

In the Matter of:

SPIRE MISSOURI INC.'s d/b/a SPIRE REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY, etc.

GR-2021-0108, VOL. IX

June 25, 2021



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Local Public Hearing via WebEx

June 25, 2021

Volume 9

In The Matter Of Spire Missouri)
Inc.'s Request for Authority to)Case No. GR-2021-0108
Implement a General Rate)
Increase for Natural Gas Service)
Provided in the Company's)
Missouri Service Areas.)

CHARLES HATCHER, Presiding
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
MAIDA J. COLEMAN,
GLEN KOLKMEYER,
COMMISSIONERS

REPORTED BY:
Tracy Taylor, CCR No. 939
TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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1 JUDGE HATCHER: Let's go on the record.
2 First, I would like to ask everyone to please mute
3 themselves unless speaking. That does cut down on our
4 noise level and also prevent any audio feedback.

5 Today is June 25th, 2021. The Missouri
6 Public Service Commission has set this time for a
7 local public hearing to give members of the public a
8 chance to comment about Spire's application. The Case
9 Number is GR-2021-0108 and that is captioned In the
10 Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc., doing business as
11 Spire's, Request for Authority to Implement a General
12 Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service Provided in the
13 Company's Missouri Service Areas.

14 The Missouri Public Service Commission
15 regulates the rates charged by public utility
16 companies in Missouri to ensure that those rates is
17 just and reasonable. The Commission also regulates
18 the quality of service and safety of the operations of
19 public utilities.

20 The Commission is made up of five
21 Commissioners. Those Commissioners are appointed by
22 the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Public
23 Service Commission employs a staff of engineers,
24 accountants, attorneys, financial analysts and other
25 specialists in the field of utility regulation.

1 My name is Charles Hatcher and I am the
2 Regulatory Law Judge who will preside over this
3 hearing. With me today are Commissioners Coleman and
4 Commissioner Kolkmeyer. This is an official hearing
5 of the Missouri Public Service Commission and the
6 statements and testimony of the witnesses will be
7 recorded by the court reporter and must be given under
8 oath.

9 The Commission has not made any decisions
10 in this case and cannot answer any questions today
11 because they have to remain impartial until after all
12 of the evidence is presented.

13 At this time I'll ask if there's any
14 opening remarks from the Commissioners?

15 Okay. Let's go ahead and we'll get
16 started with the entries of appearance. For Spire,
17 please go ahead.

18 MR. APLINGTON: Good evening, Judge
19 Hatcher. This is Matt Aplington appearing on behalf
20 of petitioner, Spire Missouri, Inc., 700 Market
21 Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

22 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And on behalf
23 of the Commission staff?

24 MS. BRETZ: Karen Bretz for the Staff of
25 the Missouri Public Service Commission, 200 Madison

1 Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

2 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And on behalf
3 of the Office of the Public Counsel?

4 MR. CLIZER: Good evening. John Clizer
5 appearing on behalf of the Missouri Office of the
6 Public Counsel, Governor Office Building, Suite 650,
7 200 Madison Street, PO Box 2230, Jefferson City
8 Missouri, 65102. Thank you.

9 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. We also have
10 a number of intervening parties. They are not
11 required to be at this hearing but if they are and
12 they have a representative here, if they would like to
13 enter their appearance, please go ahead.

14 Okay. We will get to the hearing part
15 right now. The process I'm going to use is just call
16 the names on the sign-up sheet as I have them listed.
17 When I call your name, if you can unmute yourself and
18 say hello, that will bring you to the front page of my
19 WebEx screen and I will then place you under oath and
20 ask you to state and spell your name for the court
21 reporter and then ask that you go ahead and provide
22 your testimony.

23 So I have two names on the list tonight.
24 The first is Julia Allen. Is there a Julia Allen?
25 And I think I might have forgotten to mention if

1 you're on the telephone, to unmute yourself, you press
2 *6. That's *6 if you're on the telephone. If you're
3 on the app or the web page, there will be a button
4 there for unmuting. Julia Allen? Let the record show
5 there was no answer.

6 Robin Ganahl? The last name is spelled
7 G-a-n-a-h-l. Robin Ganahl?

8 Okay. And we do have a number of other
9 call-in users here so I'd like to open up the forum.
10 If there's anyone here who did not sign up but who
11 would like to testify to the Commission, just please
12 speak up and we will swear you in and ask you to
13 testify. Again, if you're on the phone, it is *6 to
14 unmute.

15 Okay. Let the record show no witnesses
16 answered the call so we'll go ahead and close out the
17 hearing then. I'll ask for any closing remarks from
18 our Commissioners?

19 All right. And I would like to thank all
20 of our participants today for being here and also
21 being at the question and answer session. If you do
22 know someone who could not be present or you would
23 like to make written comments, you can do that by
24 going straight to the PSC web page and that's
25 PSC.MO.gov. And in the upper right-hand corner, there

1 is a link to submit comments. Just remember this case
2 number, and this is GR-2021-0108.

3 If you have a question for the Office of
4 the Public Counsel, you can reach them at
5 MOPCO@OPC.MO.gov. This hearing is now adjourned.

6 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Judge?

7 JUDGE HATCHER: Oh, yes. Please go
8 ahead.

9 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: This is
10 Commissioner Coleman. I just wanted to say that I
11 appreciate the attention that everyone who has been
12 involved this week has given to this. I don't recall
13 a lot of Intervenors being present, but the Company,
14 our Staff, OPC, I just wanted to give thanks to
15 everyone for putting the time in every -- for every
16 one of the hearings. So I appreciate it. And thank
17 you, Judge, also, and our court reporters.

18 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you, Commissioner.
19 And I would echo those comments. This has been a week
20 and six hearings and all of you have done a terrific
21 job. We are off the record.

22 (Whereupon, the local public hearing was
23 adjourned.)

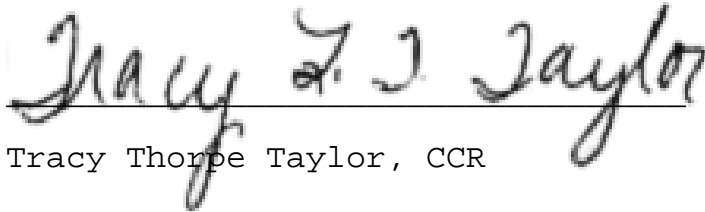
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR No. 939, within the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the testimony appearing in the foregoing matter was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witnesses was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this matter was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.


Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR

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