BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Request of Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire for a Temporary Waiver from Commission Rules 20 CSR 4240-40.030 (9)(Q), (13)(M), (15)(C), (15)(D) and (15)(E) and Orders Pertaining to Inspections and Replacements

File No. GE-2020-0373

ORDER DIRECTING CLARIFICATION OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: February 19, 2021

Effective Date: February 19, 2021

On January 18, 2021, Spire Missouri Inc. filed a motion to modify the Commission's December 2, 2020 Order Modifying Temporary Waiver and Directing Written Notice. Spire requested the Commission extend the period of waiver from March 31 to October 31, 2021. In addition, Spire requested the Commission remove a one-year limit on noncompliance for any location, which is required as a condition of waiver by the Commission's June 11, 2020 Order Approving Application for Temporary Waiver and Directing Written Notice. Spire's motion requested expedited treatment.

On February 19, 2021, Staff filed a recommendation that the Commission grant the request, in part, with specified conditions. In particular, the Commission understands Staff's recommendation to propose that the Commission allow for a limited exception to the one-year limit when customers demonstrate a medical necessity to maintain natural gas service. Staff's recommendation states that Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-13.055(1)(D)2 provides an "example of the requirements to define medical necessity."

The Commission will direct Staff to clarify its recommendation in regard to the oneyear limit on noncompliance. The Commission directs Staff to advise as follows: (1) Whether Staff recommends that exception to the one-year limit would apply only to residential customers and facilities;

(2) Whether Staff recommends that the provision for a medical emergency under Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-13.050(10) should apply to prevent a disconnection that might otherwise be required by the one-year limit;

(3) Whether Staff recommends that an exception to the one-year limit for medical necessity would apply exclusively to "disabled" customers, as is provided by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-13.055(1)(D)2.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than February 24, 2021, Staff shall file a clarification of *Staff Recommendation*, as described above.

2. Any response to Staff's clarification filed pursuant to this order shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. February 26, 2021.

3. This order shall be effective when issued.



Jana C. Jacobs, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 19th day of February, 2021.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary