# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s Filing of	)	File No. GR-2020-0058
its Proposed Weather Normalization	)	Tracking No. JG-2020-0043
Adjustment Rider (WNAR) Tariff Sheets	)	Tracking No. JG-2020-0044

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

- 1. According to the terms of its tariff, Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire ("Spire") is to file rate adjustments under its weather normalization adjustment rider ("WNAR") by August 30, 2019. On August 30, 2019 Spire filed tariff sheets (Tariff Tracking Nos. JG-2020-0043 for Spire East and JG-2020-0044 for Spire West) to revise its WNAR in both tariffs. These tariff sheets have issue dates of August 30, 2019 and effective dates of October 1, 2019.
- 2. On September 3, 2019 Staff moved to suspend both tariff sheets and create a docketed case so Staff could review the WNAR adjustment calculations. On September 4, 2019 the Commission declined to suspend the tariff sheets because Staff stated in its motion that it could complete its recommendation before the tariff sheets' October 1, 2019 effective date. The Commission ordered Staff to file its recommendation by September 20, 2019.
  - 3. Spire filed two substitute tariff sheets on September 17, 2019.
- 4. Accompanying this pleading, and incorporated by reference, is Staff's Memorandum recommending Commission approval of the rates Spire submitted on its substitute tariff sheets, filed September 17, 2019.

WHEREFORE, Staff submits this Staff Recommendation recommending the Commission issue an order approving the substitute tariff sheets Spire filed September 17, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

# /s/ Karen E. Bretz

Karen E. Bretz
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 70632
Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-751-5472 (Voice)
573-751-9285 (Fax)
Karen.Bretz@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 20th day of September, 2019.

/s/ Karen E. Bretz

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File

File No. GR-2020-0058, Tariff Tracking Nos. JG-2020-0043 and JG-2020-0044

Spire Missouri, Inc.

FROM: Michael Stahlman, Regulatory Economist III

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for the Approval of the Tariff Sheets Filed by Spire to

adjust its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider to go into effect on

October 1, 2019.

DATE: September 20, 2019

On August 30, 2019, Spire filed two tariff sheets to adjust its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with an effective date of October 1, 2019. These tariff sheets incorporate the differences between normal and actual weather for the billing months of February 2019 through July 2019. On September 4, 2019, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation on the pending tariff no later than September 20, 2019. On September 17, 2019, Spire filed two substitute tariff sheets.

Spire's WNAR became effective on April 19, 2018. The purpose of the tariff is to adjust revenues for differences between actual heating degree days (AHDD) and normal heating degree days (NHDD). This is Spire's third WNAR filing; the first and second filings being approved simultaneously. 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	-0.00941	-0.01663
Spire West	-0.00566	-0.01369

Because the previous periods generally experienced colder weather than normal in Spire's rate districts, the proposed rates are a larger negative rate 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 line item reduction of \$1.66 in their bill, which is an additional \$0.72 reduction in their bill from the current WNAR rate, and a residential customer in the Spire West district would see a line item reduction of \$1.37 in their bill, which is an additional \$0.80 reduction in their bill from the current WNAR rate.

## **Staff Recommendation**

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, as substituted on September 17, 2019, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets to go into effect for service on and after October 1, 2019, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 7

Second Revised Sheet No. 13.2 Cancelling First Revised Sheet No. 13.2

P.S.C. MO. No. 8

Second Revised Sheet No. 13.2 Cancelling First Revised Sheet No. 13.2

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.

# DEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.'s Filing of Its Proposed Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) Tariff Sheets	) )	File No. GR-2020-0058 Tracking No. JG-2020-0043 Tracking No. JG-2020-0044				
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.

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 2012 day of September, 2019.

DIANNA L. VAUGHT
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missourt
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 18, 2023
Commission Number: 15207377

Danna L. Vaught-NOTARY PUBLIC