

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

In the Matter of the Request of Spire Missouri Inc.)
for a Temporary Waiver from Commission Rules) **File No. GE-2020-0373**
20 CSR 4240-40.030 (9)(Q), (13)(M), (15)(C),)
(15)(D) and (15)(E) and Orders Pertaining to)
Inspections and Replacements)

SPIRE MISSOURI INC’S RESPONSE TO ORDER DIRECTING FILING

COMES NOW Spire Missouri Inc. (“Spire Missouri” or “Company”), on behalf of its operating units, Spire Missouri East (“Spire East”) and Spire Missouri West (“Spire West”) and files this Response to the Missouri Public Service Commission’s (“Commission”) May 18, 2020 *Order Directing Notice and Filing*. In support thereof, Spire Missouri respectfully states as follows:

1. On May 15, 2020, due to circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Spire Missouri filed a request for waiver with the Commission from certain gas safety rules and commission orders pertaining to inspections and replacements and requested that the Commission act within 30 days.

2. On May 18, 2020, the Commission directed Spire Missouri to file a pleading by May 22, 2020, addressing compliance with 49 USC § 60118, as set forth in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-40.030(18). 49 USC § 60118 sets forth procedures for seeking a waiver from federal gas pipeline safety standards. Waivers may be made by state authorities, such as this Commission, provided that the authority give the Secretary of Transportation, or the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (“PHMSA”) written notice of the waiver at least 60 days before the waiver’s effective date.

3. It is Spire's understanding that PHMSA is expediting its review of such requests so that the review period may be less than 60 days. Spire requests that if the Commission exercises its authority to grant Spire a waiver in this case, that it do so as expeditiously as possible, and that the order allows the waiver to go into effect 60 days after the issuance of the Commission order *or* at such time that PHMSA completes its review, so that if PHMSA were to complete its review prior to the end of the 60 day review period, and provides such notice of completion to the Commission, that the waiver be made effective at that time.

4. The waivers that Spire is requesting that are subject to the 60-day review period include:

- Atmospheric Corrosion Inspections of inside meter sets – 49 CFR 192.481 and 20 CSR 4240.030 (9)(Q)
- Leak Survey of inside meter sets – 49 CFR 192.723 and 20 CSR 4240.030 (13)(M)

5. Spire requests that the waivers from rules and orders that do not require a waiver at the federal level be made effective as soon as possible, including:

- Mandated Cast Iron Replacements – 20 CSR 4240-40.030 (15)(D), Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-2008-0002, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-2002-50, and Spire Missouri East Case No. GO-91-275
- Unprotected Steel Service Line and Yard Line Replacements – 20 CSR 4240.030 (15)(C), Spire Missouri East Case No. GO-93-343, Spire Missouri East Case No. GO-99-155, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-91-277, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-91-239, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-91-295, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-99-302, Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-2002-50, and MPSC 20 CSR 4240-40.030 (15)(C)
- Unprotected Steel Main Replacement – Spire Missouri West Case No. GO-2002-50 and MPSC 20 CSR 4240-40.030(15)(E)

WHEREFORE, Spire Missouri, Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission consider and accept Spire Missouri's proposal regarding the notification requirements as they pertain to the waivers specified herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Matthew J. Aplington

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ATTORNEYS 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 22nd day of May, 2020.

/s/ Goldie T. Bockstruck

