

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 30th day of December, 2020.

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a)
Spire (East) Purchased Gas Adjustment)
(PGA) Tariff Filing)

File No. GR-2021-0127

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a)
Spire (West) Purchased Gas Adjustment)
(PGA) Tariff Filing)

File No. GR-2021-0128

ORDER GRANTING APPLICATIONS TO INTERVENE

Issue Date: December 30, 2020

Effective Date: December 30, 2020

On October 30, 2020, Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire filed tariff sheets to reflect changes in the company's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) clause and Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) for its Spire Missouri East Operating Unit, and Spire Missouri West Operating Unit. The Commission approved Spire's PGA tariffs to become effective on November 16, 2020, subject to refund, and ordered the Commission's Staff (Staff) to file its ACA report and recommendation on December 15, 2021. Several entities have expressed an interest in participating in Spire's ACA proceedings.

On December 2, 2020, the Environmental Defense Fund filed an application to intervene in both cases. In support of its application, it states that it is a nonprofit organization with over 5,600 members in Missouri which has an interest in minimizing the natural gas industry's contribution to climate change and other environmental problems. The Environmental Defense Funds states that its particular interest pertains to the prudence and reasonableness of the costs of firm transportation capacity from a corporate affiliate of Spire Missouri (Spire STL Pipeline). The Environmental Defense Fund asserts

that its interest is different from that of the general public, and will not or cannot be adequately represented by any other party.

On December 3, 2020, Midwest Energy Consumers Group filed an application to intervene in both cases. In support of its application it states that it is an incorporated association representing the interests of large commercial and industrial users of electricity and natural gas throughout the State of Missouri including in the area served by Spire East and Spire West. It asserts that the matters to be considered in these cases could have a direct and significant impact on cost of service to large commercial and industrial customers.

On December 8, 2020, the Consumers Council of Missouri filed applications to intervene in both cases. In support of its application it states that it is a nonpartisan, nonprofit corporation dedicated to educating and empowering consumers statewide and to advocating for their interests. It asserts that its interest in this matter relates to the rates, terms and conditions of service for the Spire's residential natural gas customers, and that interest is different from the general public interest.

All three intervenors state that their intervention would further the public interest.

Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(13) provides that parties shall be allowed ten days from the date of filing in which to respond to any pleading unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. Spire timely filed a response to the intervention applications on December 14, 2020.

Spire's response states that it does not oppose the interventions of the Environmental Defense Fund and Consumers Council of Missouri in File No. GR-2021-0127 (Spire East ACA), but was opposed to the Commission granting interventions in File No. GR-2021-0128 (Spire West's ACA), because the Spire STL

Pipeline only serves the Spire East service area. Spire also asks that the Commission order Midwest Energy Consumers Group to clarify to which of Spire's customer rates classes its clients belong, and how their interests would be adversely affected by these proceedings beyond the interest of the general public or how its intervention would serve the public interest before it is granted intervention.

Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.075(3) provides that the Commission may grant an application to intervene if it finds that the proposed intervenor has an interest in the case that differs from that of the general public and that may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the case. In the alternative, the Commission may also grant an application to intervene if it finds that granting the intervention would serve the public interest.

After reviewing the Environmental Defense Fund and Consumers Council of Missouri's applications to intervene, the Commission concludes that both entities have expressed interests in the case different from the general public. While Spire argues that none of the intervenors should be allowed to intervene in GR-2021-0128, because the Spire STL Pipeline only serves Spire East, this misstates the intervention requirements. The requirements are only an interest different from the general public, which may be adversely affected. Both of these groups have interests that may be adversely affected by the Commission's decision regarding both Spire East and Spire West's ACA. The Commission also finds that the Environmental Defense Fund and Consumers Council of Missouri's interventions serve the public interest.

After reviewing Midwest Energy Consumers Group's application to intervene, the Commission concludes that it has an interest in the cases that differs from that of the general public in that it represents the interest of industrial consumers. Midwest Energy

Consumers Group's application to intervene states that it is an incorporated association representing the interests of large commercial and industrial users of electricity and natural gas throughout the State of Missouri including in the area served by Spire East and Spire West. The Commission does not agree that Midwest Energy Consumers Group should have to identify the rate classes of its members to verify the truth of the statements made in its application. The application, as written, satisfies the requirements for intervention. The Commission further finds that granting its intervention request will serve the public interest.

Therefore, in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240 2.075(3), the Commission will grant the applications to intervene.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The applications to intervene filed by Midwest Energy Consumers Group, the Environmental Defense Fund, and Consumers Council of Missouri are granted for File Nos. GR-2021-0127 and GR-2021-0128.
2. This order shall become effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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

Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,