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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Lawrence County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.

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## APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND REOUEST FOR WAIVER

**COMES NOW** Spire Missouri Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), on behalf of its Missouri West operating unit and by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to §393.170 RSMo, 20 CSR 4240-2.060 and 20 CSR 4220-3.205, requests permission and approval, and a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN"), to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Lawrence County, Missouri, as a further expansion of its existing certificated area. In support of this request, Spire respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

 Spire West is a public utility and gas corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, with its principal office located at 700 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. A Certificate of Good Standing evidencing Spire West's standing to do business in Missouri was submitted in Case No. GM-2013-0254 and is incorporated by reference herein for all purposes. The information in such Certificate is current and correct.

- 2 Spire West is engaged in the business of distributing and transporting natural gas to customers in Missouri as a gas corporation subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Spire West provides gas service to customers in the Missouri counties of Andrew, Barry, Barton, Bates, Buchanan, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Cooper, Dade, Dekalb, Greene, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Moniteau, Newton, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Saline, Stone, and Vernon. Other than cases that have been docketed at the Commission, Spire has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court within the past three years that involve customer service or rates. Spire has no annual report or assessment fees that are overdue.
- 3. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and to:

Matt Aplington General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0785 Office Matt.Aplington@spireenergy.com

Goldie Bockstruck Associate General Counsel, Regulatory Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 356-1568 Goldie.Bockstruck@spireenergy.com Wesley E. Selinger Manager, Rates and Planning Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63101 (314) 230-5867 Wesley.Selinger@spireenergy.com

4. In this Application, Spire seeks service area CCNs to provide gas service to two separate projects. The requested areas for Project One are Section 29, Township 26 North, Range 28 West, Section 32, Township 26 North, Range 28 West, and for Project Two are Section 14, Township 26 North, Range 27 West, Section 13, Township 26 North, Range 27 West, Section 18, Township 26 North, Range 26 West, Section 23, Township 26 North, Range 27 West, Section 24, Township 26 North, Range 27 West, Section 19, Township 26 North, Range 26 West, and Section 20, Township 26 North, Range 26 West. These projects are located in Lawrence County, Missouri. The listed sections above are areas where customers have contacted Spire with a need for distribution system extensions to service poultry operations. The legal descriptions of the new areas are set forth in the attached Appendices. Attached as Appendix 1 is a plat drawn to a scale of one-half inch (1/2") to the mile on maps comparable to county highway maps issued by the Missouri Department of Transportation, or a plat drawn to a scale of two thousand feet (2,000') to the inch for each project.

5. The rates for the proposed areas will be those approved and in effect for the customers in the adjoining Spire West operating unit certificated areas, until such rates may be changed by approved tariff or order of the Commission. Spire expects to add two additional customers from Project 1, and ten additional customers from Project 2. The names and addresses

of the additional customers associated with each project are attached in Appendix 2. Estimated revenues and expenses for the first three years of operations for each project are shown in the feasibility studies included in Appendix 3. No external financing will be required for construction related to these projects.

6. Spire is currently negotiating with the Lawrence County Commission with regards to right-of-way issues and the language of a formal assent ordinance. However, as reflected in the correspondence between representatives of Lawrence County and the Company, attached as Appendix 4, it is the intent of Lawrence County to grant Spire a blanket assent upon reaching such an agreement. The Company is confident that the outstanding issues will be resolved during the pendency of this case.

7. Spire's experience in the operation of natural gas systems gives it the ability to provide this service in an efficient manner. For all reasons set forth herein, a grant of the application will further the public convenience and necessity.

8. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) provides that "(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case." No such notice was filed herein. As such, Spire seeks a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement in order to begin serving new customers without delay.

9. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, Spire declares (as verified below) that they have had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10)) within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case.

WHEREFORE, Spire requests, for good cause shown, that the Commission waive the

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notice requirement of 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1), approve this Application, issue a CCN to Spire as set forth above and in the attached schedules, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTORNEYS FOR SPIRE MISSOURI INC.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 3rd day of February, 2020, to:

General Counsel's Office Missouri Public Service Commission staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Atta-

