# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s d/b/a	)	
Spire Request for Authority to Implement a	)	File No. GR-2021-0108
General Rate Increase for Natural Gas	)	Tracking No. YG-2021-0133
Service Provided in the Company's	)	_
Missouri Service Areas	)	

# ORDER DIRECTING RESPONSES AND LIMITING BRIEFING

Issue Date: August 26, 2021 Effective Date: August 26, 2021

On August 25, 2021, during the on-the-record presentation of the submitted stipulations, the regulatory law judge posed several questions that required further research. This order recaps those questions and sets a time for responses.

# Questions on propane storage, issue 21, July 30 Stipulation:

- 1. What is the dollar amount of depreciation expense for the propane storage related plant to be included in rates under the stipulation?
- 2. What is the dollar value of the propane storage plant to be included in rate base under the stipulation?
- 3. Does the rate base dollar value provided in response to question 2 include the \$10.7 million rate base addition for propane inventory? Is the propane included in inventory still available for use by Spire Missouri as of May 31, 2021?
- 4. Do the LP total revenues of \$12,417¹ represent the normalized revenues from propane sales? If not, what amount of propane sales revenues are included in Spire's cost of service under the stipulation?
- 5. Spire witness Robert Noelker stated in his rebuttal testimony that the propane assets are no longer used and useful. Why would it be appropriate to include the propane assets in rate base and the depreciation expense in rates?

Questions on gross receipts tax, issue 18, August 5 Stipulation:

1. Please provide copies of the applicable laws referred to in the following statement located in paragraph 6 of the August 5 Stipulation, "Spire will calculate the GRT line item on customer bills in conformity with its tariff and applicable laws"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> July 30 Stipulation, Appendix A, page 2 of 4.

(emphasis added). The Commission seeks copies of the municipal, county, and local government ordinances and rules that would be applicable, as opposed to state statutes.

Also discussed at the on-the-record presentation was the pending due date of September 7, 2021, for initial briefs. No briefing will be required of any issue included in a stipulation, notwithstanding that approval of the stipulation is still pending. Should the Commission require briefing on any issue that is included in a stipulation, it will direct such briefing at a later date.

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Initial briefs, due September 7, 2021, need not include any issue that is included in a stipulation.
- 2. Spire Missouri Inc. shall respond to the questions in the body of this order on or before September 1, 2021.
- 3. Any other party that wishes to respond to any of the questions in the body of this order may do so on or before September 1, 2021.
  - 4. This order shall be effective when issued.

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BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff

Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

# STATE OF MISSOURI

## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

# MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION August 26, 2021

#### File/Case No. GR-2021-0108

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# Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Morris L. Woodruff

Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.