BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s d/b/a Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West Filing of its Proposed Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) Tariff Sheets

File No. GR-2022-0235 Tracking No. JG-2022-0231 Tracking No. JG-2022-0232

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. On March 4, 2022, Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire Missouri East and Spire Missouri West (Collectively "Spire") filed tariff sheets to reflect changes in accordance with its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider ("WNAR") for its eastern and western Missouri operating divisions. The tariff sheets bear an effective date of April 1, 2022. Also on March 4, 2022, the Commission issued its ORDER DIRECTING EXPEDITED STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND SETTING TIME FOR RESPONSES no later than March 11, 2022.

2. On March 10, Spire filed two substitute tariff sheets.

3. Accompanying this pleading, and incorporated herein by reference, is Staff's *Memorandum* recommending Commission approval of the WNAR rates Spire filed in its tariff sheets.

4. In this filing, the tariff sheet is not changing any component of the WNAR rate, but removing the semiannual components that have expired. Because the remaining semiannual period was cooler than normal, most notably with the month of February 2021, the proposed rates are negative rates in this filing. This means a residential customer in the Spire East district that used 100 Ccf in a given billing month

would see a \$0.68 reduction in their monthly bill from the current WNAR rate, and a residential customer in the Spire West district would see a \$0.66 reduction in their monthly bill from the current WNAR rate.

WHEREFORE, as set forth in Staff's Recommendation *Memorandum*, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the Spire's WNAR tariff sheets, as substituted, to go into effect for service on and after April 1, 2022, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 9

First Revised Sheet No. 13.2 Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9 Original Sheet No. 13.2 First Revised Sheet No. 13.5 Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9 Original Sheet No. 13.5

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Don Cosper</u>

Don Cosper Legal Counsel Missouri Bar No. 73231 Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 573-751-4141 573-751-9285 (Fax) don.cosper@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 11th day of March, 2022.

<u>/s/ Don Cosper</u>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File File No. GR-2022-0235, Tariff Tracking Nos. JG-2022-0231 and JG-2022-0232 Spire Missouri, Inc.

FROM: Michael L. Stahlman, Economist, Tariff/Rate Design

/s/ Michael L. Stahlman	3/11/2022	/s/ Don Cosper	3/11/2022	
Tariff/Rate Design / Date		Staff Counsel Div	Staff Counsel Division / Date	

- **SUBJECT:** Staff Recommendation for the **Approval** of the Tariff Sheets Filed by Spire to reflect changes in its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider to go into effect on April 1, 2022.
- **DATE:** March 11, 2022

On March 4, 2022, Spire filed two tariff sheets to reflect changes in accordance with its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with an effective date of April 1, 2022. The Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2022-0231 and JG-2022-0232 no later than March 11, 2022. The same order allowed for any other entity wishing to reply to Spire's response by March 11, 2022. On March 10, Spire filed two substitute tariff sheets.

Spire's current and proposed rates are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Current and Proposed WNAR Rates by District and Class.

District	Current	Proposed
Spire East	0.00194	-0.00482
Spire West	0.00583	-0.00072

This filing is Spire's first filing since its most recent rate case, GR-2021-0108. In the Report and Order for that case, the Commission allowed Spire to file a WNAR that changed the mechanism from a semiannual mechanism to an annual mechanism. In this filing, the tariff sheet is not changing any component of the WNAR rate, but removing the semiannual components that have expired. Because the remaining semiannual period was cooler than normal, most notably with the month of February 2021, the proposed rates are negative rates in this filing. This means a residential customer in the Spire East district that used 100 Ccf in a given billing month would see a \$0.68 reduction in their monthly bill from the current WNAR rate, and a residential customer in the Spire West district would see a \$0.66 reduction in their monthly bill from the current WNAR rate.

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Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets, as substituted, to go into effect for service on and after April 1, 2022, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 9

First Revised Sheet No. 13.2 Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9 Original Sheet No. 13.2 First Revised Sheet No. 13.5 Cancelling P.S.C. MO. No. 9 Original Sheet No. 13.5

Staff has verified that Spire is not delinquent on any assessment and has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s)	
d/b/a Spire Missouri East and Spire)	Case No. GR-2022-0235
Missouri West Filing of Its Proposed)	Tariff Nos. JG-2022-0231
Weather Normalization Adjustment)	And JG-2022-0232
Rider (WNAR) Tariff Sheets)	

AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL L. STAHLMAN

STATE OF MISSOURI)	
)	SS.
COUNTY OF COLE)	

COMES NOW MICHAEL L. STAHLMAN, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation in Memorandum form*, and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

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MICHAEL L. STAHLMAN

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 10^{+-} day of March, 2022.

Commissioned for Cole COUDIV	DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri
Commission Number: 1520/3/7	State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2023 Commission Number: 15207377

Diana L. Vau 1-Notary Public