

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

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s	)	<u>Case No. GT-2020-0187</u>
Proposed School Transportation	)	Tariff No. JG-2020-0105
Tariff Filing	)	

**STAFF RESPONSE**

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

1. On December 18, 2019, Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire filed a revised tariff sheet, P.S.C. MO. No. 7 First Revised Sheet No. 15.1 (Tariff No. JG-2020-0105) to change the current requirement of Spire East to release Mississippi River Transmission (MRT) capacity to the schools as part of its tariffed school transportation program. The tariff sheet contained an effective date of January 17, 2020.

2. Because the effects of Spire's proposed school tariff change were unknown, on December 31, 2019, Staff filed a motion and requested the Commission suspend the tariff sheet for 120 days to allow Staff sufficient time to conduct the discovery necessary for Staff to make an informed recommendation to the Commission on whether Spire's proposed school tariff change filing should be accepted, modified, or denied. On that same day, the Commission issued an *Order Directing Responses*, and directed that Spire respond to Staff's request to suspend the tariff sheet no later than January 6, 2020, and further stated that any party wanting to comment on Spire's response or tariff sheet shall do so no later than January 9.

3. Spire and Staff had discussions on January 6, and Staff communicated to Spire that if Spire were to extend the effective date of its tariff from January 17 to February 21 and provide timely responses to Staff's inquiries, Staff could file a status

report or recommendation no later than February 7. Subsequent to Staff and Spire's discussions, Spire filed its *Spire Missouri's Response to Staff's Motion To Open Docket And Suspend Tariff Sheet*, in which Spire relayed its discussions with Staff and requested the Commission defer opening a docket and suspending the tariff until after Spire has had an opportunity to respond to Staff's February 7 recommendation.

4. On January 8, Spire filed a substitute revised tariff sheet, P.S.C. MO. No. 7, First Revised Sheet No. 15.1, with an issue date of December 18, 2019, and an effective date of February 21, 2020. Staff is in the process of reviewing this substitute tariff filing but reiterates that so long as Spire provides timely responses to Staff's inquiries on the matter, Staff intends to file its recommendation on whether the substitute tariff should be accepted, modified, denied, and/or suspended no later than February 7. As such, at this time Staff does not recommend the Commission suspend the substitute tariff filing. Staff does recommend the Commission issue an order opening this case docket and directing Staff to file a recommendation or status report on Spire's substitute tariff filed on January 8, no later than February 7.

**WHEREFORE,** Staff respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order opening this case docket and direct Staff to file either a recommendation or a status report no later than February 7, 2020; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Jamie S. Myers**

Jamie S. Myers, Mo. Bar No. 68291

Legal Counsel

Attorney for the Staff of the

Missouri Public Service Commission

P. O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 526-6036 (Telephone)

(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

Email: [jamie.myers@psc.mo.gov](mailto:jamie.myers@psc.mo.gov)

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to counsel of record this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020.

**/s/ Jamie S. Myers**