# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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

Case No. GR-2022-0135

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING SPIRE EAST'S 2020-2021 ACTUAL COST ADJUSTMENT FILING

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission in the above-captioned matter and files its Actual Cost Adjustment ("ACA") Recommendation in this case concerning Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire's ("Spire East") 2020-2021 ACA filing, and states as follows:

1. Spire East filed its ACA for the 2020-2021 period in this case on November 12, 2021. This filing revised the ACA rates based upon Spire East's calculations of its ACA account balances.

2. On November 19, 2021, Staff filed its Recommendation, and on December 15, 2022, Staff filed its Recommendation Regarding Spire East's ACA filing.

3. On January 19, 2023, Spire East filed its response to Staff's Recommendation; and subsequently, Staff filed its Reply to Spire East's Response on January 27, 2023, wherein, Staff requested the Commission stay the proceedings in this matter until a full resolution of the 2019-2020 Spire East ACA in Case No. GR-2021-0127.

4. On July 11, 2023, the Commission stayed this matter until a final decision was rendered in Case No. GR-2021-0127.

5. On August 11, 2023, the parties filed a Stipulation and Agreement in Case No. GR-2021-0127 and on August 23, 2023, the Commission issued an

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Order Approving the Stipulation and Agreement, and such order was effective as of September 2, 2023.

6. On September 15, 2023. Spire East filed its Notice of Filing of Final ACA Balances in this matter, GR-2022-0135, as the underlying matter was fully resolved.

7. The Commission's Procurement Analysis Department Staff ("Staff") has reviewed Spire East's filings, including the agreement set forth in Paragraph 5 and Final ACA Balances in this matter, and submits its recommendation as further explained below. Staff's analysis consisted of a review of Spire East's natural gas supply plans including a review of Spire East's gas purchasing practices to evaluate the prudence of the purchasing decisions for this ACA period; a reliability analysis; and a hedging review. Staff's analysis also included a review of Spire East's billed revenues compared with its actual gas costs to determine whether there exists an over-recovery or under-recovery of the ACA balance. An over-recovery is shown as a negative ACA balance that must be returned to customers; an under-recovery is shown as a positive ACA balance that must be collected from customers.

8. Based on its review, Staff agrees the final ACA balances are accurate and recommends the Commission approve the Spire East's 2020-2021 ACA balances as stated in Paragraph 6 of Spire East's Notice of Filing of Final ACA Balances filed on September 15, 2023.

9. There are no remaining issues that may require a procedural schedule and such matter can be closed upon an Order approving Spire East's 2020-2021 final ACA balances.

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WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving Spire East's 2021 ACA balances as stated in Paragraph 6 of Spire East's Notice of Filing of Final ACA Balances filed on September 15, 2023, and any other relief as is just and reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,

# /s/ J. Scott Stacey

J. Scott Stacey Deputy Counsel Missouri Bar No. 59027 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 573-522-6279 573-751-9285 (Fax) <u>scott.stacey@psc.mo.gov</u>

### ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

### /s/ J. Scott Stacey