

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

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s	)	
d/b/a Spire Missouri East and Spire	)	<b><u>File No. GO-2023-0449</u></b>
Missouri West Filing of its Proposed	)	Tracking No. JG-2023-0230
Weather Normalization Adjustment	)	
Rider (WNAR) Tariff Sheets	)	

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF SHEETS  
TO ADJUST THE WEATHER NORMALIZATION ADJUSTMENT  
RIDER RATES OF SPIRE EAST AND SPIRE WEST**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and respectfully states:

1. On June 30, 2023<sup>1</sup>, Spire Missouri Inc. (Spire) filed a tariff sheet to revise its weather normalization adjust rider (WNAR) rates for Spire East and Spire West, to go into effect on September 1. On July 3, the Commission ordered Staff to file a recommendation and set a deadline for responses. The tariff sheet has an issue date of July 1 and an effective date of September 1.

2. Accompanying this pleading and incorporated herein by reference is Staff's Memorandum recommending Commission approval of the WNAR rates set out in Spire's tariff sheet.

3. The tariff sheet's effect is that residential rates in the service areas of Spire East and Spire West will increase. Residential customers who consume 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month in the Spire East and Spire West service areas will see, respectively, estimated \$1.51 (East) and \$1.11 (West) increases in their bills compared to the current WNAR rate.

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<sup>1</sup> All date references will be to 2023 unless otherwise stated.

**WHEREFORE**, as set forth in Staff's Recommendation memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the Spire's WNAR tariff sheet:

P.S.C. MO. No. 9	Second Revised	Sheet No. 13.9
Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9	First Revised	Sheet No. 13.9

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*/s/ Paul T. Graham #30416*

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**ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE  
MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that true and correct copies of the foregoing was served on the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel via electronic mail (e-mail) on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2023.

*/s/ Paul T. Graham*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File  
Case No. GO-2023-0449, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2023-0230  
Spire Missouri, Inc., d/b/a Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West

**FROM:** Hari K. Poudel, PhD, Economist - Tariff/Rate Design Department

/s/ Hari K. Poudel, PhD / 08-02-23  
Industry Analysis Division / Date

/s/ Paul T. Graham / 08-02-23  
Staff Counsel Division / Date

**SUBJECT:** Staff Recommendation for the **Approval** of the revised WNAR Tariff Sheet Filed by Spire Missouri to reflect the rates and calculations from the recent rate case to go into effect on September 1, 2023.

**DATE:** August 2, 2023

On June 30, 2023, Spire Missouri Inc. (“Spire Missouri” or “the Company”) filed a revised tariff sheet to update its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) with an effective date of September 1, 2023. The Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding the WNAR Tariff Sheet in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2023-0230 no later than August 2, 2023.

The purpose of this tariff is to adjust revenues for differences between actual heating degree days and normal heating degree days. The WNAR is the measurement of the gas usage response of the residential customers to weather. The weather normalization adjustments in per hundred cubic feet (Ccf) are calculated for each billing cycle and each month based on the usage response and the actual and normal weather measured for each billing cycle. The adjustments are summed across billing months and then divided by the billing determinants in the last rate case resulting in a WNAR rate that is applied for the billing months of September 2023 through August 2024.

The Revised Tariff Sheet, P.S.C. MO. No. 9, Second Revised Sheet No. 13.9 reflects the updated WNAR that will apply to both Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West. Both are the operating units of Spire Missouri, Inc. The updated tariff sheet reflects the billing determinants approved by the Commission in its Order Approving Full Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement issued in Case No. GR-2022-0179 on November 30, 2022.

The proposed residential rates in both Spire Missouri service areas will increase the customer bills (Table 1). If located in the Spire East rate districts, a residential customer who consumed 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would receive an estimated \$1.51 increase in their bill compared to the currently applicable WNAR rate. Similarly, a

residential customer in the Spire West rate district consuming 100 Ccf of gas would receive an estimated bill increase of around \$1.11 compared to the current WNAR rate.

Table 1. Weather Normalization Adjustment Rate (WNAR)

Spire Service Area	Current WNAR Rate	Proposed WNAR Rate
Spire East	\$0.01599/Ccf	\$0.03106/Ccf
Spire West	\$.01357/Ccf	\$0.02464/Ccf

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheet and corresponding workpapers, weather data, and recommends approval of the following revised Tariff Sheet to go into effect for service on and after September 1, 2023:

<u>P.S.C. MO. No. 9</u>	Second Revised	SHEET NO. 13.9
Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9	First Revised	SHEET NO. 13.9

Staff has verified that Spire Missouri is not delinquent on any assessment and has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

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In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s d/b/a )  
Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West )  
Filing of its Proposed Weather ) Case No. GO-2023-0449  
Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) )  
Tariff Sheets )

**AFFIDAVIT OF HARI K. POUDEL, PhD**

STATE OF MISSOURI )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF COLE )

**COMES NOW** Hari K. Poudel and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing Staff Recommendation and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.


  
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Hari K. Poudel, PhD

**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 31<sup>st</sup> day of

July, 2023.

D. SUZIE MANKIN  
Notary Public - Notary Seal  
State of Missouri  
Commissioned for Cole County  
My Commission Expires: April 04, 2025  
Commission Number: 12412070

  
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Notary Public