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

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In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Prove Gas Service ) in Barton County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas

File No. GA-2019-0214

## ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE

Issue Date: January 18, 2019

Effective Date: January 18, 2019

On January 17, 2019, Spire Missouri, Inc. (the "Company"), filed the abovereferenced application. The application seeks, among other things, permission and approval and a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Barton County, Missouri, as a further expansion of the Company's existing certificated area.

The Commission will direct notice of the application be given to the Barton County Commission, local newspapers, and members of the General Assembly representing residents of Barton County. The Commission will also direct notice of the application to the General Counsel for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and will further set a deadline for interested parties to intervene.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order and the Application to the County Commission of Barton County, Missouri.

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2. The Commission's Public Information Officer shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Barton County and to the media serving that county.

3. Any person wishing to intervene in this matter shall file an application to intervene no later than February 8, 2019. The application shall be filed in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System ("EFIS") or with the Secretary of the Commission. Comments on the Application may also be made in EFIS.

4. This order shall be effective when issued.



**BY THE COMMISSION** 

Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Paul T. Graham, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 388.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

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

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Barton County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.

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### <u>APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE</u> <u>AND NECESSITY AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER</u>

**COMES NOW** Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), on behalf of its Spire Missouri West operating unit and by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to RSMo. §393.170, RSMo, 4 CSR 240-2.060 and Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.205, requests permission and approval and a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Barton County, Missouri, as a further expansion of its existing certificated area. In support of this request, Spire respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. Spire West is a public utility and gas corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, with its principal office located at 700 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. A Certificate of Good Standing evidencing Spire West's standing to do business in Missouri was submitted in Case No. GM-2013-0254 and is incorporated by reference herein for all purposes. The information in such Certificate is current and correct.

2. Spire West is engaged in the business of distributing and transporting natural gas to customers in Missouri as a gas corporation subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Spire West provides gas service in western Missouri to customers in the western Missouri counties of Andrew, Barry, Barton, Bates, Buchanan, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Cooper, Dade, Dekalb, Greene, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Moniteau, Newton, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Saline, Stone, and Vernon. Other than cases that have been docketed at the Commission, Spire has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court within the past three years that involve customer service or rates. Spire has no annual report or assessment fees that are overdue.

3. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and to:

David P. Abernathy Vice President & General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 314-342-0536 Office 314-421-1979 Fax David.Abernathy@spireenergy.com

Michael C. Pendergast Of Counsel Fischer & Dority, P.C. 423 (R) South Main Street St. Charles, MO 63301 (314) 288-8723 <u>Mcp2015law@icloud.com</u>

Wesley E. Selinger Manager, Rates and Planning Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63101 (314) 230-5867

4. Spire seeks a service area CCN to provide gas in Sections 7 and 18, Township 33 North, Range 30 West for certain portions of the Missouri county of Barton, as an extension of its existing certificated areas. Section 7 and 18, Township 33 North, Range 30 West is an area where a customer has contacted Spire with a need for a distribution system extension to service irrigation operations. The legal descriptions of the new areas are set forth in the attached Appendices. Attached as Appendix 1 is a plat drawn to a scale of one-half inch (1/2") to the mile on maps comparable to county highway maps issued by the Missouri Department of Transportation or a plat drawn to a scale of two thousand feet (2,000") to the inch.

5. The rates for the proposed areas will be those approved and in effect for the customers in the adjoining Spire West operating unit certificated areas, until such rates may be changed by approved tariff or order of the Commission. Spire estimates the addition of 1 customer in Barton County as a result of this extension. Estimated revenues and expenses for the first three years of operations are shown in the feasibility study attached as Appendix 2C. Appendix 2C has been identified as Confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135(2)(A)3 and 4, because it contains information relating market-specific information No external financing will be required for construction related to this project and a customer contribution of \$25,195.33 associated with the project has been assessed and collected. Spire holds all necessary franchises and permits from municipalities, counties, or other authorities that are required for Spire to serve the subject areas.

6. The names and addresses of those residents within, or in close proximity to the proposed service area are shown on the attached Appendix 3C. 4 CSR 240-3.205 requires that "If there are ten (10) or more residents or landowners, the name and address of no fewer than ten (10) persons residing in the proposed service area or of no fewer than ten landowners in the event there are no residences in the area, or, if there are fewer than ten (10) residents or landowners, the name and address of all residents and landowners." The attached Appendix 3C contains the names and addresses of three residents located in the area requested. These are the

names and addresses of all residents located within the requested area. The customer requesting service is the only customer that is anticipated to be added due to this extension. Appendix 3C has been identified as Confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135(2)(A)1, because it contains information relating directly to specific customers.

7. Spire's experience in the operation of natural gas systems gives it the ability to provide this service in an efficient manner. For all reasons set forth herein, a grant of the application will further the public convenience and necessity.

8. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1) provides that "(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case." No such notice was filed herein. As such, Spire seeks a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement.

9. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, Spire declares (as verified below) that they have had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.015(10)) within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case.

