## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Lafayette County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas

File No. GA-2020-0235

## ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE AND SETTING DEADLINES FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATIONS AND STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: February 10, 2020

Effective Date: February 10, 2020

On February 3, 2020, Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire filed its application requesting a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Lafayette County, Missouri, as an expansion of Spire's existing certificated area. Spire also requests a waiver of the Commission's 60-day notice requirement under 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

The Commission will direct notice be given and set deadlines for intervention applications and responses. The Commission will also direct Commission Staff to file a recommendation with regard to Spire's application.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's data center shall provide notice of this order and Spire Missouri, Inc.'s application to the county commission for Lafayette County, Missouri. 2. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall provide notice of Spire Missouri, Inc.'s application to the members of the General Assembly representing residents of Lafayette County, as well as to the news media serving residents of Lafayette County.

3. Applications for intervention shall be filed no later than March 11, 2020. Any such filing shall be submitted through the Commission's electronic filing and information system or delivered to:

Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission P. O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

4. Any response to an application to intervene filed in this matter shall be filed no later than March 23, 2020.

5. No later than March 23, 2020, the Commission's Staff shall file either a recommendation regarding Spire Missouri, Inc.'s application or a status report indicating when it expects to file a recommendation.

6. This order shall be effective when issued.



## BY THE COMMISSION

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Jana C. Jacobs, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 10th day of February, 2020.

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain, and Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Lafayette County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas.

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## APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND REOUEST FOR WAIVER

**COMES NOW** Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), on behalf of its Spire Missouri West operating unit and by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to RSMo. §393.170, RSMo, 20 CSR 4240-2.060 and Commission Rule 20 CSR 4220-3.205, requests permission and approval and a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Lafayette County, Missouri, as a further expansion of its existing certificated area. In support of this request, Spire respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

 Spire West is a public utility and gas corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, with its principal office located at 700 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. A Certificate of Good Standing evidencing Spire West's standing to do business in Missouri was submitted in Case No. GM-2013-0254 and is incorporated by reference herein for all purposes. The information in such Certificate is current and correct. 2 Spire West is engaged in the business of distributing and transporting natural gas to customers in Missouri as a gas corporation subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Spire West provides gas service in western Missouri to customers in the western Missouri counties of Andrew, Barry, Barton, Bates, Buchanan, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Cooper, Dade, Dekalb, Greene, Henry, Howard, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Moniteau, Newton, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Saline, Stone, and Vernon. Other than cases that have been docketed at the Commission, Spire has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court within the past three years that involve customer service or rates. Spire has no annual report or assessment fees that are overdue.

3. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and to:

David P. Abernathy Vice President & General Counsel Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, MO 63101 314-342-0536 Office 314-421-1979 Fax David.Abernathy@spireenergy.com

Matt Aplington General Counsel, Spire Missouri Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street St. Louis, MO 63101 314-342-0785 Office Matt.Aplington@spireene rgy.com Wesley E. Selinger Manager, Rates and Planning Spire Missouri Inc. 700 Market Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63101 (314) 230-5867

4. Spire seeks a service area CCN to provide gas to an individual project. The requested area is located in Higginsville, Missouri and the requested area is Section 35, Township 49 North, Range 26 West in Lafayette County, Missouri. The legal descriptions of the new area are set forth in the attached Appendices. Attached as Appendix 1 is a plat drawn to a scale of one-half inch (1/2") to the mile on maps comparable to county highway maps issued by the Missouri Department of Transportation or a plat drawn to a scale of two thousand feet (2,000') to the inch for the project.

5. The rates for the proposed area will be those approved and in effect for the customers in the adjoining Spire West operating unit certificated areas, until such rates may be changed by approved tariff or order of the Commission. At this time, Spire does not anticipate the additional customers as a result of this project. Estimated revenues and expenses for the first three years of operations for the project are shown in the feasibility study included in Appendix 2. No external financing will be required for construction related to this project.

6. Spire holds all necessary franchises and permits from municipalities, counties, or other authorities that are required for Spire to serve the subject area. Documentation providing the necessary assent for Lafayette County can be found in Appendix 3.

7. Spire's experience in the operation of natural gas systems gives it the ability to provide this service in an efficient manner. For all reasons set forth herein, a grant of the

application will further the public convenience and necessity.

8. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) provides that "(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case." No such notice was filed herein. As such, Spire seeks a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement.

9. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, Spire declares (as verified below) that they have had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10)) within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case.

WHEREFORE, Spire requests, for good cause shown, that the Commission waive the notice requirement of 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1), approve this Application, issue a CCN to Spire as set forth above and in the attached schedules, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTORNEYS FOR SPIRE MISSOURI INC.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 3rd day of February, 2020, to:

General Counsel's Office Missouri Public Service Commission staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel opcservice@opc.mo.gov

