BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

)

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for 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 to a Single Customer in Barton County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas

))		
)	Case No.	
)		
)		

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY, MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT, AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER

COMES NOW Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), on behalf of its Spire Missouri West operating unit and by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to RSMo. §393.170, requests the expedited grant of a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system in order to provide gas service to a single customer in Barton County, Missouri. In support of this request, Spire respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

- 1. Spire is a public utility and gas corporation, as those terms are defined in RSMo. \$386.020, and is a 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 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 in western Missouri 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, pursuant to CCNs granted by the Commission.

- 3. 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.
- 4. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and to:

David P. Abernathy Vice President & General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6th Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 314-342-0536 Office 314-421-1979 Fax David.Abernathy@spireenergy.com

Michael C. Pendergast Fischer & Dority, P.C. 423 (R) South Main Street St. Charles, MO 63301 (314) 288-8723 Mcp2015law@icloud.com

Wesley E. Selinger Manager, Rates and Planning Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 5th Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63101 (314) 230-5867 Wesley.Selinger@spireenergy.com

- 5. Spire seeks a CCN as an extension of its existing certificated area to serve one particular property, as shown on the attached Appendix 1. Appendix 1 has been identified as Confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135(2)(A)1, because it contains information relating directly to a specific customer or potential customer.
- 6. The potential customer at the subject property contacted Spire with a need for a line extension to serve a new irrigation operation. This potential customer only recently became aware of Spire's presence in Barton County and other pending applications for CCNs in Barton County. As explained in the signed affidavit, attached hereto as Appendix 1, the potential customer must have equipment ordered by February 11, 2019, in order to have it installed in time for it to be used in irrigation operations. Therefore, Spire is requesting expedited approval of this CCN application.
- 7. The rates for the proposed customer 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.
- 8. No external financing will be required for construction related to serving this proposed customer, and a full line extension contribution will be assessed to and collected from the proposed customer. As such, Spire seeks a variance from the Rule requirements with regard to the provision of a plat and a feasibility study.
- 9. Spire holds all necessary franchises and permits from municipalities, counties, or other authorities that are required for Spire to serve the subject property.

10. 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.

Motion for Expedited Treatment

- 11. Spire respectfully requests that this application be approved by February 11, 2019, or as soon as possible thereafter. Spire understands the unusual nature of this request, but hopes that the limited scope of the request makes it feasible, as the grant of the requested CCN will certainly benefit the proposed customer's operations, create investment in Southwest Missouri, and not have an adverse effect on other customers or the general public.
- 12. Spire filed this application as soon as it could after it became aware of the situation.

Request for Waiver of 60-Day Notice Requirement

- 13. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(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.
- 14. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, Spire declares (as verified) that they have had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.015(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 60day notice requirement of 4 CSR 240-4.017(1), grant a variance from the filing requirements of Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.205(1)(A), approve this Application expeditiously, issue a CCN

to Spire as set forth above and in the attached schedule, and grant such other and further relief as

is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C.

By:

<u>/s/ Diana C. Carter</u> Dean L. Cooper MBE #36592 Diana C. Carter MBE #50527 312 E. Capitol Avenue / P. O. Box 456 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Phone: (573) 635-7166 Fax: (573) 635-3847 E-mail: dcarter@brydonlaw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the above document was filed in EFIS on this 5th day of February, 2019, with notification of the same being sent to all parties of record, and that a copy of the same was sent by electronic transmission to Staff Counsel and the Office of the Public Counsel.

/s/ Diana C. Carter