The filing was accompanied by testimony and evidence in support of the application.

2. On August 16, 2016, the Board issued an Order Approving Corporate Undertaking, Docketing Proposed Tariffs, Requiring Additional Information, and Establishing Procedural Schedule. Two entities were allowed to intervene in this proceeding: (1) the City on September 7, 2016; and (2) Roquette on January 9, 2017. The OCA filed rebuttal testimony and exhibits on November 7, 2016 and the City filed its rebuttal testimony on November 8, 2016. Liberty Midstates filed rebuttal testimony on December 19, 2016. The OCA filed reply

testimony on January 6, 2017. Roquette filed testimony on January 17, 2017. A hearing on this matter is scheduled to commence on February 22, 2017.

3. Concurrent with the filing of this Motion, the Parties are filing a unanimous Stipulation and Agreement. The Stipulation and Agreement resolves all issues in this proceeding among all the Parties, with the exception of the amount of just and reasonable rate case expenses to be recovered by Liberty. The Parties reserve all rights related to the amount of rate case expense as provided in Iowa Code 476.6 and 199 IAC 26.4.

4. The Parties respectfully request that the Board consider the merits of the Stipulation and Agreement and approve the Parties' agreement in its entirety without condition or modification. As discussed in the Stipulation and Agreement, the Parties' settlement is reasonable in light of the whole record, consistent with law, and is in the public interest. *See* 199 IAC 7.18.

5. The Parties do not believe that a hearing on this settlement is necessary and request that the hearing scheduled for February 22, 2017 be cancelled. If the Board wishes to hold a hearing, the Parties request that the Board consider the merits of the Stipulation and Agreement on February 22, 2017, at the hearing previously scheduled to consider the merits of Liberty Midstates' rate case. However, the Parties request that the venue for the February 22, 2017 hearing be moved from Keokuk, Iowa to the Iowa Utility Board's hearing room in an effort to reduce rate case expense.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the Parties respectfully request that the Board approve the Stipulation and Agreement in its entirety without condition or modification.

DATED: February 17, 2017

OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

/s/ Mark R. Schuling
Mark R. Schuling
Consumer Advocate

By: /s/ Anna K. Ryon
Attorney

**ATTORNEYS FOR OFFICE
OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

CITY OF KEOKUK, IOWA

By /s/ Douglas S. Dorando

ATTORNEY FOR CITY OF KEOKUK

**LIBERTY UTILITIES (MIDSTATES
NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a
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/s/ Rachel T Rowley
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ROQUETTE AMERICA, INC.

By /s/ Richard W. Lozier

**ATTORNEY FOR ROQUETTE
AMERICA, INC.**