BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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

Case No. GR-2021-0108

MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AS TO IN-PERSON EVIDENTIARY HEARING

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COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Motion for Clarification* in this matter hereby states:

On June 9, 2021, the Commission issued an *Order* in this matter modifying the evidentiary hearing set by the *Order Setting Procedural Schedule* from a virtual hearing to an in-person hearing to be held at the Governor's Office Building. Since that date, the positive COVID-19 cases in Cole County Missouri have steadily increased. Staff hereby inquires as to whether the Commission intends for the evidentiary hearing in this matter, presently scheduled to begin Monday July 26 at 9am, to be held in-person, virtually or in-person with a virtual option. Staff asks that the Commission issue an order regarding this clarification in a timely manner as it will permit the parties to prepare for hearing.

Further, Staff requests that if a virtual or in-person with virtual option is established, that the Commission's order establish rules and procedures for virtual participants as well as instructions on how to participate virtually.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept this *Motion* and issue an order clarifying whether the evidentiary hearing is to be held in-person, virtually or inperson with a virtual option as soon as possible, and grant such further and other relief as is just in the manner.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Whitney Payne

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, to all parties or their representatives pursuant to the Service List maintained by the Commission's Data Center for this file, on this 19th day of July, 2021.

<u>/s/ Whitney Payne</u>