BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of a Staff Investigation into Concerns Raised by a Former Spire Employee Regarding Handling of Documents (Public and Confidential)

File No. GO-2025-0131

STAFF'S INVESTIGATION REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through counsel, in response to the Commission's Orders issued on October 17, 2024, and December 16, 2024, Staff hereby submits its Staff Investigation Report as follows:

1. On October 8, 2024, Staff filed a *Motion to Open an Investigation ("Motion")*

requesting the Commission open a file for investigation into the potential concealment and destruction of documents by Spire Missouri, Inc., ("Spire Missouri") that would be otherwise discoverable. The reasoning for such a request was set forth more fully in Staff's *Motion*.

2. On October 17, 2024, the Commission granted Staff's Motion and ordered Staff to investigate the allegations of Spire Missouri's former employee, identify and recommend any potential actions the Commission should take. The Commission further ordered Staff to file a report on the status of its investigation no later than December 17, 2024, indicating when it expects to file an investigation report and recommendations.

3. On December 13, 2024, Staff filed its Status Report regarding its investigation and requested additional time to review and analyze the information before submitting a final investigation report.

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4. On December 16, 2024, the Commission granted Staff's request and ordered Staff to file its Investigation Report or a report on the status of Staff's investigation no later than January 31, 2025.

5. Staff has met with the former Spire Missouri employee and his counsel, along with Spire Missouri staff and counsel on several occasions.

6. Staff conducted discovery in this matter and reviewed the information received in response to the discovery requests associated with this matter, to include:

Two audio recordings;

Spire Missouri Investigation interview notes;

• Spire Missouri Interview closing letter;

Spire Missouri Investigation summary; and

• Spire Missouri's compliance hotline process.

7. After reviewing the documentation above and listening to both recordings submitted by Spire Missouri and the former employee of Spire Missouri, which was the basis for the alleged concealment and destruction of documents, and after further discussions with Spire Missouri and the former employee of Spire Missouri, Staff has determined that there were no discussions by Spire Missouri on concealment of matters from Staff or the Commission or on destruction of documents that would be otherwise discoverable by Staff. The former employee of Spire Missouri had no further comments or evidence of the alleged concealment or destruction of documents.

8. Based on Staff's investigation, there were no issues of illegalities found and this matter may be closed.

9. This pleading is verified by the affidavits of Jim Busch and Kim Bolin, which are incorporated by reference herein.

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WHEREFORE, for the above-stated reasons, Staff respectfully requests the Commission accept Staff's Investigation Report, close the matter, and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just and reasonable under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

J. Scott Stacey Deputy Counsel Missouri Bar No. 59027 Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 573-522-6279 573-751-9285 (Fax) scott.stacey@psc.mo.gov

ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE 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 21st day of January, 2025.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of a Staff Investigation into Concerns Raised by a Former Spire Employee Regarding Handling of Documents (Public and Confidential) Case No. GO-2025-0131

AFFIDAVIT OF KIMBERLY K, BOLIN

STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE)

COMES NOW KIMBERLY K. BOLIN, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Investigation Report*; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

imberly K. Bolin

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 15+1 day of January 2025.

Dianie L- Vau V-Notary Public

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of a Staff Investigation into Concerns Raised by a Former Spire **Employee Regarding Handling of** Documents (Public and Confidential)

Case No. GO-2025-0131

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES A. BUSCH

STATE OF MISSOURI)	
)	ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)	

COMES NOW JAMES A. BUSCH, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing Staff Investigation Report; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

JAMES A. BUSCH

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 15^{+-} day of January 2025.

Notary Public)

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377