Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025 Page 1 1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI 2 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 3 LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING 4 In the Matter of Spire) Missouri, Inc. d/b/a) Spire's Request for 5) Authority to Implement a File No.) б General Rate Increase for GR-2025-0107) Natural Gas Service Provided in the Company's 7) Missouri Service Areas.) 8 9 10 11 12 TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 12:00 p.m. 13 Jefferson City, MO 14 via WebEx 15 VOLUME 3 16 17 RILEY FEWELL, Presiding 18 REGULATORY LAW JUDGE KAYLA HAHN, Chair, 19 MAIDA J. COLEMAN, 20 GLEN KOLKMEYER, JOHN MITCHELL, 21 COMMISSIONERS 2.2 23 Reported By: Jill A. Bleskey, RPR 24 Illinois CSR #084-004430 Missouri CCR #1467 25



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Page 3 1 APPEARANCES 2 Appearing for the Spire Energy, via WebEx: 3 Mr. Antonio Arias Ms. Vernita Rogers 4 SPIRE ENERGY 700 Market Street, 6th Floor 5 St. Louis, Missouri 63101 antonio.arias@spireenergy.com 6 Appearing for the Missouri Public Service Commission 7 Staff, via WebEx: 8 Ms. Alexandra Klaus MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 9 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 10 573.751.9533 lexi.klaus@psc.mo.gov 11 Appearing for the Missouri Office of the Public Counsel, via WebEx: 12 13 Mr. John Clizer MISSOURI OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL 14 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 15 573.751.5324 john.klizer@opc.mo.gov 16 Court Reporter, via WebEx: 17 Jill A. Bleskey, RPR 18 Illinois CSR #084-004430 Missouri CCR #1467 19 Lexitas Legal Midwest 1608 Locust Street Kansas City, Missouri 64108 20 816.221.1160 21 1.800.280.3376 2.2 23 24 25



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 4
2	(Starting time of hearing: 1:41 p.m.)
3	* * * * *
4	JUDGE FEWELL: It's June 3rd and the
5	current time is 1:41 p.m. The Missouri Public
6	Service Commission has set this time for a local
7	public hearing to give members of the public a chance
8	to comment about the application in File Number
9	GR-2025-0107 which is captioned as In the Matter of
10	Spire Missouri, Incorporated doing business as Spire.
11	Request for authority to implement a general rate
12	increase for natural gas service provided in the
13	company's Missouri service areas.
14	Missouri Public Service Commission
15	regulates investor owned utility companies in
16	Missouri and ensures that the rates are just and
17	reasonable. The Commission also regulates the
18	quality of service and safety of the operation of
19	investor owned utilities. The Commission is made up
20	of five commissioners however there are currently
21	only four, Chair Kayla Hahn, Commissioners Maida
22	Coleman, Glen Kolkmeyer, and John Mitchell. The
23	commissioners are appointed by the governor to fixed
24	terms and then affirmed by the senate. They employ a
25	staff of engineers, accountants, attorneys, financial



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 5 analysts and other specialists in the field of
2	utility regulation. With me today on the line are
3	all four commissioners, Chair Hahn, Commissioners
4	Coleman, Kolkmeyer, and Mitchell. Commissioners, if
5	you have any questions at anytime please feel free to
6	interrupt me and ask them.
7	My name is Riley Fewell, I'm the
8	regulatory law judge presiding over this hearing.
9	This is an official hearing of the Missouri Public
10	Service Commission and the statements and testimony
11	of witnesses will be recorded by the trans the
12	court reporter and must be given under oath or
13	affirmation. The Commission has not made a decision
14	in this case and neither the commissioners nor myself
15	can answer any questions about the issues of the case
16	today because the Commission must remain impartial
17	until after all the evidence is presented.
18	As we want to provide all attendees an
19	adequate opportunity to speak today we will limit the
20	time for testimony to only three minutes. I would
21	ask that everyone remain muted unless you are
22	directed to speak so that everyone can be heard and
23	understood for the court reporter. If you are on a
24	phone it is Star 6 to mute and unmute yourself.
25	Otherwise there's a mute button if you're online

Page 6

1	otherwise.

2	If you or someone you know would like to
3	make additional comments there's a comment tab that
4	can be reached via the Commission's website PSC dot
5	Mo dot Gov. On the right side of the home page
6	there's a link titled submit comments. Click on that
7	link to submit your comments and make sure that you
8	are referencing this case number GR-2025-0107. There
9	will also be also other local public hearings.
10	Tonight at six p.m. is another virtual local public
11	hearing. There will also be three other local public
12	hearings in person, the first tomorrow at St. Joseph
13	at noon then Kansas City at six p.m. and one final on
14	Thursday at six p.m. in Joplin.
15	If you or anyone you know would like to
16	attend any of those other local public hearings

17 please let Staff or OPC know before you log out today 18 to get further details. The court reporter is 19 transcribing this hearing so that the Commission may 20 review and read the comments that are provided today.

21 Chair Hahn, would you like to make any 22 opening comments? 23 CHAIR HAHN: Happy to. Thanks Judge 24 Fewell, appreciate it. Thank you all for joining. 25 On behalf of myself and the entire Commission on the



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page7 call today we want to welcome you to this local
2	public hearing. We really value public input in
3	cases like this and are thankful that you took time
4	out of your day. I know it's the middle of the
5	afternoon and a lot of folks are trying to get things
6	done throughout the day and you're sacrificing your
7	time to help us be better informed in this case. And
8	so just know that we consider all the feedback that's
9	given in the case and that we will make sure that we
10	take that into consideration in any decision that's
11	made in the future.
12	Again, just welcome and thank you for
13	participating.
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Chair. If we
15	could have the parties enter their appearances,
16	beginning with Spire.
17	MR. ARIAS: Good afternoon, your Honor.
18	Antonio Arias on behalf of Spire.
19	JUDGE FEWELL: For the Staff of the
20	Commission.
21	MS. KLAUSE: Good afternoon. Alexandra
22	Klaus on behalf of Staff. My information is with the
23	hearing reporter.
24	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. For the Office
25	of the Public Counsel.



	Transcript of Proceedings Jule 03, 2023
1	Page 8 MR. CLIZER: John Clizer on behalf of
2	Office of the Public Counsel. Thank you.
3	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. For those who
4	would like to provide comments today I'm going to go
5	through the list provided in the order that they
6	appear. When I call your name please unmute
7	yourself. I will then place you under oath and ask
8	that you state and spell your name for the record and
9	you can offer your comments to the Commission. As I
10	said before, we are limiting comments to three
11	minutes so that everyone has an adequate chance to
12	give their comments and be heard. Please remain
13	available after remarks until you've been excused
14	because the Commission may have some questions to ask
15	you and the attorneys present may as well and they
16	can let me know at that time.
17	If we can begin with Reverend Kevin Kosh.
18	If you're appearing by phone if you can use Star 6 to
19	unmute yourself. Okay. I think you're ready now.
20	Can you raise your right hand.
21	* * * * *
22	REVEREND KEVIN KOSCH,
23	The witness, having been first duly sworn
24	upon his oath, testified as follows:
25	* * * * *



	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 05, 2025
1	Page9 JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
2	REVEREND KOSH: Yes. My name is Reverend
3	Kevin Kosh, I'm the pastor of the Beloved Community
4	United Methodist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. I
5	come representing our seniors, our young adults, as
6	well as the church. I come in opposition to the rate
7	increase based upon the fact that Spire has a net
8	increase or a \$118 million profit margin. I also
9	come in opposition because living in the St. Louis
10	metropolitan area I recognize, and I'm sure pray
11	earnestly for all of our citizens that have been
12	victimized and we know many of them through the
13	tornadoes and I'm sure and what I do want to say
14	to Aspire is thank you for the work that you have
15	done. But I believe that given the weather pattern
16	changes that Spire needs to have a long range plan
17	over the next 10 to 20 years based upon these
18	patterns as far as the weather is concerned and I
19	think a rate increase at this time is totally
20	inappropriate.
21	I come representing those older people and
22	those young people who are on fixed incomes in our
23	church. Which minimal income is around 42,000 a year
24	who cannot afford another increase. And I believe
25	Spire has those who are lobbyists and operate at

	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 10 political level and I feel within the next five, ten
2	years based upon their lobbying efforts these public
3	hearings will be mute and of no effect simply because
4	they will have used their political arm to basically
5	mute what we say as the public. So again, I oppose
6	the increase at this time.
7	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
8	comments, sir. Ms. Ollie Stewart.
9	* * * * *
10	OLLIE STEWART,
11	The witness, having been first duly sworn
12	upon her oath, testified as follows:
13	* * * * *
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
15	spell your name for the record.
16	MS. STEWART: Yes. My name is Ollie
17	Stewart, O-L-L-I-E, S-T-E-W-A-R-T.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
19	MS. STEWART: Well, I'm here to represent
20	the senior citizens. I've been working with seniors
21	since '72 when the income was old age assistance all
22	the way up to SSI. And you know many of the 1,900
23	seniors do not have high income so the way that you
24	are most of them are on SSI social security and
25	SSI so they will not be able to pay the high costs



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 11 and then the next generation going to be the baby
2	boomers. I want to know what provisions you are
3	making for the generation for our generation of
4	elderly. Number one, they not going to get a \$14
5	raise on their check, not for the whole year not
6	only month but for the whole year. And they every
7	senior is going to the doctor, have medication, other
8	bills to pay. So I'm just wondering what
9	consideration are you taking for the 1,900 seniors
10	who we are serving now that have low paying jobs and
11	very limited income.
12	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
13	comments, ma'am.
14	MS. STEWART: Thank you.
15	JUDGE FEWELL: Rubina Patton.
16	MS. PATTON: Yes.
17	JUDGE FEWELL: I apologize if I
18	mispronounce your name.
19	* * * * *
20	RUBINA PATTON,
21	The witness, having been first duly sworn
22	upon her oath, testified as follows:
23	* * * * *
24	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
25	spell your name for the record?



