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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable Richard Glick, Chairman The Honorable Neil Chatterjee, Commissioner The Honorable James Danly, Commissioner The Honorable Allison Clements, Commissioner The Honorable Mark C. Christie, Commissioner

Re: Spire STL Pipeline LLC Temporary Certificate Application in Emergency Docket No. CP17-40-000

Dear Chairman Glick and Commissioners,

As the president of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis and on behalf of our St. Louis' cities, towns, villages, and county government members, I am writing in support of Spire STL Pipeline, LLC's (STL Pipeline) July 26, 2021, temporary emergency certificate application before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Representing 98% of the population of St. Louis County and St. Louis City, the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis is a non-profit, nonpartisan, association with nearly 100 years of experience in promoting stronger local government. We have a deep understanding of the importance of energy infrastructure to the municipalities we represent and urge the FERC to approve the STL Pipeline's application to ensure the Pipeline continues to operate for the customers who rely on it every day.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for St. Louis area residents and having access to an affordable and reliable energy source is not only critical to achieving that mission – but a basic human right all individuals deserve. Since 2019, the STL Pipeline has brought more reliable energy at a good value to 650,000 residents and businesses in the St. Louis region. Infrastructure has been at the forefront of policy discussion for years in the US and Spire's commitment to modernization has proven that they can provide their local customers with the best service.

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Every time our communities experience severe weather, leaders in the local government count on utilities to continue service so their residents can remain safe in the comfort of their own homes. Without proper energy services, municipalities must deploy emergency services to ensure the safety of their residents. The cost of these services have the potential to lead to financial devastation for some of our regions smallest municipalities. The necessity for the STL Pipeline was made even more clear during Winter Storm Uri this past February. Fortunately, the STL Pipeline continued to operate as usual throughout the storm and Spire's customers were able to heat their homes and cook for their families without a potentially dire loss of service. Additionally, it's been calculated that the STL Pipeline saved ratepayers up to \$300 million during the storm. If the pipeline is forced to shut down, Spire estimates that as many as 400,000 customers could be without natural gas service if a similar severe weather event occurs this coming winter. We all saw how residents in states without this critical infrastructure experienced unprecedented devastation during Winter Storm Uri. We cannot allow our region to experience the same hardship.

I support the STL Pipeline's temporary emergency certificate application so that the St. Louis region can avoid potentially life-threatening gas shortages during catastrophic winter weather events. Our local government officials rely on it to deliver natural gas to their residents and local businesses every day. I look forward to the FERC's consideration and the response on application for this critical energy infrastructure.

Sincerely,

President Terry Briggs

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