# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc.'s Request to Increase Its Revenues For Gas Service	) ) )	File No. GR-2017-0215
In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc.'s Request to Increase Its Revenues For Gas Service	)	File No. GR-2017-0216

#### **NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION**

Issued Date: January 26, 2018

This notice is being filed on behalf of the Commissioners at the Missouri Public Service Commission "Commission" who received the attached correspondence from Representative Rocky Miller, State Representative of District 124 in the above referenced case.

The Commission has promulgated rules denoted as the "Standards of Conduct" at 4 CSR 240-4.010 and 4.020. Section 4 CSR 240-4.20 specifically deals with Ex Parte and Extra-Record Communication Rules. This notice is filed in conformance with that rule.

Charlene Ketchum

Advisor to Commissioner Coleman

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018 CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol, Room 233B
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: 573-751-3604
Email:
Rocky.Miller@house.mo.gov



### ROCKY MILLER

State Representative District 124

#### COMMITTEES

Chair: Utilities

Member: Economic Development Member: Tourism Subcommittee

Member: Urban Community Econ. Dev. on

Economic Development

Member: Joint Comm. On Solid Waste

**Management District Operations** 

## January 22, 2018

To: PSC Commissioners:

It was with great interest that I read the article in the Missouri Times last week that said that Spire was saving money due to its recent acquisitions. This struck me as odd because I remember the St. Louis Post Dispatch article in September of 2016 in which the PSC stated the opposite. A staff report from that time stated "Rates have gone up and service has decreased for Laclede Gas customers following its parent company's purchase of a large Alabama natural gas utility".

That statement is much different from the uncontested filing from Spire that states that the acquisitions have created an annual net savings of over \$19 million to Missouri customers and that is on top of the nearly \$50 million in annual savings for Missouri customers from the merger of MGE and Laclede Gas.

We cannot have official reports from PSC staff that is not based on facts and it appears at the very best the report given in 2016 was a mistake, at worst it was purposely damaging. Public opinions are very slanted in the utilities sector and this report has damaged it. Bad news hits the front page and good news gets buried. I would hope that we all are tasked with modernizing utility rates, but things like this make me wonder if some of your staff want to stick with the almost 100 year old system. I enjoyed programing computers with punch cards, but I am pleased with my smart phone, I would never go back. Please move forward with us.

I am now concerned about all information I and my committee receive from the PSC. Is it factual, is there something else going on, who do we trust? Let me know what you all are planning on doing to correct this situation going forward. If it is internal changes, please keep me informed or let me know if you need specific legislation to make sure we have the best information to make our decisions with.

Sincerely,

Rocky Miller State Representative

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District 124

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