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 12 MS. PATTON: Rubina, R-U-B-I-N-A, Patton,
2	P-A-T-T-O-N.
3	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
4	the Commission?
5	MS. PATTON: What I like to tell the
6	Commission is this. I'm 80 some years old, living on
7	a fixed income of somewhere around \$12,000 a year
8	needing help with light, gas, telephone, water, MSD,
9	and all of the above. Having lost my husband that's
10	what left me with the income of the 12,00 a year. I
11	can't make it. My home taxes in itself is 5,000 so
12	that's half of my, give or take, 10 or 12.
13	I'll get to the bottom line. Maybe you
14	people can understand how the richer get richer and
15	the poorer get poorer. Well, some of the richer
16	needs to give more back since all of the poor people
17	are the ones that made them rich in the begin. Do
18	you think it would be possible for the lower class
19	and the poor minorities not having gas period, just
20	cut it out, come into our homes and being no
21	electric. Otherwise you keep running you keep
22	raising it. Trump done cut you all's assistance, cut
23	us out already so I don't see how we're going to
24	afford it.
25	So in '25 we're going to freeze this



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 13 winter. Black people cannot function on 60 degrees,
2	we cannot live in a house on 55, that's why your
3	seniors is killing themselves in the summer with no
4	electric, air condition and in the winter putting
5	stoves and gas and we just can't do it. It's just
6	a shame that in 19 in 2025 this is as far as we've
7	come as a United States. It's sad. Thank you.
8	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
9	comments, ma'am. Darrick Carter.
10	* * * * *
11	DARRICK CARTER,
12	The witness, having been first duly sworn
13	upon his oath, testified as follows:
14	* * * * *
15	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
16	spell your name for the record?
17	MR. CARTER: Yes. My name is Darrick
18	Carter. That's spelled D-A-R-R-I-C-K, last name
19	C-A-R-T-E-R.
20	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
21	the Commission?
22	MR. CARTER: Yes. Like most of the
23	elderly that spoke before me and the pastor, you
24	know, I'm in total agreement that an increase right
25	now would highly affect the elderly and those that



ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 14 are dealing with a lot of low income housing, things
2	of that effect. You know, I don't think that it's
3	fair that you have to make a choice of staying warm
4	or buying food, buying clothing, your basic
5	necessities based on you can't stay warm because the
6	price of increased heat. So again, I'm in agreement
7	with not having the increase available like that.
8	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
9	comments, sir. Renee Porter. I can circle back to
10	her. Hans Moore.
11	* * * * *
12	HANS MOORE,
13	The witness, having been first duly sworn
14	upon his oath, testified as follows:
15	* * * * *
16	JUDGE FEWELL: You can proceed.
17	MR. MOORE: My name is Hans Moore, I am a
18	lifelong St. Louis resident and current Spire
19	customer. I am here today to voice my concern about
20	the proposed rate increase and I appreciate the
21	opportunity to do. Aside from the burden that would
22	be shouldered by already struggling St. Louis
23	residents with this proposed rate increase I would
24	like to say that this increase is unnecessary based
25	on Spire's own reasoning.



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1	Page 15 According to their website Spire wishes to
2	increase rates due to increased inflation. If we
3	look at the financials we should see that this should
4	not be a problem for them. All of the financial
5	figures I'm going to present are from the 2024 proxy
6	statement which was created for the annual Spire
7	shareholders meeting in January of this year.
8	According to this document Spire's net income,
9	adjusted earnings, earnings per shares and earnings
10	earned per common share all increased fiscal year
11	2023 to fiscal year 2024. Specifically their net
12	income increased 15 percent from \$217.5 million to
13	\$250.9 million. As a reminder, net income is
14	calculated by subtracting costs, allowances, and
15	taxes from their initial income and revenue. This
16	number alone shows that Spire has made more money
17	since 2022 in spite of inflation. If we look at the
18	salaries of Spire's executives we see a similar
19	pattern. In 2024 the president and CEO made
20	\$2.9 million in direct compensation which is a 41
21	percent increase since 2023. And I am aware that the
22	president and CEO has since left.
23	The average direct compensation for the
24	top five executive officers in 2024 was
25	\$1.57 million. Three of these officers received



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1	increases in their compensation from 2023 to 2024 and
2	the other two are new officer hires. For St. Louis
3	city residents the median household income as of 2023
4	was only \$55,279 according to the United States
5	census. This is a mere five percent increase from
6	the median income of 2022 of \$52,278.
7	Spire's profits have far outpaced St.
8	Louis's residential income and St. Louis residents
9	should not be faced with higher rates. It is obvious
10	to me that Spire has no need to increase the customer
11	cost due to inflation or otherwise.
12	I consider myself lucky. Although I live
13	roughly paycheck to paycheck I have been able to
14	avoid falling behind in paying bills. However this
15	is only due to help I have received from my family.
16	If I did not have the privilege of relatives who are
17	able to help out I would likely be at risk of
18	eviction and facing housing insecurity. A rate
19	increase could potentially topple the delicate
20	financial balance I currently have. Again, I
21	consider myself one of the lucky ones. Not every St.
22	Louis resident has family they can rely on
23	financially like I do and increasing the rate of any
24	utility is inconsiderate of our most vulnerable

25

communities in this city. Do not increase the rates



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1	Page 17 consumers will have to pay. It is unnecessary and
2	irresponsible to the people it will affect. Thank
3	you for your time.
4	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
5	comments, sir. Renee Porter, I think I saw you stand
6	up. I'm sorry I missed you. You're muted again, the
7	church is. There we go.
8	* * * * *
9	RENEE PORTER,
10	The witness, having been first duly sworn
11	upon her oath, testified as follows:
12	* * * * *
13	MS. PORTER: The whole truth, yes.
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. Can you please
15	state and spell your name for the record?
16	MS. PORTER: Yes. Renee, R-E-N-E-E. Last
17	name Porter, P-O-R-T-E-R.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
19	MS. PORTER: Yes. My point today is the
20	times that we going through right now in the city of
21	St. Louis and all around us I feel like a rate hike
22	at this time will be inappropriate for all. I have a
23	mother 93 years old, been in a home for 58 years,
24	she's struggling with medical issues and to raise the
25	gas up at this time on a fixed income for her and

	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 18 everyone else around us would be a bad situation at
2	this time. So we need to think about others instead
3	of thinking about your pockets nowadays. We need to
4	think about the people around us. That's my point.
5	I have not too much to say but this. We need to try
6	to do better. Thank you.
7	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
8	comments, ma'am. Judith Pruitt.
9	* * * * *
10	JUDITH PRUITT,
11	The witness, having been first duly sworn
12	upon her oath, testified as follows:
13	* * * * *
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
15	spell your name for the record?
16	MS. PRUITT: Judith, J-U-D-I-T-H, Pruitt,
17	P-R-U-I-T-T.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. What would you
19	like to tell the Commission?
20	MS. PRUITT: I would like to tell the
21	Commission that this city is in bad shape as far as
22	this is my home and I've what I've seen is just
23	unbelievable with this tornado and what I've been
24	around looking at the neighbors and there's some
25	things that need to be done for the seniors and for



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 19 everybody and the people in the county that got hit
2	in the other lines. So what you need to do is fix it
3	so that the bills that they owe there should be some
4	compensation where they should not have to pay a bill
5	or they should be spread out. Because I know
6	first of all, some people are not even getting mail.
7	But in the meantime we need some help with, you know,
8	that. And what I want to know is what have you
9	all decided what are you doing to get ahead of this
10	situation?
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
12	comments, ma'am.
13	MS. PRUITT: I'm sorry?
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Did you have any other
15	comments?
16	MS. PRUITT: Yes. Yes, I have one other
17	comment and I'd appreciate I'd appreciate it if we
18	could have some numbers, telephone numbers as to how
19	we could reconcile some of the problems that they
20	having with they gas because people can't afford to
21	have a bill that's way out of line and, you know,
22	they don't even know why. So that needs to be
23	reconciled. As far as raising the rates, I think
24	this is a terrible time to even think about that.
25	Thank you.



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1	Page 20 JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
2	comments, ma'am. Aaron Johnson. Please raise your
3	right hand. I believe you.
4	* * * * *
5	AARON JOHNSON,
6	The witness, having been first duly sworn
7	upon his oath, testified as follows:
8	* * * * *
9	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
10	MR. JOHNSON: I'm on a fixed income and
11	I'm 100 percent disabled. I'm here by the grace of
12	God, still living. But as far as the issues at hand,
13	as far as Spire requesting an increase, I humbly
14	request that be denied. As a lot of other people
15	have said before me and we've discussed previous in
16	the question and answer, there's a lot of questions
17	not being answered because of unpreparation, there's
18	a lot of a lot of things that people are very
19	upset about and there comes a point in time where
20	people just can't afford it. And some of those
21	people on the south side have mentioned because of
22	exigent circumstances, like a tornado or something
23	happens that's when the Public Service Commission
24	should sit there and step in and give them a little
25	bump or something like that if there's an emergency



	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 03, 202
1	Page 21 or something like that. We can't sit there and say,
2	hey, we're in a state of emergency, can't afford it.
3	What's going to happen, you're going to get a
4	disconnect notice and then you can't even get
5	anything done because you can't switch to a different
б	provider because they're the only provider. So our
7	hands are locked, all we can do is plead, that's it.
8	It's not fair to us.
9	And so I think, and this is just my
10	opinion, that some things should be nonprofit,
11	especially when they're a monopoly, until they get
12	that opportunity to choose and make it a petition.
13	Otherwise we're just sitting there pulling money out
14	of our pockets to sit there and line their pockets
15	when we're suffering ourselves. I can't sit there
16	and ask for more money. Like the one lady said
17	earlier from the church, she only has like \$12,000 a
18	year and her house is 5,000 just in taxes. What's
19	wrong with this world? So asking when you have a
20	for profit company, Spire, and you're making all
21	these adjustments. You just asked for an increase
22	three years ago, what happened to all the profits
23	that you put back into the you know, since then.
24	I just plain and simple, I disagree with giving
25	them an increase. It's not right at the time. And



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1	Page 22 I'm done.
2	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
3	comments, sir. Susan Suzanne Chizum. Star 6 if
4	you're on the phone to unmute. Is there a Suzanne
5	Chizum? Is that are you there? Sorry.
6	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: This is
7	Commissioner Coleman. Just a request that you remind
8	our people who are calling in to Star 6.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Okay. It's Star 6 to
10	unmute. I can circle I'll circle back to Ms.
11	Chizum. Elyse Dianne Schafer. It is Star 6 to
12	unmute your phone if you're by phone or there's a
13	mute button if you're appearing on WebEx. Circle
14	back for her as well. Regina Sanguinette. Star 6 to
15	unmute.
16	MS. SANGUINETTE: Hello, I'm here.
17	JUDGE FEWELL: Okay.
18	MS. SANGUINETTE: Here we go.
19	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please raise your
20	right hand.
21	* * * * *
22	REGINA SANGUINETTE,
23	The witness, having been first duly sworn
24	upon her oath, testified as follows:
25	* * * * *



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 23 MS. SANGUINETTE: I do.
2	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
3	the Commission?
4	MS. SANGUINETTE: Good afternoon,
5	Commissioners. My name is Regina Sanguinette and I'm
6	here to speak on behalf of the elderly and disabled
7	residents in opposition to Spire's proposed rate
8	increased. Many of our vulnerable neighbors live on
9	fixed incomes, a combination of Social Security
10	disability benefits or modest retirement savings.
11	These are not incomes that grow with inflation or
12	adjust easily to unexpected expenses. A rate
13	increase in natural gas service would hit them
14	especially hard forcing impossible choices between
15	heating their homes, buying medication or putting
16	food on the table.
17	According to Spire's 2024 proxy statement
18	filed with the SEC the 11 non-employee directors
19	received \$2,183,242 in the form of cash retainers,
20	stock awards and deferred compensation earnings but
21	Spire thinks it's okay to expect customers aged 65

and over with a median income of \$37,988 or a 22

24

- disabled adult receiving SSI and social security 23
- tighten their belts when the director's base pay 25

disability with a median annual income of \$23,084 to

	Transcript of Proceedings Jule 03, 2023
1	Page 24 starts at about \$220,000 a year.
2	For elderly and disabled individuals
3	access to safe and affordable heating is not a luxury
4	it's a necessity. Increasing rates during times of
5	economic uncertainty it threatens their health,
6	safety, and dignity. I urge the Commission to reject
7	this proposal and protect those who are the least
8	able to absorb these additional costs. Utility
9	services should be dependable and fair not a source
10	of anxiety or hardship for those who need stability
11	the most. Thank you for your time and consideration.
12	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
13	comments, ma'am. Helena Smith. It's Star 6 to
14	unmute.
15	MS. SMITH: Yes. Good afternoon and thank
16	you all for allowing us to share
17	JUDGE FEWELL: Ma'am, I'd like to swear
18	you in first.
19	MS. SMITH: our concerns. Okay.
20	Sorry.
21	JUDGE FEWELL: Please raise your right
22	hand.
23	* * * * *
24	HELENA SMITH,
25	The witness, having been first duly sworn



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 25 upon her oath, testified as follows:
2	* * * * *
3	MS. SMITH: Yes.
4	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
5	spell your name for the record?
б	MS. SMITH: Helena, H-E-L-E-N-A, Smith,
7	S-M-I-T-H.
8	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
9	the Commission?
10	MS. SMITH: First I would like to say that
11	Spire is only one of the utilities that are used by
12	customers and from what I understand based on the
13	notice it says in this rate request Spire Missouri
14	proposes recovery of infrastructure investments,
15	inflationary costs since this last case, increased
16	costs of services and weather and conservation
17	impact. So that means that from what I've understood
18	that these are recovery of infrastructure investment.
19	So I'm concerned about what year the actual
20	investments were done and if these are prior years
21	then what do we anticipate for this current year and
22	moving forward.
23	So I would also like to find out who
24	exactly are we paying these investments back to and
25	give us an exact figure as to how much these funds

	June 03, 2025
1	Page 26 are actually being provided to whomever this
2	investment is going back to. So what is it in this
3	that actually is a benefit and to whom and how much?
4	And it says that the bill will impact
5	the bill's impact will vary based on the customer's
6	gas usage. So if I hear that that means that that
7	\$14 that's being proposed could just be an average
8	cost of increase per month. And so if it's an
9	average that means that it's not going to be definite
10	\$14 for every customer. So if that's correct then I
11	kind of misread something in here that showed \$14 per
12	month.
13	And finally, in considering our seniors.
14	I know that we have income eligible programs and I
15	know that the 2025 SSA COLA, cost of living
16	adjustment, was 2.5 percent. So if you're looking at
17	somebody that's at 1,500 social security per month
18	that's \$37.50 for 2025 COLA. So if they got \$37.50
19	for an increase in their COLA, in their social
20	security, you're now asking \$14 of that so that
21	leaves them \$23.50. So \$23.50, considering Spire is
22	only one utility, who's coming next, who's going to
23	want a piece of that 23.50 that's left.
24	So I'm totally against this increase and
25	what I would really, really, really like is to be



ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 27 assured today that the seniors that are on SSA, on
2	social security, will not bear this increase.
3	There's enough to go around besides impacting those
4	who have already been adversely impacted from
5	everything else. Thank you.
6	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
7	comments, ma'am. Claire Mueller.
8	MS. MUELLER: Hi.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Please raise your right
10	hand.
11	* * * * *
12	CLAIRE MUELLER,
13	The witness, having been first duly sworn
14	upon her oath, testified as follows:
15	* * * * *
16	MS. MUELLER: I do.
17	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
18	spell your name for the record?
19	MS. MUELLER: Claire Mueller, C-L-A-I-R-E,
20	M-U-E-L-E-R.
21	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
22	MS. MUELLER: Thank you. I'm a private
23	citizen, all views are my own. I just want to recap
24	what we a few things from the Q & A as I frankly
25	don't think these meetings are set up extremely



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Page 28

	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 20
1	Page 28 accessibly so, you know, there's a training that
2	people have to go through for these processes,
3	they're four hours long which is a privilege to be
4	able to sit through it, they're not necessarily well
5	publicized.
6	So just to recap from that beginning
7	portion we keep referring to I'm sorry, Spire
8	keeps referring to natural gas, we're talking about
9	fossil fuels here. I'm an ex-ad person, this is just
10	blatant brainwashing, this is something that is just
11	made to seem like this is a natural source.
12	Also, there was a very big lack of
13	preparation in the Q & A portion, there were many
14	financial questions that were asked that were skirted
15	around namely one of them being had Spire ever been
16	denied an increase and the team said that they had
17	never received a hundred percent of what they had
18	asked for which was not the question. So there have
19	been several comments about the lack of preparation,
20	just wanted to bring that up.
21	And then there was also a note on these
22	hearings. Someone asked what we have to do to
23	present to the PSC that we are unable to afford these
24	changes. We've seen this just happen with the Ameren
25	case. So just kind of wanted to set the stage for

	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 05, 2025
1	Page 29 this previous information a little bit.
2	But my main comments circulated around is
3	that it is expensive to exist as a low income person
4	in modern society. People are choosing between
5	medications and utilities, groceries and utilities.
6	This is not acceptable. I don't know how people can
7	sleep at night knowing that this is what is
8	happening. Particularly as many prepared people on
9	this call have noted when you look at the numbers
10	this just does not make sense. I don't know anyone
11	who's gotten a 12 percent 12 to 15 percent
12	increase on their income within the past I don't
13	know, ever, that's just not realistic and actually
14	utility bill payments are up six percent this January
15	from a year earlier which is compared to an
16	approximate 2.5 percent inflation rate. So the math
17	is just not mathing, this is not helpful for anyone.
18	We've just been devastated by a tornado so
19	I'm hoping that in addition to things like this
20	increased utilities, particularly Spire are
21	considering a moratorium on disconnections on people
22	who are already suffering outside of things that have
23	happened like these natural disasters. As many
24	people have previously mentioned we are all, everyone
25	on this call, regardless of income, one, you know,

	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 30 incident away from being in a situation where we are
2	not able to pay our bills. This is not acceptable
3	and I think very clearly by the representation today
4	there's not been much financial preparation which
5	doesn't necessarily beget a good view of how things
6	are going behind the scenes there so maybe that
7	should be looked into.
8	But I think that's the whole of what I'm
9	saying this is just already something that should be
10	being phased out, having fossil fuels as part of or
11	energy so why we're paying more for things that are
12	actively unhealthy and seemingly mismanaged is beyond
13	me. Thank you.
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
15	comments. Jenn DeRose. It is Star 6 to unmute
16	yourself.
17	MS. DeROSE: Hello.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Hello. Can you please
19	raise your right hand.
20	* * * * *
21	JENN DEROSE,
22	The witness, having been first duly sworn
23	upon her oath, testified as follows:
24	* * * * *
25	MS. DeROSE: I do.



ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 31 JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
2	spell your name for the record?
3	MS. DeROSE: It's Jenn DeRose, J-E-N-N,
4	D-E, capital R-O-S-E.
5	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
6	the Commission?
7	MS. DeROSE: Yeah. I want to say first
8	that I agree with and appreciate all the previous
9	speakers who question the real financial need for
10	this company to have yet another rate increase. I
11	also agree with the previous speaker's environmental
12	concerns and concerns about logistics of these
13	hearings. Relatedly, I'd like to once again this
14	is not my first time mentioning this but I'd like to
15	suggest that the Q & A portion of these sessions
16	should be moved to the end of the public hearings
17	'cause like working people cannot show up and wait
18	for two hours to be heard by the Commission, it's
19	just inherently, well disrespectful for one and
20	unaccessible for another. So that's my first
21	comment. I know you all work really hard on these so
22	I don't mean to come off as ungrateful or rude, I
23	appreciate having these opportunities but it is
24	really a problem that you have to wait two hours to
25	get on the record. But back to the rate case.

	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 32 I suggest that the Commission use extreme
2	scrutiny as they review this rate increase request
3	and that's because we know that Spire behaves
4	unethically to get what it wants and what it wants is
5	profits. Spire has a really long history of
6	unethical behavior. In 2021 for example this
7	regulatory body the PSC had to instruct Spire to
8	adjust its untruthful and intentionally fear
9	mongering language to its customers which was pretty
10	unprecedented and wild and I really appreciated that
11	move from this Commission. This is just another
12	desperate money grab from a company that profits from
13	catastrophic climate change, causes indoor poor air
14	quality and destroys city streets.
15	Those on a fixed income need this
16	regulatory body to protect them from the onslaught of
17	rate increases like a parade one after one after
18	another. I'm so worried about the future for our
19	seniors, veterans, those on disability and other low
20	income groups who cannot handle another increase.
21	I'm worried about a waive of disconnections,
22	evictions and other life threatening consequences of
23	yet another rate increase. I'm worried about
24	dangerous strategies like skipping medications that

- 25 | people use to pay their bills. Fixed income



	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 05, 2025
1	Page 33 residents don't deserve to be bled dry and this
2	Commission is very literally their last line of
3	defense.
4	And this is unrelated, I mentioned the
5	city streets but just to like, you know, continue the
6	thread of Spire's a terrible community partner. What
7	they've done to St. Louis city streets is
8	unconscionable and anybody who's driven here will
9	tell you it is wild how poorly this company treats
10	its customers. So that's all I have to say today.
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
12	comments, ma'am. David Clayton. Star 6 if you're by
13	phone.
14	MR. CLAYTON: Yeah.
15	JUDGE FEWELL: Okay. Please raise your
16	right hand.
17	* * * * *
18	DAVID CLAYTON,
19	The witness, having been first duly sworn
20	upon his oath, testified as follows:
21	* * * * *
22	MR. CLAYTON: Yes.
23	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
24	spell your name for the record?
25	MR. CLAYTON: David Clayton excuse me.



Transcript of Proceedings

	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 05, 2025
1	Page 34 I just sneezed. Apologies. David Clayton,
2	D-A-V-I-D, C-L-A-Y-T-O-N.
3	JUDGE FEWELL: What would you like to tell
4	the Commission?
5	MR. CLAYTON: Well, first up, I'd like to
6	start by saying that I am also a senior on a fixed
7	income and disabled as well. And this year for
8	social security increase we've got two percent. And
9	that's 2.5 percent on \$1,300 rounded off for the
10	entire year. The rate increase exceeds that
11	2.5 percent.
12	As that as the other utilities and
13	other expenses keep going up we don't have the income
14	coming in to match these percentages of these raises
15	that Spire is requesting. I asked earlier in the Q $\&$
16	A don't they have a responsibility to do the upgrades
17	with the profits they make. And that depends
18	that's a good question. I do have to say that my
19	opinion of what I have seen and heard in the last
20	hearing that I spoke at and today that this looks
21	like a dog and pony show for appearances sake because
22	what the Commission told me earlier in the Q & A was
23	that they had never denied the rate increase, never.
24	And then Spire came back and was saying, well, you
25	know, they didn't get everything they asked for in



1	Page 35 2022, 10 to 12 percent ask they didn't get. Well,
2	you got part of it.
3	So when you're asking for a rate increase,
4	and let's just use round numbers, you ask for
5	20 percent knowing damn good and well you're not
6	going to get the full amount and you've already
7	planned for the amount that you're going to get,
8	let's round it off and say 15 percent just to use
9	round numbers. So you already know, you played the
10	game, you've been doing this for a long time, I mean,
11	you own a big company.
12	I can't get this open to read my other
13	statement. Bear with me a second.
14	Okay. According to TD Ameritrade in the
15	last hearing in 2022 Spire is still paying annual
16	dividend yield of 260, or 3.44 percent. Now, I don't
17	know about anybody else but that's way above what my
18	2.5 percent is. And Spire is asking the Commission
19	to approve their customers to pay an additional
20	approximate amount of \$3.28 percent or \$3.28 a
21	month or 5.6 percent per month. And that's just
22	unacceptable on every level.
23	Spire's website said that they haven't had
24	a growing dividend for 18 consecutive years and an
25	attractive yield of 3.6 percent. Home page also said

	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 36 that in the last five years they have quadrupled
2	their enterprise value now at more than six billion.
3	Not many businesses can say that. Also said that
4	Spire had a robust five year Cap X plan with a seven
5	to eight percent annual rate based growth of three
6	billion dollars. If this is accurate then Spire is
7	definitely making a substantial amount of money in
8	profits apparently not used for infrastructure.
9	That's an impressive annual rate and amazing growth
10	while you're asking for this type of rate increase
11	from your customers.
12	I heard something said earlier that that's
13	in consideration this go around in a proposal going
14	forward to the Commission. A little bit too late I
15	would say at this point. But I have to stand
16	strongly against sorry. I've got a tornado
17	warning going off.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Sir, if you can complete
19	your thought we're at the we're past the three
20	minute mark.
21	MR. CLAYTON: I'm sorry. Well, the
22	meeting started and said we had three minutes to talk
23	there and a five minutes here. Anyway, I'll wrap up.
24	I can't get to my document because I've got
25	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 37 Comments, sir.
2	MR. CLAYTON: Yeah. Thank you.
3	JUDGE FEWELL: Kimberly Williams.
4	MR. ARIAS: Judge. Judge, if you may.
5	JUDGE FEWELL: Yes.
б	MR. ARIAS: This is Spire Missouri. We
7	just all received a tornado warning alert. We're
8	evaluating whether or not we need to take shelter.
9	MR. CLAYTON: I have one going off here
10	right now as well in Kansas City.
11	MR. ARIAS: Could you mute us real quick?
12	Judge, we're okay with you continuing, we just might
13	not be as quick to respond. We'll try to stay online
14	as much as we can.
15	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Counsel. Stay
16	safe.
17	MR. CLAYTON: The tornado sirens are going
18	off here in Kansas City, Missouri at Gregory and
19	Holmes.
20	JUDGE FEWELL: Everyone, definitely seek
21	shelter if you can in, I think you said the Kansas
22	City area. I hope that every
23	MR. CLAYTON: Kansas City, Missouri,
24	Gregory and Holmes.
25	JUDGE FEWELL: Yeah. I'll go ahead and



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 38 proceed.
2	CHAIR HAHN: Judge Fewell.
3	JUDGE FEWELL: Yes.
4	CHAIR HAHN: Chair Hahn. It may be
5	helpful to mention if folks need to seek shelter now
6	and disconnect from the local public hearing that we
7	do have another virtual WebEx tonight so that could
8	be potentially another option for folks to call.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Yeah. That's a good point,
10	Chair. We do have another local public hearing at
11	6:00 p.m. tonight that will also be virtual.
12	Especially if you are in the Kansas City area we'll
13	have two tomorrow in person as well, one at noon in
14	St. Joseph and one in Kansas City at six p.m.
15	MS. FRIEDERICH: Hello. Hello.
16	JUDGE FEWELL: Hello.
17	MS. FRIEDERICH: Yes. I stated before
18	that I have a person in the hospital and I need to
19	give my testimony. I can't delay this, okay? Can
20	you please take my testimony?
21	JUDGE FEWELL: Yes. You're
22	MS. FRIEDERICH: Okay. Thank you. I
23	would really appreciate it. I've been running back
24	and forth to the hospital and I've been, you know,
25	under a lot of strain. I'm sorry.

