

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

In the Matter of City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri)
Concerning a Natural Gas Pipeline Incident in the)
Vicinity of South Charleston Avenue and East)
Republic Road in Springfield, Missouri)

File No. GS-2024-0024

STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, in response to the Commission’s August 10, 2023 *Order Opening File and Directing Filing*, and for its Status Report states:

1. On July 31, 2023, Staff of the Commission (“Staff”) filed a *Motion to Establish a Case* requesting the Commission open a file for investigation of a natural gas pipeline incident in Springfield, Missouri describing an incident that occurred on July 17, 2023, in the vicinity of South Charleston Avenue and East Republic Road, in an area served by the municipal gas system of City Utilities of Springfield (“CU”).

2. On August 10, 2023, the Commission granted Staff’s *Motion* and ordered Staff to file a report regarding the incident or a report on the status of its investigation no later than February 6, 2024.

3. On February 5, 2024, Staff filed its *Status Report* stating that Staff continues conducting discovery in this matter, and that CU had not yet completed its failure investigation as required by 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(L). Staff requested additional time for Staff to submit its investigative report and requested a due date of no later than April 8, 2024, to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the progress of Staff’s investigation.

4. On February 5, 2024, a Commission *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* was filed which ordered Staff to file its report regarding

the July 17th incident described in the body of the order – or a report on the status of its investigation – no later than April 8, 2024.

5. On April 3, 2024, Staff filed its *Status Report* stating that Staff was continuing to conduct discovery in this matter and had not received CU's failure investigation. Staff requested a further extension of no later than May 10, 2024, to file its investigative report, or a report on the status of the investigation, which the Commission granted.

6. On April 4, 2024, a Commission *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* was filed which ordered Staff to file its report regarding the July 17th incident described in the body of the order – or a report on the status of its investigation – no later than May 10, 2024.

7. On May 7, 2024, Staff filed its *Status Report* stating that Staff was continuing to conduct discovery in this matter and had not received CU's failure investigation. Staff requested a further extension of no later than July 19, 2024, to file its investigative report, or a report on the status of the investigation, which the Commission granted.

8. On May 10, 2024, a Commission *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* was filed which ordered Staff to file its report regarding the July 17th incident described in the body of the order – or a report on the status of its investigation – no later than July 19, 2024.

9. Staff's understanding is that CU has selected a third-party to conduct a root cause analysis to determine the cause(s) of the incident as required by 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(L); however, CU's failure investigation has not been completed. Staff's understanding is that the third-party has completed its initial document review, an in-person site visit, viewed materials preserved from the site, had

discussions with CU employees, and has made follow up requests for additional documents and information. CU has stated that there is not yet an estimated completion date, but that it will provide that information if and when it becomes available.

10. Staff continues conducting discovery in this matter related to CU's ongoing failure investigation.

11. Staff requires additional time to review and analyze the information yet to be provided by CU before finalizing its investigation report. Staff will use this time to complete a draft report, submit its report to internal review, and receive and review CU's identification of confidential information and feedback on the report's facts section.

12. Staff requests a due date of no later than October 24, 2024, to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the progress of Staff's investigation.

WHEREFORE, for the above-stated reasons, Staff respectfully requests the Commission order Staff to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the status of Staff's investigation, no later than October 24, 2024, and for any other such order as the Commission deems just and reasonable under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carolyn H. Kerr

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, prepaid to all counsel of record on this 17th day of July, 2024.

/s/ Carolyn H. Kerr