

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 18th day of May, 2022.

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a)
Spire's Request for Authority to Implement)
a General Rate Increase for Natural Gas)
Service Provided in the Company's)
Missouri Service Areas)

File No. GR-2022-0179

**ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, ESTABLISHING
TEST YEAR, AND OTHER PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

Issue Date: May 18, 2022

Effective Date: May 18, 2022

Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire (Spire) submitted tariff sheets to implement a general rate increase to Spire's gross annual gas revenues. The Commission suspended the tariff sheets until February 28, 2023, to give it time to consider the tariff sheets. The Commission also ordered the parties to file a joint proposed procedural schedule.

Spire proposed using the test year ending September 30, 2020, adjusted for known and measurable rate base and expense items through May 31, 2021, while updating only certain material elements using a test year ending December 31, 2021, with a true-up period through June 30, 2022.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a response to Spire's proposed test year, requesting the Commission adopt a test year ending September 30, 2020, adjusted for known and measurable rate base, revenue, and expense items through May 31, 2021, with a true-up period through September 30, 2022. The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a response to Spire's proposed test year with two alternatives. One alternative was similar to Staff's proposal with an update period through December 31, 2021 and no

further true-up period. Another alternative was to have a test year ending December 31, 2021, adjusted for known and measurable rate base and expense items through September 30, 2022.

After consideration of the proposed test years the Commission will adopt a test year ending September 30, 2020, adjusted for known and measurable rate base, revenue, and expense items through May 31, 2021, with a true-up period through September 30, 2022, and no ordered update period.

On May 6, 2022, the parties submitted two non-unanimous proposed procedural schedules. One proposed schedule was filed by Staff, OPC, Constellation NewEnergy-Gas Division LLC, Midwest Energy Consumers Group, and Symmetry Energy Solutions LLC. Spire filed the other proposed procedural schedule. Spire's proposed schedule contemplates an evidentiary hearing starting September 14, 2022, and the other parties proposed schedule contemplates an evidentiary hearing starting November 28, 2022. It is more pragmatic to shorten a procedural schedule based upon party agreement than to extend an existing abbreviated schedule without consensus. Therefore, the Commission will adopt the procedural schedule proposed by a majority of the parties with some modification.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The following procedural schedule is established:

Discovery Conference	May 25, 2022
Technical Conference on Transportation Tariff	June 9, 2022
Discovery Conference	June 22, 2022
Technical Conference on Transportation Tariff	July 6 or 7, 2022
Discovery Conference	July 20, 2022

Technical Conference on Transportation Tariff	August 10, 2022
Discovery Conference	August 24, 2022
Direct Testimony – Revenue Requirement (All parties except Spire Missouri) (Response time for data requests changes to 10 calendar days and 5 calendar days to object or notify of the need for additional time to respond)	August 31, 2022
Direct Testimony – Class Cost of Service and Rate Design (All parties except Spire Missouri)	September 9, 2022
Technical & Settlement Conference	September 21, 2022
Discovery Conference	September 28, 2022
End of True-Up Period	September 30, 2022
Rebuttal Testimony (Response time to data requests changes to 5 business days and 3 business days to object or notify of the need for additional time to respond)	October 7, 2022
Technical Conference on Transportation Tariff	October 12, 2022
True-Up Information Provided to Parties	October 21, 2022
Technical & Settlement Conference	October 24–25, 2022
Discovery Conference	October 26, 2022
Surrebuttal, Cross-Surrebuttal, and True-Up Direct Testimony (Including final true-up accounting schedules that support a specific true-up revenue requirement for both Company and Staff)	November 4, 2022
Preliminary Issues List, Order of Witnesses, Opening Statements, and Cross Examination, and Reconciliation Circulated Among Parties (Not Filed)	November 8, 2022
Settlement Conference	November 9–10, 2022
Last Day to Request Discovery Except for Rate Case Expense	November 10, 2022

Discovery Conference and Procedural Conference if Necessary	November 15, 2022
List of Issues, List of Exhibits, Order of Witnesses, Opening Statements, and Cross Examination	November 16, 2022
Parties to Submit Final Valuation of Positions to Staff for Final Reconciliation	November 16, 2022
Last Day to Take Deposition or File Discovery Motion	November 18, 2022
Statements of Position	November 21, 2022
Reconciliation	November 23, 2022
Evidentiary Hearing	November 28–30, December 1–2, December 5–9, 2022
Initial Post-Hearing Brief	December 27, 2022
Last Day to Request Rate Case Expense Discovery	January 6, 2023
Reply Briefs and True-Up Briefs	January 6, 2023
Any proposed adjustments to rate case expense	January 20, 2023
End of suspension period/effect of law date	February 28, 2023

2. The parties shall utilize a test year ending September 30, 2020, adjusted for known and measureable rate base, revenue, and expense items through May 31, 2021, with a true-up period through September 30, 2022, and no ordered update period.