	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page39 JUDGE FEWELL: You're okay.
2	MS. FRIEDERICH: Yeah. My
3	JUDGE FEWELL: Hold on one second. Can I
4	swear you in.
5	MR. FRIEDERICH: Okay. Go ahead.
6	* * * * *
7	KATHY FRIEDERICH,
8	The witness, having been first duly sworn
9	upon her oath, testified as follows:
10	* * * * *
11	MS. FRIEDERICH: Yes. My name is Kathy
12	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
13	spell your name
14	MS. FRIEDERICH: My name is Kathy
15	JUDGE FEWELL: for the record?
16	MS. FRIEDERICH: Sure. My name is Kathy
17	Friederich, K-A-T-H-Y, Friederich,
18	F-R-I-E-D-E-R-I-C-H. I would just like to Spire
19	mentioned that they have to pay certain costs, one of
20	them is the meter. They make money off of that
21	because when they do the switch over it's going to go
22	from manual to digital and we've been getting that on
23	the other utilities and the cost is going higher
24	because the digital runs faster. It's happening in
25	other cities. They've also had malfunctions due to

1	Page 40 maybe the subcontractors coming in and I've heard
2	complaints that they don't want they don't know
3	what they're doing, okay. This should be up to Spire
4	to do this. But they're making money off of that. I
5	just wanted to bring up that point.

6 Also, I would also like to have a regular 7 audit of Spire beginning with when they took over 8 Laclede Gas. I believe Kara Spencer and Commissioner 9 Kennedy had asked for that. I have not seen numbers 10 on that but I would like to see that from that point 11 to now as to, oh, the profit end of it and what's 12 I don't believe, from listening to people, qoinq on. 13 that Spire needs us at this point. I don't think, 14 you know, it's necessary to be increasing these 15 people, you know, CEO, COOs and giving them the 16 amounts of money that they are getting.

17 A lot of people have tried to get their 18 pensions, they can't get their pensions from the 19 corporations. They put in new rules and regulations 20 and you can't get them and that's part of the reason 21 why they do not have the income that they need. Α 22 lot of them aren't alive, many of them are already 23 dead trying to get that. But be that as it may, I 24 would like to see definitely an audit. It was asked 25 for before and I would like to possibly have that



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1	Page 41 sent out to the public so that we would know how much
2	they have made or they made when they did the switch
3	over or took over from Laclede Gas to Spire. And
4	that would come all the way forward to where we are
5	right now. Thank you.
6	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
7	comments, ma'am.
8	MS. FRIEDERICH: Yes. Uh-huh, thank you.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Kimberly Williams. Star 6
10	to unmute.
11	MS. WILLIAMS: This is Kimberly Williams.
12	* * * * *
13	KIMBERLY WILLIAMS,
14	The witness, having been first duly sworn
15	upon her oath, testified as follows:
16	* * * * *
17	MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
19	spell your name for the record?
20	MS. WILLIAMS: Kimberly Williams,
21	K-I-M-B-E-R-L-Y, W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S. I'll get straight
22	to the point. There is Spire has yet to say a
23	valid reason on why we are increasing. I shouldn't
24	have to tell you I'm poor until I'm blue in the face,
25	I should not have to tell you what the State of



Page 42 1 Missouri population is, who is below the line, like 2 you shouldn't have to do any of that. Spire has only 3 said the reason why we are doing it is, one, because 4 it is legal, because you guys allow it; and then two, 5 because -- or the other -- the consequence for Spire 6 having to pay the bill is not that they cannot afford 7 it it's that their shareholders won't -- will have to 8 pay for it.

9 And in other business models if someone 10 owns a business and they have to pay for something they usually do, they just do, they don't have to 11 12 increase -- like do the increase, that is their job, 13 that is their thing. And again, it's not saying, oh, 14 we were in the red, none of that, it is we made the 15 money, we have the money, but because it's legal, 16 because it's allowed we're just going to still ask 17 for money and I don't think that's absolutely 18 acceptable.

19 Again, I should not have to tell you I'm 20 You guys know the statistics, you guys know poor. 21 what is made up of the State of Missouri, you know 22 that there's people who literally live paycheck to 23 paycheck, you guys know that that's why you guys 24 exist and I expect you not to cut a percentage off, 25 It's -- they have yet to say anything that is a no.



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 43 valid reason on why we should increase our monthly
2	bills. It doesn't matter if I'm struggling like I
3	while I am not one of the residents who are, it
4	doesn't matter. That is just how a business go. If
5	I can't afford my bill can I come to you guys and
6	have you guys pay the 14 percent difference, if the
7	answer is no then the answer should be no for Spire.
8	That's all I have to say.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
10	comments, ma'am. Deanne Poole. Star 6 to unmute.
11	MS. POOLE: Yes, I'm on.
12	JUDGE FEWELL: Please raise your right
13	hand.
14	MS. POOLE: It is.
15	* * * * *
16	DEE ANN POOLE,
17	The witness, having been first duly sworn
18	upon her oath, testified as follows:
19	* * * * *
20	MS. POOLE: Yes, I do.
21	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
22	spell your name for the record?
23	MS. POOLE: Yes. Dee Ann Poole, D-E-E,
24	space, capital A-N-N, P-O-O-L-E. I am testifying in
25	opposition to this increase. I am concerned that



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 44 Senate Bill 4 will increase all of our rates across
2	the board for all utilities, sewer, water, gas,
3	electricity, and that could be up to \$1,100 a year
4	and I do not believe that we should be giving SB4
5	allows for construction work in progress, interest
6	free loans on the backs of the consumers. And for
7	Spire, sadly having to wait 11 months, or however
8	long it's been for this hearing, and then they'll be
9	able to turn right back around and use SB4 to
10	increase it again, it's a no for me. And I pray that
11	you will deny this request by Spire. Thank you.
12	THE COURT: Thank you for your comments,
13	ma'am. Jacquada Gray.
14	MS. GRAY: Hi. Can you hear me?
15	JUDGE FEWELL: I can. We can.
16	MS. GRAY: Hello. Okay. Sorry. Ignore
17	the siren in the background.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Just stay safe. Make sure
19	you're sheltered if you're in that area.
20	MS. GRAY: Yes. I am. Thank you.
21	* * * * *
22	JACQUADA GRAY,
23	The witness, having been first duly sworn
24	upon her oath, testified as follows:
25	* * * * *



ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 45 MS. GRAY: Yes, i do.
2	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
3	spell your name for the record?
4	MS. GRAY: My name is Jacquada Gray,
5	J-A-C-Q-U-A-D-A, last name G-R-A-Y.
6	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
7	MS. GRAY: All right. So good afternoon.
8	Thank you guys for letting me speak today. I am here
9	I'm a Kansas City resident and I am here to
10	strongly oppose Spire's request for a rate increase.
11	So just a little background. I moved back to Kansas
12	City around 2023, restarted Spire service. My house
13	is fully electric except for the heat so except for
14	winter. Even with the heat on the lowest setting
15	every month in the winter I was charged four to \$500
16	a month like which is absolutely ridiculous. I
17	called Spire multiple times trying to figure out why
18	my rate was so high, even tried to have them come out
19	and check the meter, like different things like that
20	just to make sure like am I getting charged the right
21	amount. I really kind of got no responses just a
22	bunch of high bills.
23	So in spring of 2024, so probably about
24	April or May, I decided to call them, tell them to go
25	ahead and shut the service off. So at the time that

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1	Page 46 they shut my service off I owed about \$531. So since
2	then I have not used Spire Gas at all, like at all.
3	My account is completely turned off, there is no gas
4	running through my house yet somehow in one year from
5	June 2024 where my bill says 531 to today my bill has
6	grown to \$2,500, so over \$2,000. So I just want you
7	to let that sink in for a bit. I have not used Spire
8	service in one year, I did not have heat last year.
9	I stuck it out just because I cannot afford Spire.
10	My debt with them anyway grew over \$2,000. And yes,
11	that is late fees but it also is the rates. So they
12	are asking for rate increases when people who just
13	because we live in Kansas City we are spending about
14	over \$2,000 just to have Spire here and even if we're
15	not using Spire Energy.
16	So I really think that Spire asking to
17	raise rates is absolutely ridiculous especially when
18	most of us cannot pay the rates that they already
19	have. So many of us can't afford the rates that they
20	have, we certainly can't afford growing bills so it
21	feels like a punishment while their pockets are
~ ~	

23 bill transparency. I don't know why my bill has

22

24

getting lined. And Spire can't do -- they don't have

25 can't even be transparent about the bills. And as

raised \$2,000 for a service that I don't use.



