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

| In the Matter of an Investigation into | ) |                       |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire        | ) | File No. GS-2025-0068 |
| Concerning a Natural Gas Incident In   | ) |                       |
| Independence, Missouri                 | ) |                       |

## STATUS REPORT

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through counsel, and in response to the Commission's April 23, 2025, Order Extending Time for Report states:

- 1. On August 28, 2024, Staff filed a Motion to Establish a Case requesting the Commission open a file for investigation of a natural gas pipeline incident in Independence, Missouri. The Motion described an incident that occurred on August 26, 2024, in Independence, Missouri, an area served by Spire Missouri Inc. d/b/a Spire ("Spire"). A third-party excavator installing fiber optic cable by directional drilling hit a sewer lateral to the house located at 426 E. Fair Street, and Spire's nearby 4-inch natural gas main. The natural gas migrated into the house and ignited, resulting in an explosion and house fire.
- 2. Staff performed an initial visit to the incident site location on August 27, 2024, to discuss the work being performed and events leading up to the incident.
- 3. On September 5, 2024, the Commission granted Staff's Motion and ordered Staff to file a report regarding the incident or a report on the status of its investigation no later than December 13, 2024.
- 4. On December 12, 2024, Staff filed a Status Report, stating that it was continuing to conduct discovery in this matter.

- 5. On December 13, 2024, the Commission ordered that Staff's investigative report, or a report on the status of Staff's investigation, shall be filed no later than February 14, 2025.
- 6. On February 13, 2025, Staff filed a Status Report, stating that it was continuing to conduct discovery in this matter and there were numerous outstanding data requests associated with this matter.
- 7. On February 13, 2025, the Commission ordered Staff to file an investigation report or a status report no later than April 30, 2025. Staff continues conducting discovery in this matter and has numerous outstanding data requests associated with this matter for which responses are due March 7, 2025.
- 8. Staff agreed to Spire's requests for additional time to complete data request responses and many were submitted recently on April 11 and 18, with three outstanding data requests as of April 21, 2025.
- 9. On April 23, 2025, Staff filed a Status Report, stating that it was continuing to conduct discovery in this matter and there were numerous outstanding data requests associated with this matter.
- 10. On April 25, 2025, the Commission ordered Staff to file an investigation report or a status report no later than July 31, 2025. Staff requires additional time to review and analyze the information provided by Spire in drafting its investigation report.
- 11. Staff will use this time to review Spire's responses to Staff data requests, complete a draft report, submit its report to internal review, and request, receive and review Spire's identification of confidential information and feedback on the report's facts section.

12. Staff requests a due date of no later than September 12, 2025, to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the progress of Staff's investigation.

WHEREFORE, for the above-stated reasons, Staff respectfully requests the Commission order Staff to file a report regarding its investigation, or a report on the status of Staff's investigation, no later than September 12, 2025, and to grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just and reasonable under the circumstances

Respectfully submitted,

## /s/ J. Scott Stacev

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ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey