

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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire)
Missouri, Inc. for a Certificate of Convenience)
and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own,)
Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control) **File No. GA-2023-0374**
and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution)
System to Provide Gas Service in Johnson)
County, Missouri as an Expansion of its)
Existing Certificated Areas)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”) and for its *Staff Recommendation*, states as follows:

1. On April 27, 2023, Spire Missouri, Inc. (“Spire” or “Company”), filed an *Application* with the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) requesting a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (“CCN”) to install, own, construct, operate, control, manage, and maintain a natural gas distribution system to provide gas in Johnson County, Missouri, as an addition to Spire’s existing service territories. In its *Application*, Spire requested a waiver from the notice provisions of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1).

2. On April 28, 2023, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Deadline for Intervention Requests, and Directing Filing of Staff Recommendation* directing Staff to file an extension or a recommendation no later than June 12, 2023. On June 7, 2023, Staff filed its *Motion for Extension of Time to File Staff Recommendation* requesting an extension of time to file its recommendation. On June 20, 2023, the Commission granted Staff’s Motion and ordered Staff to file its recommendation on or before July 12, 2023.

3. On July 10, 2023, Staff filed its Motion for Additional Extension of Time to File Staff Recommendation. On July 14, 2023, the Commission granted Staff's Motion and ordered Staff to file its recommendation on or before August 14, 2023.

4. As discussed in the Staff's Memorandum ("Memorandum"), attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated by reference, Staff is of the opinion that Spire has fulfilled the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240.4.017(1) and the Tartan criteria for approval, subject to the conditions stated on page 5 of the Memorandum, to qualify for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity.

5. For these reasons, as more fully explained in the Staff's Memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission approve Spire's Application for its requested CCN.

6. In the *Application*, Spire requested a waiver of the 60-day filing notice of 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1). Spire's *Application* provided a verified declaration that it had not had communication with the Commission within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issues likely to be in the case. Staff agrees good cause exists pursuant to 20 CSR 4240.017(1)(D) and that the 60-day notice requirement should be waived.

WHEREFORE, for the above stated reason, Staff prays the Commission approve Spire Missouri, Inc.'s certificate of convenience and necessity for the service areas described in the Company's April 27, 2023, Application; and grant such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ron Irving

Senior Counsel

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile, or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 14th day of August, 2023.

/s/ Ron Irving