3. The parties shall jointly file dates and times for three local public hearings, which will be conducted via telephone and WebEx.

4. The evidentiary hearing shall be held at the Commission's office at the Governor Office Building, Room 310, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, and will begin each day at 9:00 a.m. This building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

5. The parties shall comply with the following procedural requirements:

- (A) Testimony shall be prefiled as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240- 2.130. All parties must comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line numbered pages.
- (B) Parties interested in participating in the Technical Conferences regarding the proposed Transportation Tariff shall meet and confer in good faith prior to those Technical Conferences to develop an agenda. At all Technical Conferences regarding the proposed Transportation Tariff, the parties shall appear in person or remotely with a knowledgeable subject matter expert capable of discussing items identified in the agenda.
- (C) For all Settlement Conferences, all parties shall appear in person or remotely by attorney and by a representative with settlement authority on behalf of the party.
- (D) The Parties shall provide all workpapers, in electronic format, within two (2) business days following the date on which the related testimony is filed. Workpapers containing confidential information shall be appropriately marked pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135. If there are no workpapers associated with testimony, the party's attorney shall so notify

the other parties within the time allowed for providing those workpapers.

- (E) Where workpapers or data request responses include models or spreadsheets or similar information originally in a commonly-available format where inputs or parameters may be changed to observe changes in inputs or outputs, if available in that original format, the Party providing the workpaper or response shall provide this type of information in that original format with formulas intact. Spire Missouri shall provide its workpapers to Parties in electronic format by e-mailing or by delivery of a compact disc or other electronic storage agreed to by Staff counsel or any other party.
- (F) All Parties shall provide copies of testimony, schedules, exhibits, and pleadings to other counsel of record by electronic means and in electronic form essentially concurrently with the filing of such testimony, schedules, exhibits, or pleadings where the information is available in electronic format. Parties shall not be required to put information that does not exist in electronic format into electronic format for purposes of exchanging it.
- (G) Discovery Requests shall be governed by Commission Rules except as follows:
 - i. Beginning the date of Direct Testimony on Revenue Requirement by non-utility parties, August 31, 2022, the response time for data requests shall be ten calendar days to provide the requested information and five business days to object or to notify the requesting party that more than ten calendar days will be required to provide the requested information.

- ii. Beginning the date of Rebuttal Testimony, the response time for all data requests shall be five business days to provide the requested information and three business days to object or to notify the requesting party that more than five calendar days will be required to provide the requested information. Discovery of Rate Case Expense issued after November 10, 2023, shall be responded to within five business days, and all supplemental responses thereto shall be provided no later than January 18, 2023.
- iii. Discovery Conferences will be held in Room 305 at the Commission's office at the Governor's Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City Missouri, with remote connectivity via Webex to be provided upon any party request. Each Discovery Conference will begin at 10:00 a.m.
- iv. At least three business days before each discovery conference, any party that has a discovery disagreement or concern shall file a brief statement describing that disagreement or concern and identifying any other parties involved. Such statement does not need to be a formal discovery motion. Any party may attend a discovery conference, but only those parties involved in an identified discovery disagreement must attend. If the parties do not identify any discovery disagreements or concerns as described herein, the presiding officer may cancel the conference.

