# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spire Missouri, Inc.,	)	
d/b/a Spire's Revised PGA Rates for	)	Case No. GR-2024-0341
Spire Missouri West	)	Tariff No. JG-2025-0060

#### CORRECTED STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its Corrected Recommendation, states as follows:

- 1. On October 31, 2024, Spire Missouri, Inc., d/b/a Spire ("Spire"), filed two revised tariff sheets bearing an effective date of November 15, 2024, Tariff File No. JG-2025-0060, and an accompanying cover letter with supporting worksheets. The tariff sheets were filed to reflect changes in Spire's Current Purchased Gas Adjustment ("CPGA") factors as a result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas in its eastern Missouri ("Spire East") and western Missouri ("Spire West") operating divisions. Also included in this filing is the annual change to the Actual Cost Adjustment ("ACA").
- 2. The Commission issued an order on November 1, 2024, directing Staff to file a recommendation regarding Spire's request and corresponding tariff sheets, Tariff File No. JG-2025-0060, no later than November 7, 2024.
- 3. On November 1, 2024, Spire filed a substitute tariff to correct an error in the original filed ACA rate for its Spire East operating division.
- 4. Staff has reviewed Spire's filings and determined that the rates in the proposed tariff sheets, Tariff No. JG-2025-0060, were calculated in conformance with Spire's PGA Clause and notes that optional PGA changes are authorized in Spire's tariff. Staff does not oppose the approval of these tariff sheets on less than

thirty (30) days' notice. Such action is supported by Spire's Commission-approved PGA Clause allowing for ten (10) business days' notice for PGA change filings.

- 5. Staff recommends the Commission approve the tariff sheets in Tariff File No. JG-2025-0060, on an interim basis, subject to refund, for service on and after November 15, 2024.
- 6. Due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors Spire submitted in this filling, Staff requests the Commission order Staff to submit its results and recommendations regarding the information in this ACA filling to the Commission on or before December 15, 2025.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons and those stated in Staff's Memorandum attached hereto, Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order approving Spire's tariff sheets filed in Tariff No. JG-2025-0060 and as substituted, on an interim, subject to refund status; and further order Staff to file its recommendation Spire's ACA filing no later than December 15, 2025.

#### P.S.C. MO No. 9

Fourth Revised Sheet 11.7, Cancelling Third Revised Sheet 11.7 (Spire East)
Fifth Revised Sheet 11.8, Cancelling Fourth Revised Sheet 11.8 (Spire West)

Respectfully submitted,

#### /s/ J. Scott Stacey

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ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE MISSOURI 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 6th day of November, 2024.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

# **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File

Case No. GR-2024-0341, Tariff No. JG-2025-0060 Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire (East & West)

**FROM:** Anne M. Crowe, Lead Senior Utility Regulatory Auditor, Procurement Analysis

/s/ David M. Sommerer 11/06/2024 Financial and Business Analysis Div./Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire

Scheduled Winter Season PGA/ACA Filing Effective

November 15, 2024

**DATE:** November 6, 2024

On October 31, 2024, Spire Missouri Inc., d/b/a Spire ("Company" or "Spire"), filed two tariff sheets with an effective date of November 15, 2024 for Spire Missouri's East operating division and for its West operating division. Spire filed a substitute tariff sheet for its East operating division on November 1, 2024. These tariff sheets were filed to reflect scheduled changes in Spire's Purchased Gas Adjustment ("PGA") factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the winter season and changes in the Actual Cost Adjustment ("ACA") factors.

On November 1, 2024, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued an *Order Directing Expedited Staff Recommendation on Revised Tariff Sheets and Setting Time for Responses*, which directs Staff to file its recommendation concerning the tariff sheets no later than November 7, 2024.

Spire estimates the impact of this PGA rate change in its cover letter:

Spire East's charges for gas will change from \$0.77588 per ccf to \$.52487; and Spire West's charges for gas will change from \$.91988 to \$.62139 per ccf.

The decrease for both Spire East and Spire West is due to lower gas prices and recovering the majority of the deferred costs of Winter Storm Uri.

Compared to existing rates, and assuming normal usage, the PGA rate for Spire West will decrease the average monthly bill of the typical residential customer by \$18.70 (17.41%). For Spire East, the average monthly bill will decrease by \$15.86 (16.18%). Such bill impacts may be less or more depending on a customer's actual usage, which is primarily affected by weather.

OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM MO PSC Case No. GR-2024-0341 Tariff No. JG-2025-0060 November 6, 2024 Page 2 of 2

Spire filed a substitute tariff to correct an error in the original filed ACA rate for its Spire East operating division. With the substitute tariff sheet filed on November 1, 2024, Spire East's PGA rate will change from \$0.77588 per ccf to \$.52486.

The rate classes subject to the above PGA are Residential, Small General Service, Large General Service, Unmetered Gas Light, and Large Volume Service.

Case No. GR-2024-0341, under which these changes were filed, was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 2023-2024 ACA filing. Any rate change implemented pursuant to this tariff filing should be on an interim basis, subject to refund status pending final Commission decision in this case and ACA Case No. GR-2023-0217 (the 2022-2023 ACA).

Due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors submitted in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department ("PAD") requests permission to submit its results and recommendations regarding the information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before December 15, 2025. The ACA procedure involves the review of and true-up to actual gas costs.

Staff has verified that Spire Missouri, Inc. has filed its annual report, and is not delinquent on its PSC assessment. Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing, other than as mentioned above.

Staff has reviewed this filing and has determined it was calculated in conformance with Spire's PGA Clause. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of these tariff sheets on less than thirty (30) days' notice is demonstrated by Spire's Commission-approved PGA clause allowing for ten (10) business days' notice for PGA change filings. Therefore, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the following tariff sheets, filed on October 31, 2024, as substituted on November 1, 2024, to become effective on November 15, 2024, on an interim basis, subject to refund:

#### PSC Mo No. 9

Fourth Revised Sheet 11.7, Cancelling Third Revised Sheet 11.7 (Spire East) Fifth Revised Sheet 11.8, Cancelling Fourth Revised Sheet 11.8 (Spire West)

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire's Revised PGA Rates for Spire Missouri West	) <u>Case No. GR-2024-0341</u> ) Tracking No. JG-2025-0060 )		
AFFIDAVIT OF ANNE M. CROWE			
STATE OF MISSOURI )			
COUNTY OF COLE ) ss.			
COMES NOW ANNE M. CROWE, and or lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing and correct according to her best knowledge and			
Further the Affiant sayeth not.  AN	In M Chonce NE M. CROWE		
JUF	RAT		
Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly con the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my o of November 2024.	stituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for ffice in Jefferson City, on this 6th day		
DIANNA L. VAUGHT  Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377	Notary Public		