

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc., d/b/a)	<u>Case No. GR-2023-0217</u>
Spire Purchased Gas Adjustment)	Tracking No. YG-2023-0122

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its Recommendation, states as follows:

1. On January 4, 2023, Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire (“Spire”) filed two tariff sheets bearing effective dates of January 19, 2023, Tariff File No. YG-2023-0122, and an accompanying cover letter with supporting worksheets. The tariff sheets were filed to reflect changes in Spire’s Current Purchased Gas Adjustment (“CPGA”) factors as a result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas. The tariff sheets do not change the Actual Cost Adjustment (“ACA”) factors.

2. The Commission issued an order on January 5, 2023, directing Staff to file a recommendation regarding Spire’s request and corresponding tariff sheets, Tariff File No. YG-2023-0122, no later than January 10, 2023.

3. Spire states in its PGA transmittal letter that the changes to the PGA rates are mainly driven by an update to its PGA Filing Adjustment Factors (“FAF”). The FAF is designed to refund to, or recover from, customers any over- or under- recoveries of gas costs that have accumulated since Spire’s last ACA filing. Spire is using its FAF to apply a credit to its PGA rate to offset, in part, the increased gas costs associated with the February 2021 Winter Storm Uri. This filing reduces the PGA FAF credit, which results in an increase in the PGA rates.

4. Staff has reviewed Spire's filing and determined it was calculated in conformance with Spire's PGA Clause and notes that optional PGA changes are authorized in Spire's tariff. Staff does not oppose the approval of these tariff sheets on less than thirty (30) days' notice. Such action is supported by Spire's Commission-approved PGA Clause allowing for ten (10) business days' notice for PGA change filings.

5. Staff recommends the Commission approve the tariff sheets in Tariff File No. YG-2023-0122, on an interim basis, subject to refund, for service on and after January 19, 2023.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons and those stated in Staff's Memorandum attached hereto, Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order approving Spire's tariff sheets filed in Tariff File No. YG-2023-0122, on an interim basis, subject to refund status.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jamie S. Myers
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Attorney for Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record on this 10th day of January, 2023.

/s/ Jamie S. Myers

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. GR-2023-0217, Tariff Tracking No. YG-2023-0122
Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire (East & West)

FROM: Anne M. Crowe, Lead Senior Utility Regulatory Auditor, Procurement Analysis

/s/ David M. Sommerer 1/10/2023 /s/ Jamie Myers 1/10/2023
Financial and Business Analysis Div./Date Staff Counsel's Office/Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire
Optional Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) Tariff Filing
Effective January 19, 2023

DATE: January 10, 2023

On January 4, 2023, Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire (“Spire” or “Company”), filed two tariff sheets with effective dates of January 19, 2023 for its eastern Missouri operating division and its western Missouri operating division. The two tariff sheets were filed to reflect changes in Spire’s Current Purchased Gas Adjustment (CPGA) factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas since it established its existing PGA rates last November. The Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) factors did not change as a result of this filing.

On January 5, 2023, the Commission issued an *Order Directing Filing*, which directs Staff to file its recommendation with regard to the tariff sheets by January 10, 2023.

Spire states in its PGA transmittal letter that the changes to the PGA rates are mainly driven by an update to its PGA Filing Adjustment Factors (FAF). The FAF is designed to refund to or recover from customers any over-or under-recoveries of gas costs that have accumulated since the Company’s last ACA filing.¹ Spire is using the FAF to apply a credit to its PGA rate to offset in part the increased gas costs associated with the February 2021 Winter Storm Uri. This filing reduces the PGA FAF credit which results in an increase in the PGA rates.

Spire East’s Total PGA rate will increase to \$.77588 per Ccf from the current Total PGA rate of \$.70904 per Ccf. Spire West’s Total PGA rate will increase to \$1.07545 per Ccf from the current Total PGA rate of \$.92304 per Ccf.

This PGA filing changes the Company’s PGA rate based on estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the period January 2023 through October 2023 and is interim rate subject to later

¹ Tariff Sheet No. 11.1. A.1.

OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM

MO PSC Case No. GR-2023-0217

Tariff No. YG-2023-0122

January 10, 2023

Page 2 of 2

refund. There is no change to the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) factor with this filing. In its November 2023 PGA/ACA filing, the Company's ACA factor will be updated to reflect the reconciliation of actual gas costs with revenue recoveries for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Case No. GR-2023-0217, under which these changes were filed, was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 2022-2023 ACA filing. Any rate change implemented pursuant to this tariff filing should be on an interim basis, subject to refund status pending final Commission decisions in ACA Case Nos. GR-2023-0217, GR-2023-0157, GR-2022-0135, GR-2022-0136, GR-2021-0127, and GR-2021-0128.

Staff has verified that Spire Missouri, Inc. has filed its annual report, and is not delinquent on its PSC assessment. Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing, other than as mentioned above.

Staff has reviewed this filing and has determined it was calculated in conformance with Spire's PGA Clause. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of these tariff sheets on less than thirty (30) days' notice is demonstrated by Spire's Commission-approved PGA clause allowing for ten (10) business days' notice for PGA change filings. Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the following tariff sheets, filed on January 4, 2023, to become effective on January 19, 2023, on an interim basis, subject to refund:

P.S.C. MO No. 9

Second Revised Sheet 11.7, Cancelling First Revised Sheet 11.7 (Spire East)

Second Revised Sheet 11.8, Cancelling First Revised Sheet 11.8 (Spire West)

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Spire Purchased Gas Adjustment) Tariff Tracking No. YG-2023-0122
)

AFFIDAVIT OF ANNE M. CROWE

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)

COMES NOW ANNE M. CROWE and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation* in Memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

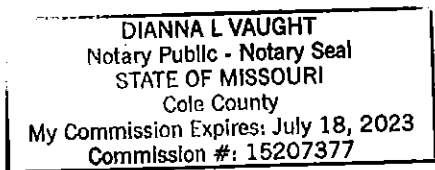
Further the Affiant sayeth not.

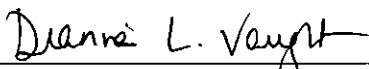


ANNE M. CROWE

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 10th day of January, 2023.





Notary Public