

John R. Ashcroft

Secretary of State
Administrative Rules Division

RULE TRANSMITTAL

Administrative Rules Stamp

RECEIVED

By Administrative Rules SOS at 2:25 pm, Aug 05, 2024

Rule Number 20 CSR 4240-2.115

Use a "SEPARATE" rule transmittal sheet for EACH individual rulemaking.

Name of person to call with questions about this rule:

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Interagency mailing address Public Service Commission, 9th Floor Gov. Office Bldg, JC, Mo

TYPE OF RULEMAKING ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Emergency Rulemaking Rule Amendment Rescission Termination

Effective Date for the Emergency _____

Proposed Rulemaking Rule Amendment Rescission

Rule Action Notice In Addition Rule Under Consideration

Request for Non-Substantive Change

Statement of Actual Cost

Order of Rulemaking Withdrawal Adopt Amendment Rescission

Effective Date for the Order _____

Statutory 30 days OR Specific date _____

Does the Order of Rulemaking contain changes to the rule text? NO

YES—LIST THE SECTIONS WITH CHANGES, including any deleted rule text:

Section (2)

Small Business Regulatory
Fairness Board (DED) Stamp

JCAR Stamp

RECEIVED

By JCAR at 11:33 am, Jul 03, 2024



Missouri Public Service Commission

MAIDA J. COLEMAN
Commissioner

KAYLA HAHN
Chair

JASON R. HOLSMAN
Commissioner

GLEN KOLKMEYER
Commissioner

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JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102
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<http://psc.mo.gov>

JOHN P. MITCHELL
Commissioner

Sarah Schappe
Director
Joint Committee on Administration Rules
State Capitol, Room B8A
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: 20 CSR 4240-2.115 Stipulations and Agreements

Dear Director Schappe,

CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

I do hereby certify that the attached is an accurate and complete copy of the order of rulemaking lawfully submitted by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Statutory Authority: sections *386.410, RSMo*

If there are any questions regarding the content of this order of rulemaking, please contact:

Nancy Dippell, Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-8518
Nancy.Dippell@psc.mo.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell".

Nancy Dippell
Secretary to the Commission



Enclosures

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201 W. CAPITOL AVENUE, ROOM 216
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65101



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Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI

June 27, 2024

Ms. Kayla Hahn
Public Service Commission
PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

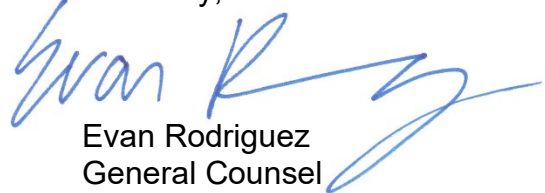
Dear Ms. Hahn:

This Office has received your Final Order of Rulemaking for the following regulations:

- 20 CSR 4240-2.115 Stipulations and Agreements
- 20 CSR 4240-2.075 Intervention

Executive Order 17-03 requires this Office's approval before state agencies release proposed regulations for notice and comment, amend existing regulations, rescind regulations, or adopt new regulations. After our review, we approve the submission to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,


Evan Rodriguez
General Counsel

**TITLE 20 – DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
Division 4240 – Public Service Commission
Chapter 2 – Practice and Procedure**

ORDER OF RULEMAKING

By the authority vested in the Public Service Commission under section 386.410, RSMo 2016, the commission amends a rule as follows:

20 CSR 4240-2.115 is amended.

A notice of proposed rulemaking containing the text of the proposed amendment was published in the *Missouri Register* on May 1, 2024 (49 MoReg 651). The section with changes is reprinted here. This proposed amendment becomes effective thirty (30) days after publication in the *Code of State Regulations*.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS: The public comment period ended May 31, 2024, and the commission held a public hearing on the proposed amendment on June 4, 2024. The commission received three (3) written comments. Nine (9) comments were received at the hearing.

COMMENT #1: Public Counsel Marc Poston on behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed written comments and John Clizer for OPC provided comments at the hearing. OPC commented that the phrase “with specificity” might cause issues with applying the rule as amended. OPC suggests the commission omit the phrase “with specificity.” OPC proposes alternative language requiring the objector to identify the specific provisions of the stipulation and agreement that are objected to and provide a reason for each objection. OPC also opposes the proposed changes put forth by Spire Missouri Inc. in its written comments.