WHEREFORE, Spire requests, for good cause shown, that the Commission waive the notice requirement of 4 CSR 240-4.017(1), grant a variance from the filing requirements of Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.205(1)(A), approve this Application, issue a CCN to Spire as set forth above and in the attached schedules, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

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By:

Dean L. Cooper MBE#36592 312 E. Capitol Avenue P. O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 635-7166 dcooper@brydonlaw.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 this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019, to:

General Counsel's Office Missouri Public Service Commission staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel opcservice@ded.mo.gov

D1.Com

### VERIFICATION

State of Missouri ) ) ss City of St. Louis\_ )

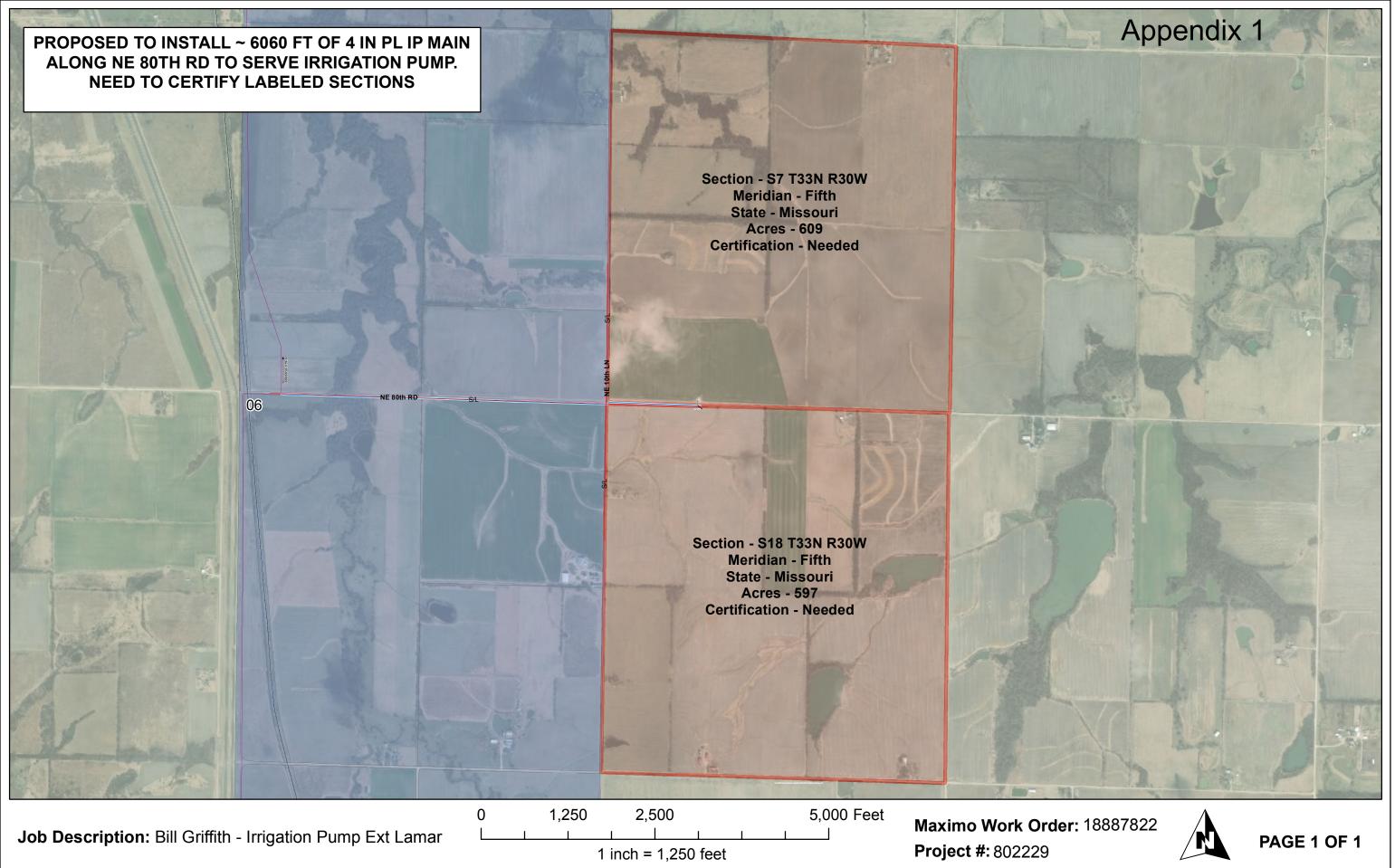
I, David Abernathy, having been duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am Vice President & General Counsel of Spire Missouri Inc. (Spire Missouri), that I am authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of Spire Missouri, and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application and appendices thereto are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

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Subscribed and sworn before me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

Jana Schneider

LANA K SCHNEIDER Notary Public - Notary Seal STATE OF MISSOURI Commissioned for Saint Louis City My Commission Expires: October 29, 2022 Commission # 18005093



Appendix 2C C

### APPENDIX 2C HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

# Appendix 3C Page 1

# APPENDIX 3C, PAGE 1 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX 3C, PAGE 2 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.



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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

## **MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

### January 18, 2019

### File/Case No. GA-2019-0214

#### Missouri Public Service Commission

Staff Counsel Department 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov Office of the Public Counsel Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@ded.mo.gov **County of Barton, Missouri** County Commission Clerk 1004 Gulf, Room 104 Barton County Courthouse Lamar, MO 64759

### Spire

Dean L Cooper 312 East Capitol P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 dcooper@brydonlaw.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

orris I Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.