They

	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2023
1	Page 47 we've seen from this entire thing they can't be
2	transparent about where the money is going or how
3	much the difference is or any other question anybody
4	has asked so how can they be trusted with more of our
5	money especially those that don't have the money.
6	JUDGE FEWELL: Ms. Gray, I think Mr.
7	Clizer from OPC has a question.
8	MR. CLIZER: Yeah. I'm sorry. I would
9	just like a quick couple of follow ups. I want to
10	make sure I understand that clearly. Did you say
11	that when you terminated service your last bill was
12	\$530 approximately?
13	MS. GRAY: Yes. And I have all of my
14	bills pulled up. Before I got on here I pulled it up
15	just to double check. So my June bill from 2024 was
16	\$531, that was the last bill that I had after I asked
17	them to shut it off. 200 of that was like the actual
18	bill that I didn't pay from the month before and
19	another one was I was like finishing a payment plan.
20	And then, yeah, it was moving up very quickly at
21	first, like one bill was like an extra \$800 but most
22	of them mostly monthly is about an extra between 75
23	to \$150 a month regardless and I do not use Spire at
24	all.
25	MR. CLIZER: Is the bills indicating those



	Transcript of Proceedings Julie 03, 2023
1	Page 48 As late payments or is there any indicating
2	MS. GRAY: So \$35 of it is late payments a
3	month. So that's probably still about over a full
4	year I don't know 36 times 12 is but that's still not
5	2,000. The rest of it is literally the rates, it
6	says rates. But I don't have service so I don't know
7	why I'm getting charged rates.
8	MR. CLIZER: Okay. Thank you for
9	providing us clarification. I would strongly suggest
10	that you try to reach out to Spire if available and
11	if you can't get anything please feel free to contact
12	our office, we might be able to work through the
13	specifics of your situation. Thank you for your
14	testimony.
15	MS. GRAY: Thank you so much. And I
16	missed what is the name of your office if I need
17	to call? I got your number but I missed the name to
18	the office.
19	MR. CLIZER: Absolutely. We are the
20	Office of the Public Counsel.
21	MS. GRAY: Perfect. Thank you so much.
22	And that is all for my testimony today. Thank you so
23	much.
24	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Ms. Gray.
25	MR. ARIAS: This is Spire and I believe we



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1	Page 49 do have her information and we will be reaching out.
2	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. Commissioner
3	Coleman, did you have a comment
4	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Yeah.
5	JUDGE FEWELL: or question?
6	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: I think I did
7	receive an answer to my question. Spire will be
8	reaching out to her. My question to her was going to
9	be has she contacted Spire, has she asked them to
10	explain the statement and what's going on there? And
11	just that there is some follow up to figure out
12	what's going on because as commissioners we are
13	concerned about customer service, we do take it
14	seriously when we hear that a person is dealing with
15	this type of issue and has not been able to get any
16	clarification. So I would encourage Spire and of
17	course the Office of Public Counsel to work
18	diligently on this issue. Thank you, Judge.
19	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Commissioner.
20	Dr. Shawn Foley. It is Star 6 if you are appearing
21	by phone to unmute.
22	DR. FOLEY: Hi. Thanks so much to the
23	Commission.
24	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please raise your
25	right hand.

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1	Page 50 DR. FOLEY: I do, yeah. Thank you.
2	* * * * *
3	SHAWN FOLEY,
4	The witness, having been first duly sworn
5	upon his oath, testified as follows:
6	* * * * *
7	DR. FOLEY: Yes, sir.
8	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
9	spell your name for the record?
10	DR. FOLEY: Sure. Shawn, S-H-A-W-N,
11	Foley, F-O-L-E-Y.
12	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
13	DR. FOLEY: Thanks so much. Yeah. Again,
14	I want to thank the Commission. If we have a judge,
15	your Honor, thank you, and then Spire for
16	participating in this. I think this type of thing is
17	so important to what we are all doing. So rather
18	than go into some of the things we've already heard I
19	think there's on the record a very detailed kind of
20	concern being expressed with regard to profitability.
21	I would urge the Commission to also look at EBITA as
22	a measure. But just the fact that this is a publicly
23	traded company I think calls somewhat into question
24	what's happening here.
25	But this idea that, you know, it's a for

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1	Page profit venture around a public utility just has all
2	kinds of concerns that, you know, we're not going to
3	solve on this call but, you know, it is not a free
4	market situation really it should just be a
5	not-for-profit. I don't have a problem with people
6	having, you know, some type of corporate entity
7	around it, I don't mind the investment, you know,
8	having some type of private investment in this type
9	of stuff.

I think that there are certain aspects of capitalism at work here but at the same time the way this is set up currently it's very obvious that I think this Commission should really be breaking down and looking into, if you haven't already, all of the different companies that are owned by Spire, the way that the books are being handled.

17 In 2022 there was a Ph.D. from University of Columbia broke this down so well. 18 I would urge 19 you to go back to the record and look at what that 20 Ph.D. doctoral candidate student did for us, I think just received their doctorate or was working on it, 21 2.2 took time to actually investigate this issue and 23 explain exactly how Spire is profiting upon 24 profiting, right.

25

So I'm not saying that Spire doesn't have



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 52 a point with regard to inflation or the borrowing or
2	the debt that they have to handle it. Or the fact
3	that as a beneficiary of this monopoly that they have
4	to put the capital infrastructure in place first
5	before they ever get any kind of reimbursement from
6	taxpayers in the state, okay, I understand those
7	points. But there have also been plenty of
8	counterpoints here that show that it's not just all
9	about that, it's not just all about the need here,
10	there is some grift I think happening and that is
11	natural in a capitalist situation. Problem here is
12	that not all of things that balance a good capitalist
13	financial economic situation are here because it is a
14	monopoly so no one has
15	JUDGE FEWELL: Dr. Foley, I think Mr.
16	Clizer has a question for you as well.
17	DR. FOLEY: Yeah, please. Thank you.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Go ahead, Mr. Clizer.
19	MR. CLIZER: Thank you, Dr. Foley. You
20	mentioned a Ph.D. candidate preparing or possibly
21	a Ph.D. recipient preparing a document. Was that a
22	document filed in a Commission rate case?
23	DR. FOLEY: Yeah. It was a Commission
24	rate case in 2022 the last time I was with you all as
25	well. There was a magistrate that oversaw that. It



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1	Page 53 was submitted as part of the public comment period
2	though it was captured on record and it was awesome.
3	Basically breaking down all the different LLC
4	entities. At the time it was coming out of COVID and
5	one of the issues they were talking about was supply
6	chain challenges for their infrastructure and the
7	capital investment they had to make. And the Ph.D.
8	candidate had basically done the research and showed
9	that Spire is their corporation was paying all
10	these smaller corporations Spire actually owns on
11	record.
12	MR. CLIZER: Thank you, Dr. Foley. Sorry.
13	I just wanted to double check.
14	DR. FOLEY: Yes, that's correct. Is there
15	another follow up on that or I'm sorry?
16	MR. CLIZER: It was filed as part of the
17	public comment, is that what you're saying?
18	DR. FOLEY: I mean, I don't know the date
19	or here, maybe I can take a look here. I did my
20	own documentation. But honestly I think you guys
21	would have to do your own research on that. I
22	apologize. But it was in 2022 as part of that last
23	discussion when there was a public comment period in
24	2022 around the last rate increase. Does that help?
25	And I think you guys they were requesting 135

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1	Page 54 million in the increase and I think the Commission
2	approved like 77 billion. Does this ring any bells
3	here?
4	MR. CLIZER: No, no. Yes. That helps.
5	My very last question, if at all possible, would you
6	happen to know the name of the individual? If not
7	then never mind.
8	DR. FOLEY: So, yeah. No, I am so sorry
9	that I do not.
10	MR. CLIZER: That's perfectly fine. Thank
11	you, Dr. Foley. I have no further questions, your
12	Honor.
13	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you. I apologize for
14	us cutting you off. Do you have any other comments,
15	Dr. Foley?
16	DR. FOLEY: Yeah. I'm sorry. And thank
17	you. This is a quick one. So I think I've made my
18	point. I didn't want to I think the on the
19	profit bit. So the profit bit is obviously
20	concerning, needs to be looked at a lot closer than I
21	think it's been in past. And hopefully you can find
22	those comments from that wonderful Ph.D. candidate
23	that did the research and hopefully that will help
24	the Commission really kind of look into this a little
25	bit more specifically.



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1	Page 55 I think the other thing that was made with
2	regard to profit is caps on maybe salaries for
3	directors and executives and other upper management.
4	Not caps on front line workers, we're not talking
5	about that. They probably need to be paid more
6	honestly.
7	But the last thing I want to say and I
8	said it last in 2022 and I'll say it again, and
9	that's that I urge the Commission to find some way to
10	work with legislature, lawmakers, rule makers, et
11	cetera and with Spire to figure out not just a
12	reprieve or way to, you know, provide assistance for
13	people who are struggling but I'm talking any you
14	know, the bottom 90 percent of the state, people that
15	are in the first tax bracket, you know, that the
16	government had, that very first or second maybe even.
17	I think last time I said something like I
18	put a line in the sand around 176,000, so a family of
19	four making under 176,000 would be where I'd start
20	this thing, 24 percent tax bracket, anybody in that
21	bracket should not be paying additional money. Not
22	because they can't figure out a way to afford it,
23	right, but because we're seeing income inequality in
24	the state that absolutely not going to be good
25	overall for our economy. And so the top ten percent,

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1	Page 56 if we absolutely 100 percent can't use the profits
2	that Spire already has to take care of these capital
3	infrastructure investments and the inflation then
4	let's take it from the top 10 percent of this state
5	and leave the rest of the 90 percent out of it
6	period. Not just the poorest of the poor but the
7	rest of the 90 percent, take it from the top 10
8	percent. That probably includes me and my family and
9	I'm happy to volunteer for that. Let's do that, find
10	a way to do that. And thank you.
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
12	comments, Dr. Foley. Dan Kalef. I apologize if I've
13	pronounced anyone's name wrong.
14	MR. KALEF: Yeah. No worries at all. Dan
15	Kalef, yeah.
16	JUDGE FEWELL: Kalef.
17	MR. KALEF: Yes. Spelled
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Okay. Can you please raise
19	your right hand.
20	MR. KALEF: You got it.
21	* * * * *
22	DAN KALEF,
23	The witness, having been first duly sworn
24	upon his oath, testified as follows:
25	* * * * *



	Tanscipt of Proceedings Jule 03, 2025
1	Page 57 JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please and spell
2	your name for the record?
3	MR. KALEF: Absolutely. Dan Kalef, D-A-N,
4	K-A-L-E-F.
5	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
6	MR. KALEF: I appreciate the opportunity
7	here. I am a Spire customer. Really wanted to point
8	out it's going to be along the same lines of the
9	profits that are being earned but I think it really
10	needs to be understood just the volume that we're
11	talking about here. So typically when costs go up
12	for a business the burden is either borne by the
13	customer or the owner or some compromise in between.
14	The way that the rates are set here not only when
15	rates go up when the cost of doing business for Spire
16	goes up not only does the customer bear 100 percent
17	of that burden but as they have proven for 20 some
18	odd years increasing dividends every year the owner
19	is making more because the cost of business is doing
20	has increased.
21	If Spire if there's no way to limit
22	increasing the profits then the rate increase should
23	not be approved. A for profit company understood
24	that the purpose of a for profit company is to
25	transfer money from customers to the owners to the

1	Page 58 shareholders. I think the rate at which our company
2	is already funneling money upwards is already too
3	high and Spire should not be allowed to increase that
4	rate.

