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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Buchanan County, Missouri as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.

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## APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR BUCHANAN COUNTY AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER

**COMES NOW** Spire Missouri Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to Section §393.170 RSMo, and Commission Rules 20 CSR 4240-2.060 and 20 CSR 4240-3.205, requests permission and approval for a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Buchanan County, Missouri, as a further expansion of its existing certificated area. Pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D), the Company also requests a waiver from the notice provisions of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1). In support of this request, Spire respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. Spire is a public utility and gas corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, with its principal office located at 700 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

2 A Certificate of Good Standing evidencing Spire's standing to do business in Missouri was submitted in Case No. GF-2020-0334 and is incorporated by reference herein for all purposes. The information in such Certificate is current and correct. 3. Spire is engaged in the business of distributing and transporting natural gas to customers in Missouri as a gas corporation subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Spire provides gas service in Missouri to customers in the City of St. Louis and the Counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Crawford, Jefferson, Franklin, Iron, St. Genevieve, St. Francois, Madison, Butler, Andrew, Barry, Barton, Bates, 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.

4. Other than cases that have been docketed at the Commission, Spire has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court within the past three years that involve customer service or rates. Spire has no annual report or assessment fees that are overdue.

5. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and to:

Wesley E. Selinger Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63101 (314) 230-5867 wes.selinger@spireenergy.com

6. Spire seeks a service area CCN to provide gas to a single project located in Sections 36 and 31, Township 55 North, Ranges 34 and 35 West of Buchanan County in Missouri. The listed sections above are areas where a developer has contacted Spire with a need for a distribution system

extension to service 34 single-family residential lots. The legal descriptions of the new areas are set forth in the attached Appendices. Attached as Appendix 1 is a plat drawn to a scale of one-half inch (1/2") to the mile on maps comparable to county highway maps issued by the Missouri Department of Transportation or a plat drawn to a scale of two thousand feet (2,000') to the inch. Natural gas service is not currently offered by an unregulated or other regulated entity in any of the areas for which a CCN is being requested.

7. The rates for the proposed area will be those approved and in effect for the customers in the adjoining Spire certificated areas, until such rates may be changed by approved tariff or order of the Commission. Spire estimates the proposed project will result in additional customers within the developer's planned 34 single-family residential lots. Spire acknowledges that there might be an opportunity to add additional customers along the route in the future, but is currently focused on the distribution system extension requested by this developer. The name and address of the developer and landowner associated with the development can be found in Appendix 2 which has been identified as Confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)1 because it contains information relating directly to specific customers. Estimated project revenues and expenses for the first three years of operations are shown in the feasibility study attached as Appendix 3. Appendix 3 has been identified as Confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)3 and 4 because it contains information regarding market-specific information. No external financing will be required for construction related to this project.

8. Spire holds all necessary franchises and permits from municipalities, counties, or other authorities that are required for Spire to serve the subject areas. Documentation that provides assent from Buchanan County can be found in Appendix 4. Included in Appendix 5 is a signed

affidavit of Clifford Garrett, Manager of Residential Development for Spire Missouri, asserting that all information regarding this proposed CCN is accurate and truthful.

9. Spire's experience in the operation of natural gas systems gives it the ability to provide this service in an efficient manner. For all reasons set forth herein, a grant of the application will further the public convenience and necessity.

## **REQUEST FOR WAIVER FROM 60-DAY NOTICE RULE**

#### 12. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) provides, in part, as follows:

Any person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case. Such notice shall detail the type of case and issues likely to be before the commission and shall include a summary of all communication regarding substantive issues likely to be in the case between the filing party and the office of the commission that occurred in the ninety (90) days prior to filing the notice.

13. Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) permits a party to request a waiver of the above

cited rule for good cause. The rule provision specifically provides that good cause may be established by submitting a verified declaration that the filing party has had no communication with the office of the commission within the prior one hundred fifty (150) days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in the case. The Company interprets this to mean that good cause is established if the filing party has had no communication with a member of the office of the Commission outside of pleadings or other public communications. Subject to that understanding, the Company has attached to this request a verified declaration that neither the Company nor any person or entity acting on behalf of the Company, has had a communication with a member of the office of the Commission in the last 150 days regarding any substantive issues that are likely to arise in the case. For that reason, the Company requests that the Commission grant a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement for Spire Missouri's application for a CCN in Buchanan County. WHEREFORE, Spire requests, for good cause shown, that the Commission waive the notice requirement of 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1), approve this Application, issue a CCN to Spire as set forth above and in the attached schedules, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rachel L. Níemeíer

Matthew Aplington MoBar #58565 General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0785 (Office) Email: matt.aplington@spireenergy.com

Goldie T. Bockstruck MoBar #58759 Director, Associate General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6th Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 314-342-0533 Office 314-421-1979 Fax Email: Goldie.Bockstruck@spireenergy.com

Rachel Lewis Niemeier MoBar #56073 Regulatory Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 314-390-2623 Office Email: rachel.niemeier@spireenergy.com

## ATTORNEYS FOR SPIRE MISSOURI INC

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

General Counsel's Office Missouri Public Service Commission staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel opcservice@ded.mo.gov

/s/ Rachel L. Níemeier

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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Buchanan County, Missouri as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.

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#### VERIFICATION

State of Missouri ) ) SS County of St. Louis )

I, Clifford Garrett, state that I am Manager, Residential Development for Spire Missouri Inc. I am authorized to make this verification on behalf of Spire Missouri Inc. and that under the penalty of perjury, I declare that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also hereby swear and affirm that I have read the foregoing Request for Waiver, and hereby declare that, other than pleadings or other public communications, Spire Missouri Inc., has had no communication with the office of the Commission, within the prior one hundred and fifty (150) days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in the above referenced case.

|s| Clifford Garrett

Clifford Garrett

February 15, 2021 Dated



**Buchanan County CCN** 

Names & Addresses Associated with Paradise Lakes Estates

# Marked Confidential pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A) 1

Land Parcel Associated with Paradise Lakes Estates

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Revenue					
Expenses Operating Exp Depreciation Property Tax Total Expense	_				
Fixed Charge + Volumetric Re Total					
O&M Expense Total Custome Expense per C	ers			l pursuant to (A)3 and 4	) 20 CSR
Total Investme Property Tax % Tax					
Depreciable Pl Rate Depreciation	lant				

## AN ORDER OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI GRANTING TO SPIRE MISSOURI, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AN ASSENT TO USE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY LOCATED ON PUBLIC ROADS OR HIGHWAYS OF BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING, MAINTAINING AND PROVIDING NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND RELATED FACILITIES

WHEREAS, Buchanan County, Missouri (the "County") is a first-class county and political subdivision duly organized and validly existing under the Constitution and laws of the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire Missouri") is a Missouri corporation duly authorized to conduct business in Missouri and is engaged in the construction and operation of natural gas distribution facilities in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri intends to request and obtain a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Missouri Public Service Commission, recognizing that projects to be placed in service by the Company in Buchanan County are in the public interest and authorizing it to construct natural gas distribution facilities in Southwest Missouri and, specifically, in the County; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri anticipates utilizing the public roads and highways of the County as construction routes; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri intends to install natural gas distribution facilities under the public roads and highways of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County, acting by and through its County Commission, desires to grant to Spire Missouri its assent authorizing Spire Missouri to construct, install and maintain natural gas facilities under the public roads or highways of the County.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ORDERED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> There is hereby granted to Spire Missouri, its successors and assigns, the assent of Buchanan County (the "County") pursuant to section 229.100, RSMo. of the Revised Statutes of Missouri for the use of the right of way located on public roads and highways of Buchanan County, Missouri, for the construction of natural gas distribution or related facilities through, on, under, and across said public roads or highways, subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement described in Section 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the assent granted herein shall not be invalidated by the subsequent repeal of section 229.100 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

<u>Section 2.</u> The County Commission ratifies, approves, adopts and authorizes the Right-of-Way Agreement attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as

Attachment 1.

<u>Section 3.</u> Lee Sawyer, Presiding Commissioner, is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the agreement set forth in Attachment 1, and such other documents as may be necessary to carry out and comply with the intent of this Order and the transactions contemplated herein. The County Commission is hereby authorized and directed to take such further action, and execute such other documents and instruments as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and comply with the intent of this Order with respect to the transactions contemplated in the agreement set forth in Attachment 1.

RESOLVED AND ORDERED this  $\mu^{+}$  day of February, 2021.

awyo Lee Sawver

Presiding Commissioner

Ron Hook

Commissioner, Western District

AND AND -

Scott Burnham Commissioner, Eastern District

ATTEST:

Mamb. Carven County Cle

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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri	)	
Inc. for a Certificate	)	
of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install,	)	
Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control	)	Case No:
and Manage a Natural Gas Transmission Line to	)	
Provide Gas Service to a single customer in Buchanan	)	
County not served by Natural Gas	)	
Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.	)	

## **AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF MISSOURI	)	
	)	SS.
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS	)	

Clifford Garrett, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. My name is Clifford Garrett. I am Manager, Residential Business Development

for Spire Missouri Inc. My business address is 700 Market St., St. Louis, Missouri, 63101.

2. The purpose of this affidavit is to comply with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-

3.205(1)(D) and 4240.060(1)(M) requiring Spire to file a certified copy of the document granting it the necessary consent or franchise or an updated affidavit attesting that it has received the necessary county consent for the requested service territory expansion.

3. Spire received a written and signed consent letter from the Buchanan County Commission on February 11, 2021. The Buchanan County Commission's signed consent letter has been included in this Appendix.

4. Under penalty of perjury, I hereby declare that the information contained herein, and in the attached documents is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

|s| Clifford Garrett

Clifford Garrett

February 15, 2021

Dated