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) Case No. GA-2023-0441
Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution)
System to Provide Gas Service in Platte County, Missouri)
As an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.)

JOINT FILING TO AMEND STAFF CONDITION AND REQUEST TO CANCEL PREHEARING CONFERENCE

COME NOW Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire ("Spire" or "Company") and Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") (collectively, the "Parties"), by and through counsel, and submit this *Joint Filing to Amend Staff's Condition and Request to Cancel Prehearing Conference*, stating the following:

- 1. On June 30, 2023, Spire filed an Application for a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") for expansion of its existing certificated area in Platte County ("Application").
- 2. On September 28, 2023, Staff filed its Recommendation and Memorandum ("Staff Recommendation"). In its Recommendation, Staff recommends the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") approve the Company's application with the following conditions:

Condition 1: Spire shall initiate an internal audit of its processes and procedures regarding compliance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-3.205 to ensure all of its regulated area of operation has been certificated by the Commission. The report shall also include steps taken to avoid constructing and/or operating in uncertificated areas in the future.

<u>Condition 2</u>: Spire shall provide its internal audit report to the Commission prior to filing for its next general rate case.

<u>Condition 3</u>: Spire shall file an updated tariff sheet incorporating the apportioned area.

<u>Condition 4</u>: Spire shall quantify the cost of the assets included in rate base located in the area subject to this CCN request.

<u>Condition 5</u>: Spire shall hold ratepayers receiving service outside of the requested CCN area harmless from any expenses in excess of billed non-gas revenues.

- 3. On October 9, 2023, Spire filed its response to Staff's recommendation, agreeing with Staff's recommendation and accepting Staff Conditions 1, 2, 3, and 5. Spire objected to Staff's Condition 4, stating its concerns that it would not be able to comply with the condition as proposed.
- 4. On October 13, 2023, the Commission scheduled a prehearing conference as Staff's Condition 4 was in dispute.
- 5. Since the filing of the Commission's order scheduling a prehearing conference, Spire and Staff conferred on how Spire may provide the information requested in Condition 4, and the parties reached an agreement to amend Condition 4.
 - 6. The Parties agreed to amend Condition 4 as follows:

Condition 4: Spire shall quantify the cost of the assets, as available in its financial records, included in rate base located in the area subject to the CCN request by using estimates of the cost of assets using the available information, such as averages of vintage years of 1997 and 2004, and project footages, as appropriate.

7. Spire agrees with and accepts this proposed amended Condition 4.

8. As the dispute around Condition 4 is resolved, Spire and Staff agree that the prehearing conference scheduled for November 15, 2023, is no longer necessary. The Parties request that the conference is cancelled.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully requests that the Commission:

- Accept this joint filing amending Staff's Condition 4;
- Issue an order approving the CCN consistent with Staff's recommendation and this filing;
- Cancel the prehearing conference scheduled for November 15, 2023;
- Direct Staff to issue a recommendation on Spire's tariff revision filed on October 2,
 2023; and
- Grant any such other and further relief as is just and reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Antonio Arias

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ATTORNEYS FOR SPIRE MISSOURI INC.

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ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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 2nd day of November, 2023.

/s/ J. Antonio Arias