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

)

)

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire (East) Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) Tariff Filing

Case No. GR-2021-0127

## JOINT STATUS REPORT

Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire Missouri" or the "Company"), Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), and the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), (collectively, the "Parties") respectfully submit this *Joint Status Report* and request additional time in the abovecaptioned docket.

1. On October 30, 2020, Spire Missouri filed tariff sheets with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") to change its Purchased Gas Adjustment ("PGA") clause for its eastern service territory and Actual Cost Adjustment ("ACA"), thereby initiating File No. GR-2021-0127. This ACA review period will reconcile the actual gas costs Spire Missouri incurred for the 2019-2020 ACA period.

2. Staff conducted its investigation and filed its full ACA Review and Recommendation Report on May 27, 2022. Subsequently, Spire Missouri, the OPC, and the Environmental Defense Fund ("EDF") filed responses to Staff's Report. On August 8, 2022, Spire Missouri filed a reply to the OPC's and EDF's responses and requested a procedural conference be scheduled to establish technical conferences in this docket.

3. On August 16, 2022, a procedural conference was held. Spire Missouri noted that it was providing further information to Staff and the OPC and that additional time would be beneficial to reach a possible resolution in this case. No party opposed the Company's suggestion, and the Administrative Law Judge directed the parties to continue negotiations and file a status

1

report on October 17, 2022. The Parties were directed to advise whether further time for negotiations, or a procedural schedule setting testimony and hearing dates, would be necessary.

4. On October 17, 2022, the Company, Staff, and the OPC filed a joint status report requesting an additional 30 days for negotiations. The Company reached out to EDF regarding the request and EDF's interest in joining the status report. EDF did not oppose the request, but filed a separate status report, asking that the Commission issue a procedural schedule if no resolution among the Parties was reached at the end of 30 days.

5. After their October filings, the Parties have engaged in further negotiations and circulated a series of settlement proposals, including as recently as today. Therefore, the Parties believe an additional 30 days would be beneficial to reaching a resolution. However, should the negotiations not result in a resolution within 30 days, the Parties agree that a procedural schedule, setting testimony and hearing dates, should be issued. Therefore, the Parties agree that another status report be set for December 19, 2022, in which the Parties will inform the Commission either that a resolution has been reached (in full or in part), or, in the alternative, that a resolution has not been reached and propose a joint procedural schedule (or individual proposals if unanimous agreement on a procedural schedule cannot be reached). Additionally, the Parties agree that the joint procedural schedule will start with the Company filing its direct testimony.

**WHEREFORE**, the parties respectfully request that the Commission allow the Parties until December 19, 2022 to continue negotiations in this case, at which time the Parties shall file another status report informing the Commission whether a resolution has been reached, or, in the alternative, that a resolution has not been reached and proposing a joint procedural schedule.

2

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Antonio Arias

Matthew Aplington MoBar #58565 General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0785 (Office) Email: matt.aplington@spireenergy.com

J. Antonio Arias, MoBar #74475 Counsel, Regulatory Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0655 (Office) Email: antonio.arias@spireenergy.com

## **ATTORNEYS FOR SPIRE MISSOURI, INC**

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by

electronic mail to all counsel of record on this 18th day of November, 2022.

/s/ Lew Keathley

Lew Keathley