BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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	)	File No. GR-2025-0107
In the Company's Missouri Service Areas	)	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL
DATA REQUEST(S) 8500 - 8512

Spire Missouri Inc. ("Spire") received data request(s) 8500 - 8512 from the Office of the Public Counsel on March 18, 2025, with a due date of April 7, 2025. Spire provides the following responses to data request(s) 8500 - 8512 as follows. For convenience, Spire includes each data request followed by Spire's response.

DR 8500

At page 3, lines 10-19, of her testimony, Ms. Antrainer states: "[t]o address the Data Collection and Retention (Item 31), Spire Missouri is working towards gathering daily customer usage in a data warehouse. The daily usage currently comes from multiple types of measurement devices . . . " With regard to this statement, please identify all of the "measurement devices" that Ms. Antrainer is referring to and how each one differs from the rest. In addition, please identify what updates are needed for which measuring devices and to what measuring devices does Spire have current plans and/or expectations for device updates.

Response:

The customer usage data is collected from a Landis and Gyr billing file for AMR devices and cycle van reads for ERT devices. Rotary meters utilize an electronic corrector (index) paired to a LTE-M cellular modem. The cellular modem is expected to deliver hourly data, daily.

Missouri East is targeting a September 2025 completion date for replacement of meters or devices included in the Landis and Gyr meter reading contract. Once Missouri East has transitioned to all advanced meters or an ERT meter device, all customer usage data should be capable of being tracked in the same system.

Missouri West's diaphragm meter replacement is planned for completion by 2031, but existing meters already use ERT technology.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8501
With regard to the "measurement devices" referenced at page 3, lines 10-19, of Ms. Antrainer's testimony, are the current devices capable of being updated or is a replacement required to update? Where in the process is spire related to updates of devices?

Response:
Replacement is necessary to provide a standard data file for loading information into a data warehouse. Equipment replacement may include the entire meter, or a newer electronic reading device ("ERT device") attached to an existing meter.

Missouri East is targeting a September 2025 completion date for replacement of meters or installation of devices affected by the expiration of the Landis and Gyr meter reading contract. Once Missouri East has fully transitioned to ultrasonic meters or a compatible ERT meter device, all customer usage data will be capable of being tracked in the same system.

Missouri West's diaphragm meter replacement is planned for completion by 2031.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8502
Please provide a detailed list of the of not "used and useful" assets that that were identified and retired in the Company's internal audit as discussed on page 3 ln. 20 through page 4 line 3 of Ms. Antrainer's testimony. For each item or item type, please provide information on the number of assets retired by district and by account.

Response:
Please see the files provided for retirements identified by each department resource.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8503
What is the negative reserve balance for meters on Spire MO East and Spire MO West As of 12/31/2024. Please update this information as quarterly information becomes available.

Response:
The reserve balances related to small diaphragm meter cost is $338,727.19 for Missouri East and ($1,225,448.42) for Missouri West as of 12/31/24.

The reserve balance for plant account 381000-meter cost is $1,741,778.26 for Missouri East and ($2,446,795.79) for Missouri West as of 12/31/24.

Please see the file submitted with this response for additional information.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8504
What is the negative reserve balance for meter installations on Spire MO East and Spire MO West As of 12/31/2024. Please update this information as quarterly information becomes available.

Response:
The reserve balances related to small diaphragm meter installation cost is ($522,368.72) for Missouri East and $49,326,350.32 for Missouri West as of 12/31/24.

The reserve balance for plant account 381000-meter installation cost is ($305,724.96) for Missouri East and 382000-meter installation cost is $49,860,894.93 for Missouri West as of 12/31/24.

Please see the file submitted with this response for additional information.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8505
What are the current number of non-ultrasonic or non-AMI meters that the Company still intends to transition to AMI meters for both Spire Mo East and Spire Mo West.

Response:
Spire Mo East
There are 89,570 active meters that are targeted for replacement with advanced meters. There are an additional 24,762 active meters that are targeted for a module installation that will be subsequently replaced as the meter reaches the sample eligible age of 10 years. Any inactive meters will be replaced at the time a customer requests a start service.

