BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

David Apted,)
Complainant,)
)
V.)
)
Spire Missouri Inc., f/k/a)
Laclede Gas Company,)
Respondent.)

File No. GC-2017-0348

MOTION TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW Spire Missouri Inc. ("Spire Missouri" or "Company") and moves the Commission to Suspend the Procedural Schedule established in this case. In support thereof, Spire Missouri states as follows:

1. On September 5, 2018, the Commission issued its Order in which it established a procedural schedule in this case. Pursuant to that schedule, a List of Issues and Position Statements are due on October 4, 2018 and an evidentiary hearing is scheduled for October 10, 2018. Although the Complainant, Mr. Apted, participated in the procedural conference held in this proceeding, he did not otherwise participate in or respond to any subsequent communications relating to the establishment of a procedural schedule.

2. On September 27, 2018, the undersigned counsel for Spire Missouri was contacted by Steven Donner, who indicated that he had been retained by Mr. Apted to represent him in this proceeding. Mr. Donner indicated, however, that he was scheduled to leave the country and would not return in time to participate in the evidentiary hearing in this case. Mr. Donner was unable to state when he might be available for a rescheduled evidentiary hearing.

3. In light of these developments, Spire Missouri, Inc. recommends that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule in this case pending Mr. Donner's return. Spire

Missouri further submits that the Commission should place the burden on the Complainant to take any steps necessary to reinstitute a procedural schedule since it is the actions of the Complainant that have precluded the parties' ability to proceed with the current procedural schedule.

4. Counsel for the Staff, Office of the Public Counsel and Complainant have had an opportunity to review this Motion and have indicated that they do not object to the relief requested herein.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Spire Missouri Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

SPIRE MISSOURI INC.

<u>/s/ Michael C. Pendergast</u>#31763

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading was served on Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel, on this 2nd day of October 2018 by hand-delivery, fax, electronic mail or by regular mail, postage prepaid.

/s/ Rick Zucker