5 Again, every year since 2004 Spire has 6 increased how much it pays in dividends every quarter 7 of every one of those years. In eight short years 8 Spire has funneled close to a billion dollars from 9 its customers to its shareholders only in the form of 10 dividends. This isn't the interest they pay out on 11 bonds, this isn't the high executive packages, this 12 isn't the reinvesting anything, this is just 13 funneling money from customers to shareholders. They 14 paid over 175 million just in the last year.

15 Asking customers to pay more because it costs more to run the business is different than 16 17 asking customers to pay more so the owners can make 18 more money from us. We're not asking for a rate 19 decrease here just requiring -- or asking that you do 20 more with the dollars you already get. Every one of our households are being asked to make dollars 21 stretch further and sometimes do without. 2.2 Investors 23 in a for profit monopoly should not be able to 24 continue increasing how much money they take from us. 25 In the last ten years this formula has

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1	Page 59 allowed their profits to triple. Yes, they've done
2	more business, the revenue doubled, but the profits
3	tripled. If there's if there is going to be any
4	increase in rates my one ask of the Commission is
5	please consider having some way to match that with
6	some way to ensure that it doesn't just translate to
7	more money going to owners of the stocks over and
8	over again. Thank you.
9	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
10	comments, sir. Andrea Dorch.
11	MS. DORCH: I'm here.
12	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please raise your
13	right hand.
14	MS. DORCH: I have.
15	* * * * *
16	ANDREA DORCH,
17	The witness, having been first duly sworn
18	upon her oath, testified as follows:
19	* * * * *
20	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
21	spell your name for the record?
22	MS. DORCH: Andrea Dorch. A-N, D as in
23	David, R-E-A. Last name D as in David, O-R-C-H.
24	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed.
25	MS. DORCH: Good afternoon, Commissioners



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1	Page 60 and members of the public and my fellow Missouri
2	residents. My name again is Andrea Dorch and I
3	appear today as a concerned Jackson County, Missouri
4	resident and utility customer who strongly opposes
5	Spire Energy's proposed natural gas, or as someone
6	else has said fossil fuel rate increases.
7	Spire has highlighted its recent one
8	billion dollar investment in infrastructure as a key
9	justification for raising rates. While safe and
10	modern energy infrastructure is undoubtedly important
11	this investment alone does not justify burdening
12	families, seniors on fixed incomes, and small
13	businesses with higher monthly utility bills
14	especially in today's challenging economic
15	environment.
16	It is assumed that the majority of these
17	infrastructure improvements were made because they
18	were necessary, specifically in rural areas where
19	farmers scrape by to provide food and other resources
20	to their neighbors and in the urban areas that have

19 farmers scrape by to provide food and other resources 20 to their neighbors and in the urban areas that have 21 been historically neglected and thereby requiring 22 these improvements for the safety of rate payers and 23 residents. It is critical to examine whether these 24 infrastructure projects were pursued with adequate 25 cost controls, transparency and a measurable benefit



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 61 to ratepayers not only to their shareholders.
2	Missouri families should not be asked to foot the
3	bill for corporate decisions made without a clear,
4	direct and proportional benefit to the public
5	specifically when such rates are to increase profit
6	on the backs of the average Missourian.
7	Let's be clear. Infrastructure
8	maintenance is a basic expectation not a favor. It
9	is part of Spire's obligation as a monopolistic
10	regulated utility not a justification for indefinite
11	and repeated rate hikes.
12	Spire also points to its role in, quote,
13	unquote, economic development to justify its request.
14	But if this economic development translates into
15	higher bills, decrease in living wage jobs and
16	decrease in service reliability for average
17	Missourians then who exactly is benefitting. I think
18	it's been made clear that those particular
19	stakeholders that are benefitting are the investors.
20	True economic development uplifts communities it does
21	not tax them more heavily for it.
22	Lastly, until recently Missouri's
23	regulatory structure existed to protect consumers
24	from monopoly utilities passing along unchecked
25	costs. We urge this commission to reject the

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1	Page 62 lobbyist data magic and exercise its authority to
2	require this claimed one billion dollar investment to
3	result in tangible improvements for customers not
4	just higher profits and in doing so reject this rate
5	case in favor of consumers. As customers we cannot
6	afford to subsidize corporate growth strategies under
7	the banner of modernization or economic development.
8	We need a fair deal not a blank check.
9	For an anecdote, I recently called Spire

10 because of a -- an issue where I was smelling gas 11 When I called Spire back they told around my home. 12 me to go in the house and that a technician would be 13 This was about at nine o'clock p.m. on the way. At 14 about 9:30 I called again to see if a Spire employee 15 was on the way. When I got the representative's name 16 Andre he advised me that the technician was on-site. 17 When I looked out my window there was no one on-site. I was told prior not to go outside due to the 18 19 dangerous condition.

I called back again at ten o'clock, no assistance, no one had been on-site. He told me then to call on Monday 'cause this was on a Saturday. He told me to call on Monday when the office opened. I asked what should I do, is there a danger to me, my family, or my pets. He said simply to call back for



ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 63 a status update once the actual technician put in his
2	notes. That was the length and breadth of what the
3	customer service was to me.
4	I thank you for your time today and your
5	service to the people in Missouri as commissioners.
6	Again, as a concerned and lifelong Missouri resident
7	I urge you to reject this increase in favor of the
8	consumers until Spire takes responsibility, increases
9	its customer service and ensures transparency to the
10	taxpayer. Thank you.
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Ms. Dorch. I
12	think Mr. Clizer has a question for you as well.
13	MR. CLIZER: Yes. If I may, just very
14	quickly. Regarding the anecdote that you relayed
15	regarding your personal experiences with the Spire
16	technician. Can you clarify for me. When you
17	contacted Spire you informed them that you smelled
18	gas at that time?
19	MS. DORCH: Correct.
20	MR. CLIZER: And that you was the odor
21	coming from inside or outside your house?
22	MS. DORCH: Outside my home.
23	MR. CLIZER: And then they informed you to
24	go back in your home?
25	MS. DORCH: Correct. And that they would



1	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 64 send a technician to the house.
2	MR. CLIZER: Okay. And about what time
3	did you make that initial report again?
4	MS. DORCH: About nine p.m.
5	MR. CLIZER: All right. Thank you very
6	much. No further questions. Thank you, your Honor.
7	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Clizer.
8	MR. ARIAS: Your Honor, just on Spire's
9	side. Vernita Rogers would just like to ask a quick
10	question.
11	MS. ROGERS: Yeah. Hi, Ms. Dorch. I
12	appreciate you sharing your experience with us.
13	Would you be willing to send a text to the number
14	that we have so we can take a look into that for you
15	if I give you that number again?
16	MS. DORCH: Yes, ma'am.
17	MS. ROGERS: Okay. It's 314-735-3013. If
18	you could text that number just with your address and
19	a good contact number for you. I would like to take
20	a look at it and have one of our team members see
21	what happened and reach back out to you.
22	MS. DORCH: Yes, ma'am. And I have the
23	number 314-735-3013?
24	MS. ROGERS: Yes, ma'am. Thank you.
25	MS. DORCH: You're welcome. Thank you.



	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 65 JUDGE FEWELL: Grace duMaine.
2	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're still in the
3	hearings.
4	MS. duMAINE: Yes. Can you hear me?
5	JUDGE FEWELL: Raise your right hand.
6	* * * * *
7	GRACE duMAINE,
8	The witness, having been first duly sworn
9	upon her oath, testified as follows:
10	* * * * *
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
12	spell your name for the record?
13	MS. DuMAINE: Yes. G-R-A-C-E. Last name
14	is duMaine. That's lower case D-U, capital
15	M-A-I-N-E.
16	JUDGE FEWELL: You may proceed with your
17	comments.
18	MS. DuMAINE: Yes. I'm going to make this
19	short and sweet. I definitely do not want a rate
20	increase. With the 14 percent increase for gas that
21	is about 14 bucks a month and a 15 percent increase
22	at the electric company that's like \$14.75 and the
23	water company wanting nine dollars a month and sewer
24	bills keep going up and up and up and people who are
25	working their raises are only about three percent at

1	the maximum.	Retired	people	are	on	fixed	income	Page 66 and
2	that is me.							

3 There is no way I and others can afford 4 this without keeping my thermostat at 58 degrees and 5 keep my fingers cross that my pipes do not bust. And 6 I hope you know groceries are going up and they want 7 to cut social security by 25 percent. I hope when I 8 hear this -- when I heard that being spoken that 9 that's not the truth but in a way I think it's going 10 to be the truth the way that things are going. And 11 with prices going up I use less and less but yet my 12 bills keep getting higher and that's not fair for the 13 And it's not like we had a choice for gas consumer. 14 or electric or water or sewer.

So what will Spire do or better yet what plans does Spire have that this situation does not happen again because if I ran my budget like Spires does or borrowed and expect others to pay, i.e. the customer, you would not be happy either. Thank you so much for listening.

JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your comments, ma'am. I'm going to circle back. There were two names that I did not get a response to earlier and one other that I may check in on, it looked like he left in the chat. Suzanne Chizum. It

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1	Page 67 is Star 6 to unmute yourself. Is there a Suzanne
2	Chizum? Elyse Dianne Schaeffer. Again, it is Star 6
3	to mute yourself if you're a caller. Elyse Dianne
4	Schaeffer. And Joseph Louden. Okay. I believe that
5	was everyone that we had listed. Is there anyone
6	else who would like to make comments tonight?
7	Charles Coleman, okay. It is Star 6 okay. There
8	you go. Raise your right hand.
9	* * * * *
10	CHARLES COLEMAN,
11	The witness, having been first duly sworn
12	upon her oath, testified as follows:
13	* * * * *
14	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
15	spell your name for the record?
16	MR. COLEMAN: Charles Coleman.
17	C-H-A-R-L-E-S, C-O-L-E-M-A-N.
18	JUDGE FEWELL: Okay. What would you like
19	to tell the Commission?
20	MR. COLEMAN: First, thank you your Honor,
21	thank you Commissioners, thank you Spire, and most of
22	all thank you my fellow Missourians. It's an honor
23	to be able to speak with you guys and comment with
24	you guys on this topic, you guys give me hope in our
25	Democratic process.



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1	Page 68 First of all, I will say that I tried to
2	get details of financials from Spire when I first
3	heard about this and I'll have to defer to the much
4	more superior research that my fellow commenter's
5	have already provided. I urge the Commission to go
6	back and look at those very carefully and review
7	those. The amount that I did find showed that Spire
8	Energy is certainly in the black, they're doing well,
9	cash flow is not a problem, profits are up, as you
10	already heard and so forth.
11	And so, you know, I was trying to
12	understand this and I've heard some other disturbing
13	facts about how they do their expenses and must spend
14	money before they can recoup money, very strange. It
15	seems like it's a very complicated situation about
16	the rates and the way this whole situation works here
17	which is also very disturbing to I would say your
18	average citizen. It seems like we might have our own
19	local version of USA ID which is, as you know, a
20	terrible scandal. So we really need to get these
21	things settled and make it clear and make things more
22	simple and direct so that the citizens need to be
23	involved in this can make comment.
24	Now, from 2020 to 2024 this nation saw the
25	most bizarre changes to our energy production and

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1	Page 69 regulations. Thankfully that's being slowly
2	dismantled and undone so now we're going to have some
3	sanity brought back to that which should mean that
4	costs to Spire Energy should be going down and things
5	should be more competitive. And speaking of
6	competition in the United States that is really what
7	benefits the consumer the most is competition. Now,
8	of course as has already testified, Spire is a
9	designated monopoly. And there's reasons for that,
10	clearly there's reasons for that so that's not
11	debatable. But in lack of actual competition, the
12	recourse that we have is a governing regulating body.
13	So the Commissioners, you guys, are our
14	answer to the lack of competition. Competition
15	normally drives pressure on to a company to make
16	innovation and to increase the efficiency of the
17	operations. And without that competition they don't,
18	it's just natural. And again, I don't blame Spire,
19	they're a corporation, they're a for profit
20	corporation, they're going to try to do that. But
21	the pressure needs to be applied. And with this rate
22	increase that's happening right now this is a good
23	time to apply that pressure, tell them no, you do not
24	get more, no you do not just get to have a blanket
25	rate increase, you get nothing and maybe that will



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1	Page 70 drive innovation and creativity and efficiency in
2	their operations. Not to mention that probably in a
3	few months the costs coming to them, or the fuel you
4	have to buy, et cetera will be going down. So they
5	still have that opportunity to make their profit
6	margin under the current rate structure.
7	So again, I would like to end with just
8	saying I strongly urge respectfully that the
9	Commissioners deny this rate request from Spire
10	Energy. Thank you.
11	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Coleman. Is
12	there anyone else who would like to make a comment?
13	Billy Davies, I see your hand is raised. Can you
14	raise your right hand.
15	* * * * *
16	WILLIAM DAVIES,
17	The witness, having been first duly sworn
18	upon his oath, testified as follows:
19	* * * * *
20	JUDGE FEWELL: Can you please state and
21	spell your name for the record?
22	MR. DAVIES: Yes. My full name is William
23	Davies, W-I-L-L-I-A-M, D as in David, A, V as in
24	Victor, I-E-S. I'm a resident of Kansas City.
25	JUDGE FEWELL: All right. You may proceed



1	Page 71 with your comments.
2	MR. DAVIES: Thank you very much. I'd
3	like to reserve most of my comments for the in person
4	hearing coming up in Kansas City, I really do
5	appreciate the Chair, the members of the Commission,
6	your Honor yourself, Spire's and everybody's time.
7	Just as we prepare for more public hearings there
8	have been a lot of great questions that unfortunately
9	were not on the record, not reported but like are
10	very important for folks to give their testimony and
11	have shared the disappointment and frustration with
12	folks that have shared as much with the lack of
13	responses like what is going to be the effect of not
14	having a rate increase, what's going on with the past
15	rate increase and why has that not led to a rate
16	decrease or just better service.
17	I am not seeing I am a Spire customer

18 in Kansas City. I am not seeing an overall like 19 noticeable improvement in services, we're still 20 facing issues in Kansas City even after last rate 21 I think as we're approaching another increase. 2.2 hearing tonight and two hearings tomorrow and one on 23 Thursday, it would be of benefit to the public and to 24 the Commission and to Spire if we could have answers 25 to the questions that were raised in the Q & A today.



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1	Page 72 But thank you so much for your time and I
2	know I've gone off a little bit there. But I
3	appreciate you hearing my comments and all of you for
4	your time. Please stay safe.
5	JUDGE FEWELL: Thank you for your
6	comments. Was there anyone who would like to make
7	comments today? It's Star 6 to unmute yourself if
8	you're appearing by phone. Okay.
9	Chair Hahn, would you like to make closing
10	comments?
11	CHAIR HAHN: Yes. Thank you, Judge
12	Fewell, appreciate it. Thank you all for taking the
13	time today. I know that it was a long afternoon, I
14	know that this started at noon, it's over it's
15	after three o'clock now. I know that you can do
16	other things with your time but we really value your
17	input. I know that some folks mentioned, you know,
18	accessibility challenges with coming to the meetings.
19	The Commission has tried to learn from public
20	hearings and how to make it more accessible for
21	folks. So we have tried to offer WebEx and then just
22	the telephone number to call in and then a variety of
23	either the virtual option or the in person option
24	with different times. So we are listening, we're
25	trying to do better. So just keep the feedback

ſ	Transcript of Proceedings June 03, 2025
1	Page 73 coming and we'll try to make sure that we do our part
2	so that we can hear all the comments that are out
3	there.
4	Again, on behalf of the entire Commission,
5	thank you for your time, we really appreciate it.
6	Have a good day everyone.
7	JUDGE FEWELL: I'd like to also thank
8	everyone for their participation today. I hope
9	everyone stays safe, particularly those on the west
10	side of the state that are facing a tornado it
11	sounded like. If you have any additional comments or
12	know of anyone who was not able to comment today we
13	will have another hearing at six p.m., also virtual,
14	and then we will have two local public hearings
15	tomorrow. The first in St. Joseph, Missouri at noon
16	and then the other at six p.m. in Kansas City and one
17	other at six p.m. in Joplin on Thursday.
18	There's also you can make comments
19	online if you have additional comments that you would
20	like to make in the consumer comments tab that can be
21	reached on the website at PC dot MO dot Gov. You
22	would just reference this case number GR-2025-0107.
23	Everyone have a good afternoon and evening and stay
24	safe. And this hearing's adjourned. Thank you.
25	(Hearing was concluded at 3:13 p.m.)



	I ranscript of Proceedings June 03, 202
1	Page 74 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)
3) ss. CITY OF KANSAS CITY)
4	
5	
6	
7	I, JILL A. BLESKEY, a Registered
8	Professional Reporter, Certified Shorthand Reporter
9	(IL), and Certified Court Reporter (MO), do hereby
10	certify that the witness whose testimony appears in
11	the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that
12	the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the
13	best of my ability and thereafter reduced to
14	typewriting under my direction; that I am neither
15	counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the
16	parties to the action in which this deposition was
17	taken, and further that I am not a relative or
18	employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the
19	parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise
20	interested in the outcome of this action.
21	\bigcirc \cdot \circ \circ \circ
22	Jul a. Blesky CSK RPR
23	0
24	Jill A. Bleskey, RPR, CSR, CCR
25	



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