

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

In the Matter of the Application of Laclede Gas Company)
to Transfer an Asset to Spire Pipeline, Inc.)

File No. GM-2017-0018

STAFF'S REQUEST TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST HEARING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Request to Reserve the Right to Request Hearing* respectfully states as follows:

1. On October 31, 2016, Laclede Gas Company filed an *Application* requesting authorization to sell a section of natural gas pipeline to an affiliated company, Spire STL Pipeline LLC and for a variance from the Commission's affiliate transaction rules.

2. On November 1, 2016, the Commission issued an *Order and Notice* (“*Order*”) setting a deadline for intervention of November 21, 2016. This *Order* indicated, “If no proper party or governmental entity is granted intervention, and neither the Commission’s Staff nor the Office of the Public Counsel requests a hearing, the Commission may determine that a hearing is not necessary for a determination on the application.”

3. Staff is currently undergoing an investigation in order to determine the necessity of hearing as opposed to merely providing a recommendation. At this stage in its investigation, Staff is uncertain as to whether or not a hearing will be necessary.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission refrain from making a determination on the application, even in the absence of any requests for interventions or requests for hearing, and preserve Staff's right to request a hearing at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Marcella L. Forck

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been electronically mailed this 21st day of November, 2016, to all counsel of record in this proceeding.

/s/ Marcella L. Forck