## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone/internet audio conference on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020.

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire for a Temporary Variance from Rule and Tariff Provisions Relating to Late Payment Fees And Disconnection Rules and Motion for Expedited Treatment

File No. GE-2020-0289 Tracking Nos. YG-2020-0183 and YG-2020-0184

## ORDER REGARDING TEMPORARY VARIANCE

Issue Date: April 22, 2020

Effective Date: May 1, 2020

On March 18, 2020, the Commission granted Spire Missouri Inc. a temporary variance from provisions set forth in Commission rules 20 CSR 4240-13.050 and 20 CSR 4240-13.055 and in its tariffed Rules and Regulations for the Spire East and Spire West service territories that might be construed as requiring service be discontinued. Spire Missouri was also granted a variance from its tariff provisions regarding assessing late March service rendered between 2020. payment charges for 1. and May 1, 2020, for residential and commercial service. On April 20, 2020, Spire Missouri filed a request for an extension of those variances through May 31, 2020. Spire Missouri requested expedited treatment so that the tariffs would become effective on May 1, 2020.

Spire Missouri stated in its motion that it requests this variance to avoid any utilityrelated actions that would impair the ability of its customers to remain in their homes or obtain vital services during the COVID-19 emergency. Thus, Spire Missouri has temporarily suspended any disconnection activities relating to residential or commercial service and has waived any late payment charges that might accrue for service provided on and after March 1, 2020.

Spire Missouri filed revised tariff sheets to reflect this variance. Those tariff sheets would continue in effect through May 31, 2020, unless extended through a subsequent tariff filing. Spire Missouri stated that it had contacted the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel and neither has an objection to the extension of this variance.

The Commission finds good cause due to the COVID-19 emergency to grant Spire Missouri a continued variance from the provisions of the Commission rules and the company's tariffs as requested. The Commission also finds that good cause exists to approve the revised tariffs sheets, Tracking Nos. YG-2020-0183 and YG-2020-0184, on an expedited basis to become effective on May 1, 2020. The Commission further finds that this order should be effective in less than 30 days.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Spire Missouri Inc. is granted a temporary variance from compliance with any of the disconnection or assessment of late payment charges for service rendered between March 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, under the following Commission rules and company tariff provisions:

20 CSR 4240-13.050 20 CSR 4240-13.055 Spire Missouri Inc., P.S.C. MO. No. 7, Sheet No. R-11.4 Spire Missouri Inc., P.S.C. MO. No. 8, Sheet No. R-11.4

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2. Spire Missouri Inc.'s revised tariff sheets, Tracking Nos. YG-2020-0183 and YG-2020-0184, are approved on an expedited basis to become effective on May 1, 2020.

3. This order shall become effective on May 1, 2020.



## **BY THE COMMISSION**

Noodul

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and Holsman CC., concur.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge