

**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**

STAFF’S GAS INCIDENT REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through counsel, and in response to the Commission’s October 22, 2024, *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* states as follows:

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 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. 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, the Commission granted that request and entered an *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* which ordered Staff to file its report regarding the July 17th incident or a status report no later than April 8, 2024.

5. On April 3, 2024, Staff filed its *Status Report* stating that Staff was continuing to conduct discovery and had not received CU's failure investigation. Staff requested an extension until May 10, 2024, to file its investigative report or a status report regarding the investigation, which the Commission granted on April 4, 2024. The Commission entered an *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report*, allowing Staff to file its report or a status report no later than May 10, 2024.

6. On May 7, 2024, Staff filed another *Status Report* stating that it was continuing to conduct discovery, and that it had not received CU's failure investigation. Staff requested another extension until July 19, 2024, to file its investigative report or a status report.

7. On May 10, 2024, the Commission granted an *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* allowing Staff to file its investigation report or a status report no later than July 19, 2024.

8. On July 19, 2024, a Commission *Order Extending Deadline to File Staff Investigative Report* was entered granting Staff its request to file its report regarding the July 17th incident or a status report no later than October 24, 2024.

9. On September 27, 2024, CU provided a copy of its completed failure investigation results to Staff.

10. On October 22, 2024, Staff filed a Status Report; wherein, it stated Staff had received CU's failure investigation results on September 27, 2024, and needed

additional time to finalize its investigative report. Staff requested an extension until December 11, 2024. On October 22, 2024, the Commission granted Staff's extension request and ordered Staff to file its investigation report no later than December 11, 2024.

11. Staff completed its discovery and provided a draft of the facts section to CU for identification of confidential information and feedback of factual accuracy. Staff received CU's original feedback on November 6, 2024, along with subsequent responses on November 25, 2024 and December 4, 2024.

12. Based on Staff's investigation, Staff submits the attached *Staff's Gas Incident Report* and Appendices A - E, incorporated by reference herein, as Ordered by the Commission.

13. Staff has identified violations of the Commission's pipeline safety standards as promulgated in 20 CSR 4240-40.030 that are set out in *Staff's Gas Incident Report*, which warrant the filing of a Complaint against CU. The *Gas Incident Report* also sets out recommendations related to the violations of the Commission's pipeline safety standards as set forth in 20 CSR 4240-40.030. Staff will address these violations and recommendations in the Complaint addressed above.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits and requests the Commission accept the attached *Staff's Gas Incident Report* and Appendices A - E pursuant to the Commission's Order issued on October 22, 2024, and grant such other and further relief as the Commission deems just in the circumstances. Staff intends to follow-up this filing with the filing of a Complaint against CU, which will contain Staff recommendations in addition to identifying and addressing violations of Commission pipeline safety rules.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 11th day of December, 2024.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey