DEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Locustwood Associates,)
Complainant)
Vs.) <u>File No. GC-2018-0267</u>
Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire)
Respondent)

MOTION TO SET PARTIAL PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and for its *Motion to Set Partial Procedural Schedule* hereby states:

- 1. On March 30, 2018, Locustwood Associates ("Locustwood") filed a formal complaint ("Complaint") against Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire ("Spire Missouri").
- 2. On or about April 26, 2018, Counsel of Spire Missouri contacted the Regulatory Law Judge ("Judge") via electronic mail, stating that Locustwood and Spire Missouri had agreed to "try mediation in an effort to resolve our dispute." Later the same day, via electronic mail, the Judge acknowledged receiving notice of a request for mediation, and explored assigning another judge as mediator.
- 3. However, due to conflicts caused by pre-arranged travel plans among the Regulatory Law Judges, an *Order Appointing Mediator* was not issued until May 22, 2018.

4. Consistent with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.125(2)(C), all other actions on the case ceased, pending the completion of the mediation process, upon acknowledgment by the Judge of the request to mediate received on April 26, 2018.

5. On July 19, 2018, the Commission issued its *Order Setting Procedural Conference*, setting a procedural conference for Friday August 3, 2018, and directing Staff to file a report and recommendation no later than August 2, 2018.

7. On July 24, 2018, Staff Counsel contacted counsel for the parties in regard to concerns about the procedural dates set by the Commission in its July 19th Order. Because Spire Missouri has yet to file an *Answer* to Locustwood's *Complaint*, and due to the extended period of time this complaint has been stayed, Staff proposed a "Partial Procedural Schedule" be set reestablishing filing dates for Spire Missouri's *Answer*, and Staff's Report. Based upon the above discussion, and on behalf of all parties, Staff proposes the Commission adopt the following partial procedural schedule in this matter and cancel the procedural dates set in its July 19th Order:

Spire Missouri's Answer to Complaint: August 23, 2018

Staff Report September 7, 2018

Procedural Conference: October 3, 2018

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits its *Motion to Set Partial Procedural*Schedule for the Commission's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark Johnson

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served electronically, or hand-delivered, or via First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, on all parties of record herein on this 25th day of July, 2018.

Isl Mark Johnson