#### VERIFICATION

State of Missouri

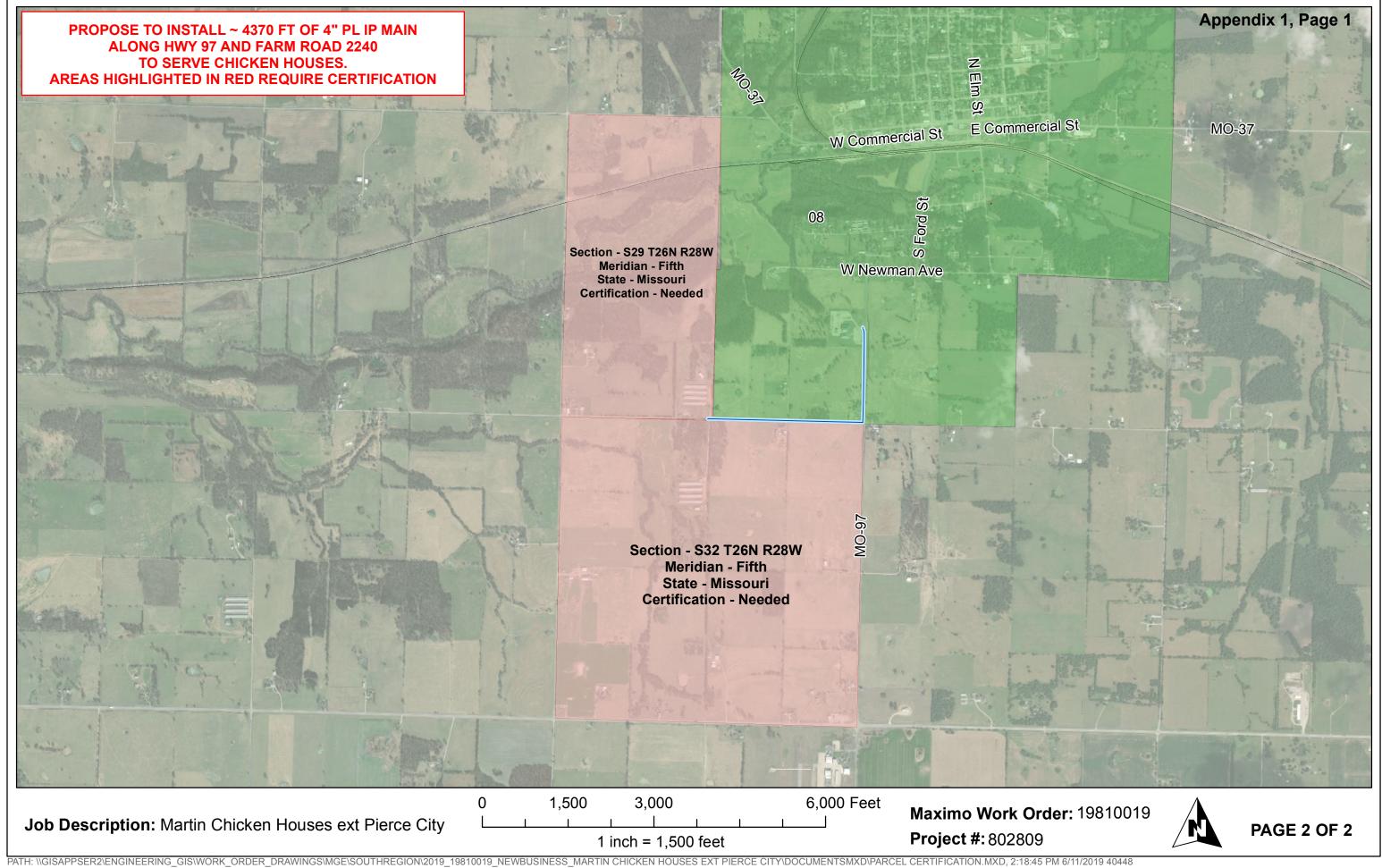
) ss County of <u>St. Lawis</u>) I, <u>Matthew</u> Aplingtanaving been duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am General Counsel of Spire Missouri Inc. (Spire Missouri), that I am authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of Spire Missouri, and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application and appendices thereto are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

AA HAA

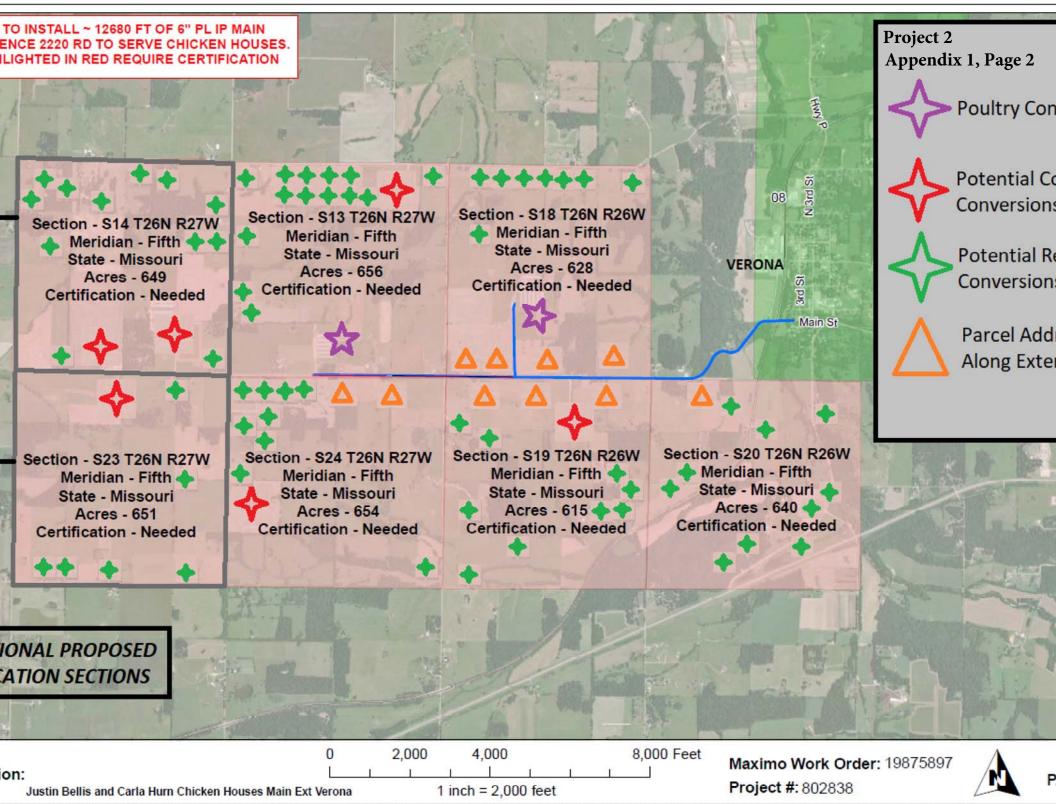
Subscribed and sworn before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of F<sub>g</sub>bruary, 2020.

of February, 2020. Jack A. Dath

TARA A DORTCH Notary Public - Notary Seal STATE OF MISSOURI Commissioned for Saint Charles County My Commission Expires: March 9, 2023 Commission # 15633816



# Project 1



NEERING\_GIS\WORK\_ORDER\_DRAWINGS\MGE\SOUTHREGION(2019\_19875897\_NEWBUSINESS\_JUSTIN BELLIS CHICKEN HOUSES MAIN EXT VERONA\DOCUMENTSMXD\PARCEL CERTIFICATION.MXD, 2:02:20 PM 7/29/2019 4044

Project 1 Appendix 2, Page 1

> APPENDIX 2 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

Project 2 Appendix 2, Page 2

> APPENDIX 2 HAS BEEN INDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

Project 1 Appendix 3, Page 1

> APPENDIX 3 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

Project 2

Appendix 3, Page 2

APPENDIX 3 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

From:	Travis Elliott
Sent:	Monday, January 20, 2020 4:59 PM
То:	Aplington, Matt
Subject:	RE: Lawrence County Expansion
Attachments:	Order - ROW Assent-Agmt. 190926.docx; Lawrence County Assent Document 102919 (002).docx

Mr. Aplington:

Thank you for your message. As I indicated to you, the County Commission is willing to consider granting assent in favor of Spire to provide natural gas service in Lawrence County, subject to and pending negotiation and final approval of a mutually agreeable Order and Right-of-Way Agreement.

As we discussed, I am attaching the draft Order that I had previously provided. I am also attaching the draft Order that Ms. Bockstruck had provided. The original draft Order contemplated a project area-based assent for the specific project. The Order from Ms. Bockstruck contemplated a blanket assent which was not project area specific. As a result, it is the County's position that if a blanket assent is to be considered that reasonable notice, coordination, communication and input provisions be negotiated for inclusion.

I look forward to working with you.

Best,

**Travis A. Elliott** Ellis, Ellis, Hammons & Johnson, P.C. 901 St. Louis St., Suite 600 Springfield, MO 65806



From: Aplington, Matt <Matt.Aplington@spireenergy.com> Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:41 PM To: Travis Elliott Subject: Lawrence County Expansion

Mr. Elliott,

I enjoyed talking with you today. At your convenience, I would appreciate if you could confirm the Commission's intention to grant Spire a blanket assent for natural gas service in the County, subject to and pending our negotiation of a mutually agreeable Order and Right-of-Way Agreement. This will allow us to keep the regulatory process moving while we work on acceptable language.

Thanks, Matt

Matthew J. Aplington General Counsel, Spire Missouri

700 Market Street

St. Louis, MO 63101 314.342.0785 Office 314.202.0717 Mobile

SpireEnergy.com

