For: Spire Missouri

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

SPIRE MISSOURI INC.

STANDARD RULES AND REGULATIONS

APPLYING TO MISSOURI SERVICE AREAS:

SPIRE MISSOURI WEST OPERATING UNIT

All areas and communities served in Andrew, Barry, Barton, Buchanan, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Cooper, Dade, DeKalb, Greene, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Moniteau, Newton, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Saline, Stone, and Vernon Counties.

DATE OF ISSUE: November 23, 2021 DATE EFFECTIVE: December 23, 2021

ISSUED BY: Scott A. Weitzel, Managing Director, Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a/ Spire For: Spire Missouri

# **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### 7. Automated Meter Reading Opt-Out

Customers receiving Residential Gas Service may refuse the installation of standard metering equipment (remotely read ultrasonic metering equipment) or request the removal of previously installed standard metering equipment. In such instances, non-standard metering equipment (diaphragm metering equipment that requires a manual meter read) will be installed. Opt-out customers will be assessed a one-time set up charge for the installation of the non-standard metering equipment unless they meet the exception described in this paragraph and will be assessed a monthly manual meter read charge as set forth in the Company's tariff Sheet 19. If the customer requests to opt-out prior to installation of the standard metering equipment, the one-time set up charge will not apply, and the non-standard metering equipment will remain in place. If the customer requests the removal of previously installed standard metering equipment there will be a one-time set up charge to the customer.

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#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

# 33. Off-System Sales (continued)

### B. Accounting:

The Company shall maintain separate revenue and expense accounts to record its OS-Sales transactions, which accounts shall be audited and subject to modification by the Commission at the same time the Company's other gas costs for system supply purposes are reviewed pursuant to the ACA process. Each OS-Sales transaction shall be accounted for and analyzed separately.

#### C. Record Keeping:

For the first day of each month and for each day where a subsequent change in the cost of gas supplies or in the cost of delivery thereafter occurs, the Company shall construct and retain a CGS-Schedule. This CGS-Schedule shall provide contract volumes, scheduled volumes, available volumes, unit commodity cost of gas, and unit transportation costs associated with the delivery of gas to the Company's city gate for all of the Company's gas supply contracts. The CGS-Schedule will also provide information relating to any OS-Sales. This information will include the location of sale, volume sold, sales price, total revenue from the sale, the unit commodity cost of gas used for the sale, unit transportation costs to point of sale, any other costs or cost reductions associated with the sale (e.g. avoided penalty costs) and the total costs associated with the sale.

To the extent that the CGS-Schedule costs associated with the OS-Sales are different than the costs accrued for each transaction, the Company will prepare and retain a complete explanation and related records regarding such difference. If the CGS associated with the volumes of gas distributed to the Company's system sales customers is at a higher cost than the OS-CGS for the OS-Sale, the Company shall document all reasons for each such occurrence and shall retain the documentation explaining such costing.

In the event the OS-CGS assigned to the OS-Sale is less than the highest price, as described herein, nothing in this tariff shall preclude the review of such transaction or impair a party's right to propose an adjustment in connection with such transaction in the relevant ACA proceeding.

#### D. Limitation on Sales:

The Company's OS-Sales shall be made on an as-available basis.

The Company shall make no individual OS-Sale where a negative margin results, unless the Company determines and documents that such a transaction is not detrimental to the Company's customers.

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# **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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#### 36. Payment Partner Program

This Payment Partner Program (the "Program") is provided to eligible customers in Spire Missouri's service territory.

- A. The Program may be jointly administered by Spire Missouri and selected Community Action Agencies and other similar social service agencies (CAA) in Spire Missouri's service territory. The Company, Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel and the CAA will negotiate the compensation for the CAA, but the compensation shall be no greater than 10% of the Program's funds.
- B. To be eligible for the Program, customers must have a household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), apply with the CAA for any energy assistance funds for which they might be eligible, and review and agree to implement cost-free, self-help energy conservation measures identified by the CAA. The CAA may use household registration from other assistance programs to determine eligibility for the Program. The CAA shall also make an effort to identify eligible participants who, because of their payment history or other factors, have a greater opportunity to succeed in the Program.
- C. The Program shall be funded at a total annual level not to exceed \$2,300,000 (of which no more than 10% shall be set aside annually for each operating unit to pay for the administrative costs specified above) and shall consist of fixed monthly assistance and arrearage repayment. Such total funding level shall not be increased or decreased prior to the effective date of rates in the Company's next general rate case proceeding, provided that any amounts not spent in any annual period shall be rolled over and used to fund the Program in the next annual period. Upon termination of the Program, any unspent amounts shall be used to fund low-income energy assistance, low-income weatherization, or energy efficiency programs for customers who receive natural gas services from Spire Missouri.
- D. Fixed Monthly Assistance. Eligible customers will receive a monthly bill credit of \$35 year-round.
- E. Arrearage Repayment. Any customer entering the Payment Partner Program who has an arrearage balance shall receive a credit towards their arrearage balance, dollar for dollar, on payments made towards the arrearage balance. The Company will continue to match arrearage payments made by eligible customers until the balance has been fully paid.

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#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

# 36. Payment Partner Program (continued)

F. While the customer is complying with the payment terms, he or she will not incur late payment charges on the outstanding arrearage balance amounts covered under the Program agreement; however, a customer will be allowed not more than two (2) consecutive late payments which may be either full or partial payments without incurring late fees or losing eligibility to remain in the Program, provided that the customer pays all amounts owed under the Program by the next applicable billing payment date.

For: Spire Missouri

If a customer fails to satisfy the requirements of the Payment Partner Program, the customer will be terminated from the Program, unless the Company is notified that there have been 'extenuating circumstances' that make termination inappropriate and the Company agrees that enrollment should be extended or reinstated.

- G. The Payment Partner Program shall not affect any provisions of the Cold Weather Rule, including the initial payment requirements; provided, however, that the monthly amounts due after deducting all Bill Payment Assistance shall be substituted in place of the monthly budget plan payments due under the Cold Weather Rule in section J(2) of the Company's tariff under the Cold Weather Maintenance of Service.
- H. Program tracking information will be collected by the Company and the CAA. The information to be collected, and the format and timing in which it will be provided, will be determined by the Parties participating in the process outlined in Section J and provided to all requesting parties in an electronic version.
- I. A third-party study will be utilized to assess the Company's current limited-income programs. The third-party study will be initiated in 2021 and analyze primary and secondary data to make recommendations for programs moving forward.
- J. Spire agrees to hold collaborative quarterly planning and implementation meetings regarding its limited income programs with interested stakeholders (such as Staff, OPC, Consumers Council, National Housing Trust, Renew MO, and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, together with Spire, collectively "the Collaborative") to discuss program progress to date, forecasts on needs, and suggestions for improvement.
- K. Any disagreement as to the interpretation, implementation of or redesign of the Programs may be taken to the Commission for a decision.

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