BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire to Change its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge in its Spire Missouri East Service Territory)) <u>File No. GO-2020-0229</u>) Tracking No. YG-2020-0139)
In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire to Change its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge in its Spire Missouri West Service Territory))) <u>File No. GO-2020-0230</u>) Tracking No. YG-2020-0140)

ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE, SETTING INTERVENTION DEADLINE, DIRECTING FILING, AND SUSPENDING TARIFF SHEETS

Issue Date: February 18, 2020 Effective Date: February 18, 2020

On February 3, 2020,¹ Spire Missouri Inc., (Spire Missouri), on behalf of its operating units, Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West, filed a request for waiver of the 60-day notice provisions of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1). On February 3, Spire also tendered its Verified Applications(s) and Petition(s) of Spire Missouri, Inc. to Change its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge for Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West. On February 4, the Commission issued its Order Setting Time for Responses and ordered that any responses to Spire Missouri's request for waiver be filed no later than February 14. On February 14, the Commission Staff filed its response stating it had no objection to the waiver request. No response has been filed.

On February 11, the Commission Staff filed a Motion to Reject Tariff Sheets Contained in Application Appendices for Failure to Comply with Commission Rules

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¹ Hereinafter, all date references will be to 2020 unless otherwise indicated.

20 CSR 4240-40.085(3) and (4). On February 13, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing requiring Spire Missouri to file a response to Staff's motion to reject tariff sheets no later than February 14. On February 13, Spire Missouri filed a Response to Commission's February 13 Order Directing Filing, stating it would immediately file in compliance with Commission rules. On February 13, Spire Missouri filed Corrected Verified Application(s) and Petition(s) of Spire Missouri, Inc. to Change its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge on behalf of its operating units, Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West.

The applications and petitions were filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission pursuant to Sections 393.1009, 393.1012, and 393.1015, RSMo. 2016, and Commission Rules 20 CSR 4240-2.060, 2.080, and 3.265. They request that the Commission authorize changes to the Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharges (ISRS). Section 393.1015.2(3), RSMo, requires that the Commission act on the applications no later than 120 days after the petitions are filed². Therefore, the Commission must issue an order regarding the applications and petitions no later than June 2, 2020.

Additionally, Section 393.1015.1(2), RSMo, requires that the Commission publish notice of the filings. Therefore, the Commission will give notice of this application to the general public and any interested persons and set other procedural deadlines. Section 393.1015.2(2), RSMo, allows the Commission's Staff to examine Spire Missouri's applications to change its ISRS and allows Staff to submit a report of its examination no later than 60 days after the petition was filed. The Commission will establish a deadline

² Pursuant to Section 393.1015(3) the Commission may hold a hearing prior to reaching its decision.

for Staff to file its recommendations. The Commission will also set a time for responses to those filings.

Because of the expedited nature of these proceedings, in similar ISRS cases the Commission has ordered Public Counsel to submit any objections to the petitions at the same time as Staff submits its report. In such cases, the Commission has also shortened discovery deadlines and required Spire Missouri to provide discovery answers to Public Counsel at the same time it responded to Staff. The Commission will adopt this expedited procedure in these proceedings.

Spire Missouri filed revised tariff sheets to implement the ISRS changes.³ Unless the Commission acts to suspend those tariff sheets, they will become effective on March 14, 2020. In order for the Commission to have adequate time to consider Spire Missouri's applications, the proposed revised tariff sheets will be suspended.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Commission's Data Center shall serve notice on the county commission, or equivalent governmental body, of all of the counties within Spire Missouri, Inc.'s Missouri service areas.
- 2. The Data Center shall also mail a copy of this notice to the parties in Spire Missouri, Inc.'s last general rate cases, File Nos. GR-2017-0215 and GR-2017-0216.
- 3. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make notice of this order available to the media serving Spire Missouri, Inc.'s Missouri service areas and to the members of the General Assembly representing those service areas.

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³ On February 13, Spire Missouri filed Tariff Revision YG-2020-0139 for Missouri Spire East and Tariff Revision YG-2020-0140 for Missouri Spire West. Both tariff revisions bear an issue date of February 13, 2020 and an effective date of March 14, 2020.

- 4. Any entity wishing to intervene shall file an application to do so no later than March 4, 2020.
- No later than April 3, 2020, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service
 Commission shall file its recommendation.
- 6. No later than April 3, 2020, the Office of the Public Counsel and any other party may file a recommendation.
- 7. The response times for discovery are modified as follows: for data requests issued after this order, the discovery response time is reduced to fifteen days to answer and eight days to object or provide reasons for a party's inability to answer.
- 8. Spire Missouri, Inc. shall respond to Commission Staff's recommendation and any other objections or recommendations no later than April 13, 2020.
- 9. Any other party wishing to respond or object to the Commission Staff's recommendation or other objections or recommendations shall do so no later than April 13, 2020.
- 10. The tariff sheet filed by Spire Missouri, Inc. for its Spire Missouri East service territory on February 13, 2020 (Tariff Tracking No. YG-2020-0139), is suspended until June 2, 2020.
- 11. The tariff sheet filed by Spire Missouri, Inc. for its Spire Missouri West service territory on February 13, 2020 (Tariff Tracking No. YG-2020-0140), is suspended until June 2, 2020.
 - 12. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Paul T. Graham, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 18th day of February, 2020.