## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

In the Matter of Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a
Spire's Request for Authority to Implement
a General Rate Increase for Natural Gas
Service Provided in the Company's
Missouri Service Areas

)

File No. GR-2025-0107

Tariff No. JG-2025-0078

# ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF, GIVING NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE, AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY

Issue Date: December 4, 2024 Effective Date: December 4, 2024

Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire submitted tariff sheets on November 25, 2024, to produce a net increase in its gas base rates of approximately \$236 million. The proposed tariff sheets have an effective date of December 25, 2024.

Section 393.150, RSMo (2016), authorizes the Commission to suspend the effective date of proposed tariff sheets for 120 days, plus an additional six months to allow for a hearing. To provide sufficient time to determine if the proposed tariff sheets are just and reasonable, the Commission will suspend the tariff sheets for 120 days beyond their effective date. The Commission's experience demonstrates that a full hearing cannot be concluded within 120 days, so the Commission will suspend the tariff sheets for an additional six months.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 393.140(5), RSMo. Unless otherwise noted, all statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri as codified in 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section 393.150.2, RSMo.

Section 393.150.1, RSMo, allows the suspension of the tariff pending a "full hearing" and decision on the tariff's propriety. Thus, this matter is a "contested case." A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, but it allows for waiver of procedural formalities and a decision without a hearing, 4 including by stipulation and agreement. 5 This order and notice does not require any party to file an answer. The Commission also provides notice that its discovery regulations may be found at 20 CSR 4240-2.090.

The Commission may delegate any adjudicative authority to the regulatory law judge assigned to this action.<sup>6</sup> To ensure that all discovery disputes are ruled upon expeditiously, the Commission will delegate its authority to the regulatory law judge assigned to this action to rule on discovery disputes raised at the discovery conferences and to rule on all motions to compel discovery. The Commission will set forth further provisions for discovery by separate order when setting a full procedural schedule.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The proposed tariff sheets, filed under Tracking No. JG-2025-0078, by Spire, are suspended for 120 days plus six months thereafter, until October 24, 2025.
- 2. The regulatory law judge assigned to this action shall have full authority to rule on any discovery dispute, including any motion to compel, and may make any such ruling at a discovery conference.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 536.010(4), RSMo.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Section 536.060, RSMo

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Section 386.240, RSMo.

3. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Many Dippell

Nancy Dippell Secretary

Hahn, Ch., Coleman, Holsman Kolkmeyer, and Mitchell CC., concur.

Fewell, Regulatory Law Judge

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.

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Nancy Dippell Secretary

# MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION **December 4, 2024**

File/Case No. GR-2025-0107

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

Sincerely,

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