- v. If a moving party has already conferred or attempted to confer with opposing counsel concerning a discovery matter, that party may file any discovery motions to be entertained at the discovery conference at least three business days in advance. The requirement under 20 CSR 4240- 2.090(8)(B) that a party seek a telephone conference with the presiding officer shall not apply to any discovery motion to be raised at a Discovery Conference. Any party seeking a hearing on any discovery motion outside of a regularly scheduled discovery conference shall comply with 20 CSR 4240-2.090(8) prior to filing the discovery motion.
 - vi. Discovery Conferences shall be on the record and transcribed by a court reporter.
 - vii. Any pending written discovery motion may be taken up at a discovery conference and may be ruled upon by the presiding regulatory law judge either on the record, or in a written order.
- (H) For the Preliminary List of Issues on November 8, 2022, the parties shall attempt in good faith to agree and file a joint list of issues detailed enough to inform the Commission of each issue that must be resolved. If the parties cannot so agree to a list of issues, order of witness, order of cross examination, or order of opening statement, the parties shall file a list of what is agreed upon and a list of what is disputed, with a position of each party position no later than November 10, 2022, and the Regulatory Law Judge shall hold a conference on November 15, 2022 to resolve such disputes, after which the parties shall prepare a list of issues, order of

witnesses, and order of cross examination in compliance with the Regulatory Law Judge's decision for the Regulatory Law Judge's approval on November 16, 2022.

- (I) For the Statements of Position to be filed November 22, 2022, each party shall file a simple and concise statement summarizing its position on each disputed issue, including citations to pre-filed testimony supporting its position.
- (J) All parties shall provide copies of testimony (including schedules), exhibits, and pleadings to other counsel by electronic means and in electronic form, essentially concurrently with the filing of such testimony, exhibits, or pleadings where the information is available in electronic format (.PDF, .DOC, .WPD, .XLS, etc.). Parties are not required to put information that does not exist in electronic format into electronic format for purposes of exchanging.
- (K) Public documents filed in EFIS shall be considered properly served by serving the same on counsel of record for all other parties via e-mail. The parties agree confidential documents may be obtained from EFIS and so agree not to serve those documents via email.
- (L) Any data requests issued to or by Staff shall be submitted and responded to in EFIS pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.090(2)(H). All data requests other than those issued to or by Staff, as well as all objections to data requests, or notifications of the need for additional time to respond, shall be sent by e-mail to counsel for the other parties. Counsel for each party shall receive electronically, via either EFIS notification or e-mail from the party serving a

data request, an electronic copy of the text of the “description” of that data request contemporaneously with service of the data request. Regarding data requests issued via EFIS, if the description contains confidential information, or is voluminous, a hyperlink to the EFIS record of that data request shall be considered a sufficient copy. If a party desires the response to a data request that has been served on another party, the party desiring a copy of the response must request a copy of the response from the party answering the data request, thereby providing the responding party the opportunity to object. Counsel may designate other personnel to be added to the service list for data requests, but shall assume responsibility for compliance with any restrictions on confidentiality. If any party responds to a data request in EFIS, the response is available in EFIS to all counsel on the certified service list. Data request responses, other than responses to data requests in EFIS, shall be served on counsel for the requesting party, unless waived by counsel, and on the requesting party’s employee or representative who submitted the data request, and shall be served electronically, if feasible and not voluminous as defined by Commission rule. In the case of responses to data requests Staff issues, Spire shall also submit the responses to Staff data requests in EFIS, if feasible, or in electronic format on compact disc or by other means agreed to by Staff counsel, if infeasible.

(M) Rate case expense associated with Case Nos. GR-2022-0179 may be examined through the scheduled date for filing of reply briefs and adjustments may be proposed accordingly in a pleading not to exceed five pages, including attachments, filed no later than January 20, 2023.

(N) Exhibit numbers for the hearing are assigned in the following manner:

Spire	1-99
Commission Staff	100-199
Office of the Public Counsel	200-299
Renew Missouri	300-349
MECG	350-399
MIEC	400-449
MSBA	450-499
Clearwater Enterprises LLC	500-549
The City of Kansas City	550-599
Consumer Council of Missouri	600-649
Vicinity Energy Kansas City	650-699
Symmetry Solutions LLC	700-749
Constellation Energy	750-799
Clearwater Enterprises	800-849
WoodRiver Energy LLC	850-899

If any party requires additional exhibit numbers, it may add 1000 to its assigned numbers. For example, if Staff has exhibits in addition to exhibit number 199, its next exhibit numbers would be 1100, 1101, 1102, etc.

6. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

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

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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

Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge


STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 18th day of May, 2022.





Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

May 18, 2022

File/Case No. GR-2022-0179

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'W'.

**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.