

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

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc.’s	)	
Request for Authority to Implement a	)	
General Rate Increase for Natural Gas	)	Case No. GR-2022-0179
Service Provided in the Company’s	)	
Missouri Service Areas	)	

**SPIRE MISSOURI’S RESPONSE TO CCM’S REQUEST FOR IN-PERSON PUBLIC  
HEARINGS**

COMES NOW Spire Missouri Inc. (“Spire” or “the Company”), by and through counsel, and files this Response to *Consumers Council of Missouri’s Motion Regarding Local Public Hearings* (“CCM’s Request”), stating as follows:

1. On June 29, 2022, the Consumers Council of Missouri (“CCM”) filed a request for the Commission to set at least three in-person local public hearings and at least one virtual public hearing to provide additional opportunities for customers to participate in Spire’s current rate case. CCM conferred with Spire, the Office of the Public Counsel, and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, reaching an agreeable schedule for those parties.

2. Spire understands the Commission’s challenging position in deciding to return to in-person proceedings. Therefore, in the event the Commission is not inclined to deviate from its prior scheduling of three virtual public hearings, Spire is willing to instead hold CCM’s proposed in-person public hearings as open houses for the discussion of the rate case and assistance with customer billing inquiries. All intervenors would be invited to participate in these meetings to present information and answer questions about the case. Spire would hold these public hearings in both the St. Louis and Kansas City areas so that customers not able to attend virtual public hearings would still be able to participate in the case process.

3. Spire urges the Commission to take action on CCM's Request, or the alternative listed herein, at its earliest opportunity. Given market constraints around material supply and lead times for printing and mailing, Spire must take action immediately to ensure that these notices are sent to and received by customers prior to the proposed September 13 week for public hearings.

**WHEREFORE**, Spire respectfully requests that the Commission accept this Response.

Respectfully submitted,



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**ATTORNEY FOR SPIRE MISSOURI INC.**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

/s/ Lew Keathley