

*Missouri Public Service Commission*

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Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Laclede Group, Inc.  
Legal Department  
720 Olive Street  
St. Louis, MO 63101



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**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office in  
Jefferson City on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
September, 2018.

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire's                     )  
Compliance with the Commission's Order and                     )  
Stipulation and Agreement in Case No. GM-2013-0254            )     **File No. GO-2019-0040**

**ORDER RELIEVING SPIRE MISSOURI OF THE OBLIGATION TO FILE A  
QUARTERLY REPORT**

Issue Date: September 27, 2018

Effective Date: October 27, 2018

This file was opened on August 10, 2018, when Staff filed a motion asking the Commission to enforce Spire Missouri, Inc.'s compliance with the terms of the Commission-approved stipulation and agreement regarding Laclede Gas Company's acquisition of Missouri Gas Energy. Staff's motion expressed concern that Spire Missouri had indicated its intent to unilaterally cease complying with a provision of the stipulation and agreement that requires it to file a quarterly report certifying its compliance with the requirements of the stipulation and agreement that it "diligently exercise its best efforts to insulate the Laclede and MGE Divisions<sup>1</sup> from any adverse consequences from its other operations or the activities of any of its affiliates."

Spire Missouri responded to Staff's motion on August 20. Spire Missouri's response asks the Commission to determine that the quarterly certification report requirement of the stipulation and agreement is no longer necessary because of the passage of five years,

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<sup>1</sup> The Laclede and MGE divisions are now known as Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West respectively.

because both utilities have been through a comprehensive rate case and other proceedings, and because the filing of a certificate of compliance every three months is neither necessary, nor useful. Spire Missouri emphasized that it does not request leave to cease complying with the substance of the stipulation and agreement. Rather, it simply asks to be allowed to cease filing the quarterly reports.

At the Commission's direction, both Staff and Public Counsel responded to Spire Missouri's request on September 21. Staff indicates it does not oppose removing the quarterly filing requirement, but emphasizes that Spire Missouri should continue to be held to compliance with the other requirements of the stipulation and agreement. Similarly, Public Counsel suggests the Commission either deny Spire Missouri's request, or grant the request while strongly emphasizing that it is not waiving, changing, or eliminating any other provision of the stipulation and agreement.

The provision of the stipulation and agreement that is at issue is paragraph 16, entitled Insulation of MGE from LG Business. That provision states:

To insulate the MGE Division and Laclede Gas from the Transaction, LG represents that:

- a. MGE will be owned and operated as a division of Laclede Gas, which shall remain a separate subsidiary of LG, unless otherwise approved by the Commission.
- b. Laclede Gas shall not transfer to LG or any subsidiary thereof, directly or indirectly, assets necessary and useful in providing service to MGE's Missouri customers without Commission approval.
- c. Laclede Gas will diligently exercise its best efforts to insulate the Laclede and MGE Divisions from any adverse consequences from its other operations or the activities of any of its affiliates.
- d. Laclede Gas shall submit reports certifying its compliance with this paragraph on a quarterly basis to the Staff electronically through EFIS and to OPC, and other interested parties that are permitted to receive proprietary or confidential information as contemplated by applicable Commission rules or orders until the Commission determines that the Laclede and MGE Divisions are insulated from LG's other operations and the activities of any of its affiliates or that the requirement is no longer needed.

The emphasized language in subsection d indicates the Commission may determine that Laclede Gas (now Spire Missouri) may cease filing the quarterly certification reports if the Commission finds either that the Laclede and MGE Divisions (now Spire East and Spire West) are sufficiently insulated, or that the quarterly certification reports are no longer needed. Staff and Public Counsel agree the quarterly certification reports are no longer needed. They also agree the Commission should not make any finding that the divisions are now sufficiently insulated.

The Commission will relieve Spire Missouri of its obligation to file the quarterly certification report required by subsection 16d of the stipulation and agreement approved on July 17, 2013, in File No. GM-2013-0254. In doing so, the Commission finds only that the quarterly certification report is no longer needed. The Commission makes no finding regarding the insulation of the Spire East and Spire West Divisions from the activities of Spire, Inc., and specifically does not relieve Spire Missouri, or any other party, of any obligation to comply with any other term of that stipulation and agreement.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. Spire Missouri, Inc. is relieved of the obligation to file the quarterly certification report required by subsection 16d of the stipulation and agreement approved in File No. GM-2013-0254 on July 17, 2013.

2. This order shall be effective on October 27, 2018.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Hall, Rupp, and  
Coleman, CC., concur;  
Kenney, C., absent.

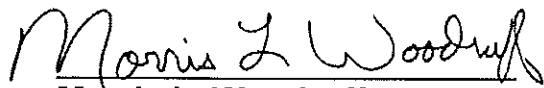
Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge,

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2018.

  
Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**September 27, 2018**

**File/Case No. GO-2019-0040**

**Missouri Public Service  
Commission**  
Staff Counsel Department  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel**  
Hampton Williams  
200 Madison Street, Suite 650  
P.O. Box 2230  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
opcservice@ded.mo.gov

**City of Kansas City, Missouri**  
Legal Department  
414 E. 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106

**IBEW Local Union No. 53**  
Legal Department  
1100 East Admiral Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64106

**Kansas City Power & Light  
Company**  
Legal Department  
One Kansas City Place, 1200  
Main Street  
PO Box 418679  
Kansas City, MO 64105

**KCP&L Greater Missouri  
Operations Company**  
Legal Department  
One Kansas City Place, 1200  
Main Street  
P.O. Box 418679  
Kansas City, MO 64105

**Laclede Group, Inc.**  
Legal Department  
720 Olive Street  
St. Louis, MO 63101

**Midwest Gas Users Association**  
Legal Department  
215 West Main St.  
P.O. Box 186  
Cleveland, MO 64734

**Missouri Department of Natural  
Resources**  
Legal Department  
1101 Riverside Drive  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

**Missouri Industrial Energy  
Consumers (MIEC)**  
Legal Department  
211 N. Broadway, Suite 3600  
St. Louis, MO 63102

**Missouri Public Service  
Commission**  
Jeff Keevil  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
jeff.keevil@psc.mo.gov

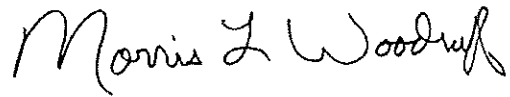
**Spire**  
Michael C Pendergast  
423 Main Street  
St. Charles, MO 63301  
mcp2015law@icloud.com

**Spire**  
Rick E Zucker  
14412 White Pine Ridge Ln  
Chesterfield, MO 63017-6301  
zuckerlaw21@gmail.com

**United Steelworkers District 11**  
Legal Department  
3307 Hollenberg Dr. Ste. A  
Bridgeton, MO 63044

*Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "W".

**Morris L. Woodruff**  
**Secretary**

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