RESPONSE AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGES: The Commission agrees with the comment of OPC and will adopt a slight change to subsection (2)(B) similar to the language suggested by OPC to clarify the rule.

COMMENT #2: Sreenivasa Rao Dandamudi on behalf of Spire Missouri Inc. filed written comments and Scott Weitzel for Spire provided comments at the hearing in support of the amendment. Spire also provided additional amendment language to amend subsections (2)(B) and (2)(D) with regard to limiting the issues a party can object to and the amount of deference to be given to objections.

RESPONSE: There was significant opposition to Spire’s proposed changes and the commission will decline to make such substantive changes to the rule without first publishing the changes for comment and further consideration. No change was made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #3: John Coffman on behalf of the Consumers Council of Missouri filed written comments and commented at the hearing generally in support of the amendment. Consumers Council states that requiring specificity when a party objects to a non-unanimous stipulation and agreement is good practice. Consumers Council agrees with OPC's proposed changes. Consumers Council opposes Spire's proposed amendments to the rule because they are beyond the scope of this rulemaking proceeding and would infringe on the due process rights of some parties in commission proceedings. It is Consumers Council's opinion that the commission should hold a "workshop" proceeding before beginning any substantial change to commission rules.

RESPONSE: The commission is making changes similar to the language suggested by OPC and is not making the changes proposed by Spire. No change has been made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #4: Tim Opitz on behalf of the Midwest Energy Consumers Group (MECG) commented and provided written reply comments at the hearing. MECG stated that it had no strong opposition to the proposed amendment. MECG commented that it supports the comments of OPC and Consumers Council, and opposes the comments of Spire. MECG explained in detail why it was opposed to Spire's additional proposed rule changes.

RESPONSE: The commission is making changes similar to the language suggested by OPC and is not making the changes proposed by Spire. No other change has been made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #5: James Owen on behalf of Renew Missouri commented at the hearing that Renew Missouri had no opposition to the amendment. Renew Missouri also commented that the commission should have more collaboration with the stakeholders before proceeding with rule changes. Renew Missouri commented that the commission should allow liberal participation in and objections to stipulations and agreements.

RESPONSE: The commission thanks Renew Missouri for its comments. No change was made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #6: Diana Plescia on behalf of the Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers (MIEC) agrees with OPC's comments and opposes the changes proposed in the written comments of Spire. MIEC commented that because it is an association of large industrial customers and not every member participates in each case, it may take months to fully determine what, if any, specific position one of its members will take in a commission case. Therefore, MIEC opposes Spire's proposed additional changes to the rule.

RESPONSE: The commission thanks MIEC for its comments. No change was made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #7: Terry Jarrett on behalf of the Missouri School Boards Association (MSBA) commented at the hearing that it agreed with the comments of Consumers Council, Renew Missouri, OPC, and MECG.

RESPONSE: The commission thanks MSBA for its comments. No change was made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #8: Peggy Whipple on behalf of the Missouri Electric Commission (MEC) commented at the hearing in opposition to the amendment. MEC stated that it agreed with the comments of Consumers Council, Renew Missouri, OPC, MEEG, and Evergy.

RESPONSE: The commission thanks MEC for its comments. No change was made as a result of this comment.

COMMENT #9: Scott Stacey with Staff Counsel's Office of the commission commented in support of the amendment. Mr. Stacey commented that the commission has legal authority to make rules governing the proceedings before the commission. Mr. Stacey commented that the amendment would not prohibit any party from making objections, but would require the parties objecting to clearly state which provisions it found objectionable and why.

RESPONSE: The commission agrees with Mr. Stacey's comments that the proposed amendment will not limit objections to stipulations and agreement but will help to clarify what those objections are. No change was made as a result of this comment.

20 CSR 4240-2.115 Stipulations and Agreements

(2) Nonunanimous Stipulations and Agreements.

(B) Each party shall have seven (7) days from the filing of a nonunanimous stipulation and agreement to file an objection to the nonunanimous stipulation and agreement. The objecting party shall identify the specific provision of the stipulation and agreement that is objected to and provide a reason for each objection. Failure to file a timely objection shall constitute a full waiver of that party's right to a hearing.