

**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 ) **Tracking No. YG-2022-0244**  
Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service Provided in ) **File No. GR-2022-0179**  
the Company’s Missouri Service Areas. )

**RESPONSE**  
**OF WOODRIVER ENERGY, LLC**

COMES NOW WoodRiver Energy, LLC (“WoodRiver”), by and through counsel, and submits this response to the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri (“Commission”) Order Directing WoodRiver to Respond of May 17, 2022 in the above captioned proceeding (“Response”). In support of this Response, WoodRiver states as follows:

1) On April 1, 2022, Spire Missouri Inc. (“Spire”) filed to increase its rates in the above-captioned docket and make certain tariff changes, including for Spire transportation customers like those served by WoodRiver. On April 4, 2022, the Commission issued an order and notice directing that interested parties wishing to intervene must do so on or before April 25, 2022.

2) On May 4, 2022, WoodRiver filed an application to intervene out of time in this proceeding.

3) On May 17, 2022, the Commission issued the Order Directing WoodRiver to Respond directing “WoodRiver to file a response indicating why its intervention request was not timely filed, and stating what good cause exists to grant its request.” Order at 1.

4) WoodRiver is a privately-owned natural gas marketing company serving commercial and industrial natural gas customers in Missouri and neighboring states. WoodRiver provides reliable natural gas service to commercial and industrial customers in Missouri. WoodRiver serves

customers in Missouri that are served off the Spire jurisdictional gas utility system.

5) WoodRiver's customer base in Missouri on Spire has recently expanded to include Hospitals in Missouri. On April 19, 2022, WoodRiver signed a state-wide gas supply agreement with the Missouri School Boards' Association ("MSBA") to service approximately 2,600 Missouri small school accounts which fall under Missouri School Transportation Program (STP) as defined by Section 393.310 of the RSMo. Spire represents about 80% of the STP statewide volumes. The MSBA made WoodRiver aware of the above captioned proceeding on April 28, 2022, shortly after the agreement was executed.

6) WoodRiver has not previously participated in proceedings before the Commission and was not previously aware of this proceeding. WoodRiver determined that it was in the best interests of its' customers to participate in this proceeding and contacted counsel regarding intervention. Due to the short delay necessary for consultation with counsel, WoodRiver applied to intervene on May 4, 2022.

7) Due to WoodRiver being unaware of this proceeding until shortly after the due date for interventions, the fact that it has only recently expanded its' business in Missouri to the extent where good cause exists for its' participation in this proceeding, and in order to allow for time for client consultation, WoodRiver's application for intervention was not timely.

8) As required by the Commission's regulations for late interventions, WoodRiver will accept the record established in this case, including the requirements established by orders of the Commission.

9) Good cause exists to grant WoodRiver's intervention.

(a) As a supplier on Spire, WoodRiver anticipates that its' customers may experience increased costs as a result of the rate increases proposed by Spire in

this proceeding and that its customers may face potentially changes in their terms of service.

- (b) WoodRiver believes this case may also have a precedential impact for all Missouri local distribution companies with regard to their relationships and operating practices with Marketers/Aggregators. WoodRiver is a necessary party to represent the unique provisions of Section 393.310 of the RSMo with regard to supplying natural gas on every local distribution company and pipeline in the state to STP schools.
- (c) The matters to be considered in this case and the Commission's determinations thereon will have a direct and significant impact on the WoodRiver and its customers.
- (d) The interests of WoodRiver and its' customers with respect to Spire are unique and WoodRiver's interest in this proceeding is not adequately represented by any other party.
- (e) WoodRiver's intervention in the matter may be important to the other parties and may assist the Commission in any deliberations on the subject matter. Its intervention is in the public interest.
- (f) WoodRiver is uncertain of the exact position(s) it will take in this matter at this time, however based on its' initial review WoodRiver may oppose the rate increase and certain tariff changes.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, WoodRiver, respectfully submits this Response and requests that the Commission grant its Application to Intervene Out of Time, entitling it to fully participate in this proceeding.

By: /s/ Jeff Austin  
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Counsel to WoodRiver

Executed on May 20, 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Goldberg is listed as counsel subject to Commission action on his Motion for Admission Pro Hac Vice, which was filed with the Commission in this proceeding on May 4, 2022.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand - delivered to all parties listed on the official service list on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Alex Goldberg*  
Alex Goldberg