Spire Mo West
As of March 31, 2025, 257,890 active meters remain to be replaced. Any inactive meter will be replaced at the time a customer requests a start service.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8506

Since the implementation of AMI, how many times per year has the Company had a meter trigger an automated shutoff due to increased flow rates for the last three years.

Response:

The intelis meters are being read in driveby mode. Without network data it is not possible to track the number of times that the automated shutoff valve is activated. Spire is currently developing an app that will require a technician to report when a meter is locked and provide information that will help track the number of activations and the reasons why. We do see meters that have the auto-shutoff triggered and we know anecdotally that there are a number of reasons why. This effort is designed specifically to allow us to track this more effectively until the network is established.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8507

Since the implementation of AMI, how many times per year has the Company had a meter trigger an automated shutoff due to elevated temperatures for the last three years.

Response:

The advanced meters are still being read in drive-by mode as the network is still not activated. Without the network activated, the Company does not receive trackable data to determine the number of times the automated shutoff valve has been triggered. The Company has reviewed instances of known fires at active service addresses and the valve has triggered.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8508

Is the meter replacement process discussed at the bottom of page 7 of Ms. Antrainer's direct testimony being performed for both Spire Mo West and Spire Mo East or is it only in one district? Please provide a detailed description of where this process is occurring and at what rate it is occurring broken down for each district. In addition, for each district please indicate whether the electronic meter reading devices currently affixed to Spire's existing diaphragm meters have their own account and whether the Company believes the electronic meter reading devices are reaching the end of their natural life span or if they are being replaced prior to that point due to the Company's retirement of the underlying meter.

Response:

The replacement process described in testimony is occurring at both Missouri East and Missouri West. While Missouri East's replacement program is focused on replacing all meters or meter reading devices due to the Landis and Gyr contract expiration, Missouri West continues to replace meters when at a customer's premise to complete other work or if meter testing is required based on the meter sampling process.

Electronic meter reading devices are charged to a different plant account than the meter the device is attached.

The Missouri East AMR devices are at the end of the defined service life.

The Missouri West ERT devices include multiple generations of technology. The older generation technology is at the end of its life, but the newer generation still has service life remaining.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8509
To what account are the electronic meter reading devices currently affixed to Spire's existing diaphragm meters being booked and at what depreciation rate? In answering this question, please identify if there Is a different account for Spire Mo. East and Spire Mo. West.

Response:
Electronic reading devices are included in the plant account 397000 for Missouri East with a current depreciation rate of 5.81%.

Missouri East's one time AMR device purchase from Landis and Gyr in 2017 are included in a separate plant account 397100 which has a depreciation rate of 13.33%.

Electronic reading devices are included in the plant account 397100 for Missouri West with a current depreciation rate of 5.67%.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8510
What is the current balance and what has Spire projected the final balances to be for its existing Meters and Meter installations accounts?

Response:
Please see the response to DR 8503 and 8504 for the meter and meter installation account balances as of 12/31/24. The projected final balance has not changed since Spire's filing position.

The Company will provide updated true up projections with the 3/31/25 quarterly update as a large number of meters were retired in March 2025. Spire plans to submit this data after the financial books are closed for the month of March.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8511
What is the regulatory balance for meters and meter installations charges separately?

Response:
For Missouri East and West, the plant account balances for meters are included in the DR 8503 response.

For Missouri East and West, the plant account balances for meter installations are included in the DR 8504 response.

Currently, the Company does not have any regulatory asset or liability account balances related to the meter or meter installation costs.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer

DR 8512

Does Spire believe there Is there a need to accelerate the replacements of existing diaphragm meters in Spire Mo West in the same or in a similar manner to what was experienced in Spire MO East. Please provide Spire's justifications for its answer.

Response:

No. Spire Missouri West will continue to utilize an accelerated sample testing methodology that targets the aging diaphragm meter population that are still in service. This region is able to use the new technology on the existing drive-by meter reading technology and does not have the pressure to convert meters off an aged, obsolete network system that created the urgency in Spire Missouri East to complete replacements by a specific date.

Signed by: Michelle Antrainer