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## VERIFICATION

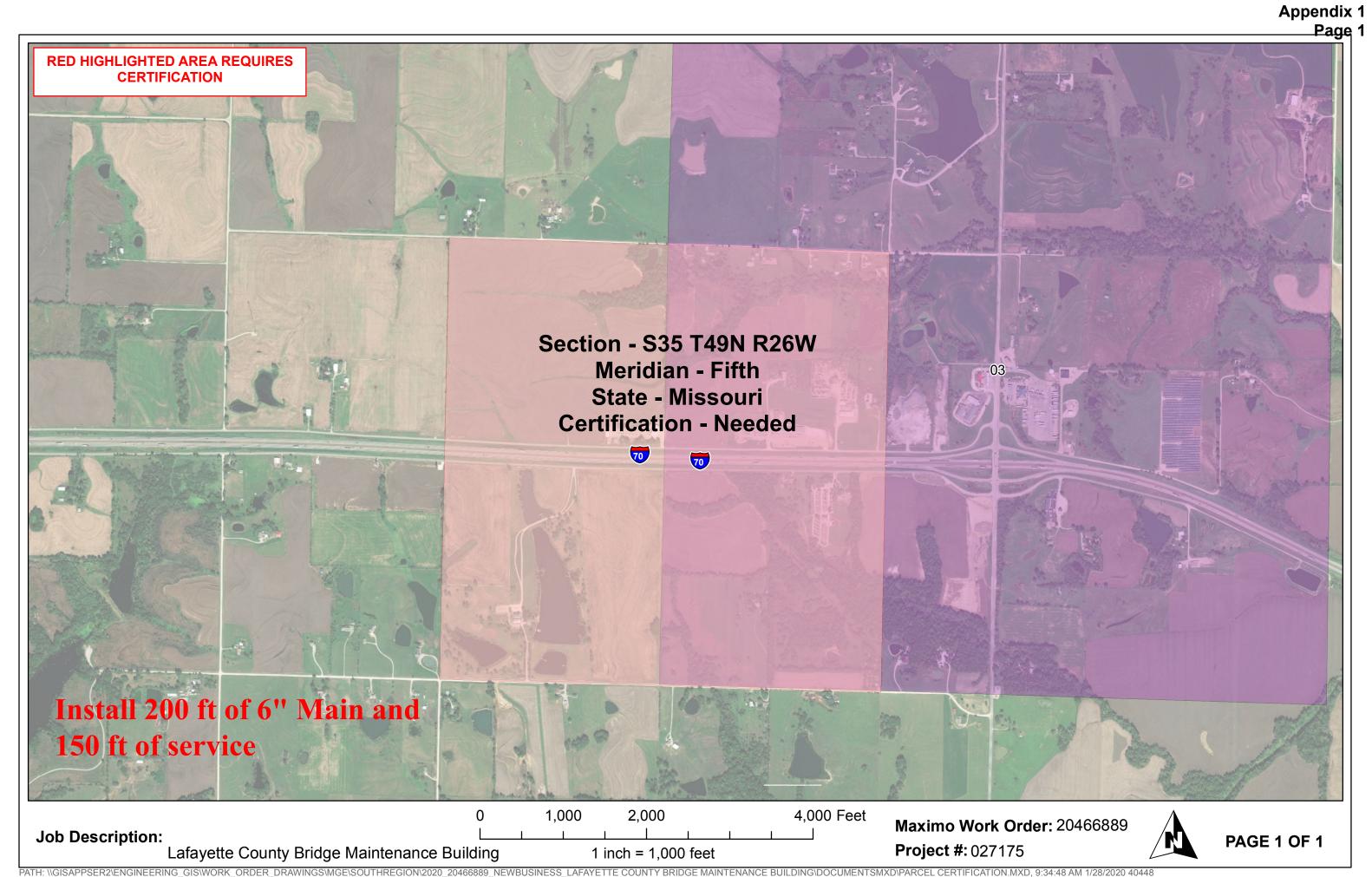
State of Missouri

) ss County of <u>St. Louin</u>) ss I, <u>Matthew</u> Apling thaving been duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am General Guald of Spire Missouri Inc. (Spire Missouri), that I am authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of Spire Missouri, and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application and appendices thereto are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Fębruary, 2020.

ebruary, 2020. Una a, Morte L

TARA A DORTCH Notary Public - Notary Seal STATE OF MISSOURI Commissioned for Saint Charles County My Commission Expires: March 9, 2023 Commission # 15633816



Appendix 2 Page 1

## APPENDIX 2 HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

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# AN ORDER GRANTING TO SPIRE MISSOURI, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AN ASSENT TO USE OF THE PUBLIC ROADS OR HIGHWAYS OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSOURI, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND RELATED FACILITIES UNDER SAID PUBLIC ROADS OR HIGHWAYS.

WHEREAS, Lafayette County (the "County") is a political subdivision duly organized and validly existing under the Constitution and laws of the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri is a Missouri corporation duly authorized to conduct business in Missouri and is engaged in the construction and operation of natural gas distribution facilities in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri intends to request and obtain a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Missouri Public Service Commission, recognizing that projects to be placed in service by the Company in Lafayette County are in the public interest and authorizing it to construct natural gas distribution facilities in Western Missouri and, specifically, in the County; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri anticipates utilizing the public roads and highways of the County as construction routes; and

WHEREAS, Spire Missouri intends to install natural gas distribution facilities under the public roads and highways of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County, acting by and through its County Commission, desires to grant to Spire Missouri its assent authorizing Spire Missouri to construct natural gas facilities under the public roads or highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. There is hereby granted to Spire Missouri, its successors and assigns, the assent of Lafayette County (the "County") pursuant to section 229.100 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri for the use of the public roads or highways of Lawrence County, Missouri, for the construction of natural gas distribution or related facilities through, on, under, and across said public roads or highways. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the assent granted herein shall not be invalidated by the subsequent repeal of section 229.100 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

<u>Section 2.</u> This order shall be in force and effect from and after its passage.

Name Anold Hollande	/ Tillefundin	Commilian 1-22-20
PASSED AND APPROVED, this	day of/	, 20

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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 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.



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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

## **MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## February 10, 2020

### File/Case No. GA-2020-0235

#### Missouri Public Service Commission

Staff Counsel Department 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov Office of the Public Counsel Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@opc.mo.gov County of Lafayette, Missouri County Commission Clerk 1001 Main St., Rm. 103 Lafayette County Courthouse Lexington, MO 64067

Missouri Public Service Commission Ron Irving 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Ron.Irving@psc.mo.gov

## Spire Matthew Aplington 700 Market Street Saint Louis, MO 63101 matt.aplington@spireenergy.com

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

Sincerely,

orris I Woodul

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

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