

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 18th day of November, 2020.

In the Matter of the Application of Spire)	
Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire for Approval to)	<u>File No. GO-2021-0126</u>
Establish an On-Bill Financing Program and)	Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0112
Cost Recovery Mechanism)	and YG-2021-0113

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF SHEETS, GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME, AND SETTING A PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

Issue Date: November 18, 2020

Effective Date: November 18, 2020

On October 30, 2020, Spire Missouri Inc. (Spire) filed its *Verified Application of Spire Missouri Inc. for Approval to Establish an On-Bill Financing Program and Cost Recovery Mechanism for its Missouri Service Territory and Request for Waiver from its 60 Day Notice Rule* (Application) along with direct testimony and revised tariff sheets. The Application seeks approval of a new tariffed program, an on-bill financing program, and an associated cost recovery mechanism. The revised tariff sheets, Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0112 and YG-2021-0113, bear an effective date of November 29, 2020.

The Commission directed notice, set a deadline for interventions and requests for hearing, and ordered the Staff of the Commission (Staff) to review the Application and tariff sheets and file a recommendation. On November 13, 2020, Staff filed a request for an extension of time until December 14, 2020, to file its recommendation. Staff stated that it had begun its investigation and review of the Application and tariffs and has concerns and questions that it has been unable to resolve by the recommendation filing deadline.

Also on November 13, 2020, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed an *Objection and Motion to Dismiss*. Public Counsel states that Spire's application does not provide sufficient information to determine whether the proposed changes are lawful and/or in the public interest and should be dismissed. In the alternative, Public Counsel requests that the Commission suspend the tariff sheets and direct the parties to file a proposed procedural schedule including a hearing.

The Commission has reviewed the filings and finds that Staff should be given additional time to file its recommendation and all parties should be given an opportunity to file a response to the motion to dismiss. Subsection 393.150, RSMo 2016, provides that the Commission may suspend tariff sheets for a period of up to 120 days beyond the time such tariff sheets would otherwise go into effect. Because there is insufficient time for Staff to adequately review the Application and tariff sheets prior to the tariff sheets' effective date, the Commission determines that the tariff sheets should be suspended. Therefore, the Commission will suspend the tariff sheet effective dates for 60 days from the original tariff effective dates and set a time for responses and a procedural conference.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The *Motion for Extension* filed by Staff is granted.
2. Staff shall file its recommendation no later than December 14, 2020.
3. Any responses to Public Counsel's motion to dismiss shall be filed no later than November 23, 2020.
4. The tariff sheets filed by Spire on October 30, 2020, and assigned Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0112 and YG-2021-0113 are suspended until January 28, 2021.

5. The parties shall appear at a prehearing conference to be held on December 18, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

6. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will be held via WebEx video and telephone conference. Connection details will be sent to counsel for the parties via e-mail. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in the conference or hearing shall contact the Commission, not later than the day before the conference. Such contact shall be through the Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711.

7. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and
Holsman CC., concur.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge