BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Bobby J. Armour,)
Complainant,)
Vs.) <u>File No. GC-2026-0021</u>
Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire,)
Respondent.)

MOTION TO STAY/SUSPEND THE ORDER DIRECTING A STAFF INVESTIGATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through undersigned counsel, and for its Motion to Stay/Suspend the order directing a Staff investigation, states:

- 1. The allegations of Respondent Spire's Motion to Dismiss are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 2. Staff would further inform that the dispute over Mr. Armour's bill began when he filed a complaint on April 29, 2022. (See GC-2022-0301)
- 3. That matter was settled by agreement filed August 31, 2022, wherein the parties agreed that Mr. Armour's Account would be credited \$350, reducing his obligation to \$365.23. The agreement provides that Mr. Armour could pay the remaining balance in four equal monthly installments of \$91.30 (See GC-2022-0301 Settlement Agreement).
- 4. Mr. Armour filed another Complaint regarding this bill on February 14, 2023, alleging that Spire had violated the Settlement Agreement. (See GC-2023-0261). Staff conducted an investigation and concluded that Spire had not violated any tariff, rule, regulation, statute or any terms of the Settlement Agreement.

(See GC-2023-0261 – Staff Recommendation). This complaint was dismissed on July 6, 2023 (See GC-2023-0261 – Notice of Dismissal).

- 5. Mr. Armour filed yet another Complaint regarding this same issue on March 14, 2025 (See GC-2025-0252 Complaint). Spire filed a Motion to Dismiss, or in the Alternative, for More Definite Statement on April 14, 2025 (See GC-2025-0252 Motion to Dismiss).
- 6. An order granting the Motion for More Definite Statement was granted on April 15, 2025.
- 7. Thereafter, Mr. Armour did not file a More Definite Statement and the matter was dismissed for failure to state a claim upon which relief could be granted on May 20, 2025 (See GC-2025-0252 Order Dismissing Complaint), and the case was formally closed on July 8, 2025.
- 8. Mr. Armour then filed the present Complaint on July 16, 2025. Spire filed its Motion to Dismiss on July 30, 2025.
- 9. This is the fourth complaint filed by Mr. Armour regarding the amount at issue.
- 10. Staff was directed to conduct an investigation upon filing of the present Complaint. Staff is requesting an order staying/suspending the order to conduct an investigation, at least until resolution of Spire's pending Motion to Dismiss, as the matter has previously been fully investigated, and the present Complaint makes no new allegations which have not been fully investigated.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated herein, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission respectfully requests that the Commission issue its order staying/suspending the order directing Staff to conduct an investigation, and for such other orders and relief proper in the circumstances.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Douglas W. Hennon

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned by his signature below certifies that the foregoing pleading was served upon all persons who have entered an appearance of record in this matter on this August 6, 2025, by electronic filing in EFIS.

/s/ Douglas W. Hennon