

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 10th day of March, 2021.

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 FURTHER SUSPENDING TARIFF SHEETS
AND DIRECTING FILING**

Issue Date: March 10, 2021

Effective Date: March 10, 2021

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 tariff sheets, Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0112 and YG-2021-0113, bore an effective date of November 29, 2020. After objections by the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and in order to receive a recommendation from the Staff of the Commission (Staff) the Commission suspended the tariff sheets until January 28, 2021, and then further suspended them until March 29, 2021,

On February 26, 2021, Staff filed its recommendation. Staff recommends that the Commission reject these tariff sheets and permit the parties to present these issues in Spire's current general rate proceeding, File No. GR-2021-0108. Responses to Staff's recommendation were directed to be filed by March 5, 2021.

Spire filed its response to Staff's recommendation on March 5, 2021. Spire argues that including the tariff sheets in Spire's current rate case would only serve to delay Spire offering a program beneficial to its customers. Spire continues to pursue Commission approval of its tariff sheets.

The Consumer's Council of Missouri (Consumers Council) and Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri (Renew Missouri) also filed responses. Consumer's Council requested a hearing on these tariff sheets and indicated that it would also support the consolidation of these tariff sheets in the pending rate case. Renew Missouri opposed Staff's recommendation to combine these tariff sheets with the current rate case arguing that addressing these tariff sheets separately will allow the programs to go into place sooner.

Section 393.150, RSMo 2016, authorizes the Commission to suspend the effective date of proposed tariff sheets for 120 days, plus an additional six months to allow for a hearing. The Commission has previously suspended these tariff sheets for a total of 120 days. In order to provide sufficient time to determine if Spire's proposed tariff sheets are just and reasonable,¹ the Commission will further suspend the tariff sheets for an additional six months.² Additionally, the Commission will direct the parties to file a proposed procedural schedule.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The tariff sheets filed by Spire on October 30, 2020, and assigned Tariff Nos. YG-2021-0112 and YG-2021-0113 are further suspended until September 29, 2021.

¹ Section 393.190.1, RSMo 2016.

² Section 393.150, RSMo 2016.

2. No later than March 19, 2021, the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule that includes dates for an evidentiary hearing.

3. 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, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge