



URBAN LEAGUE
of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable Richard Glick, Chairman
The Honorable Neil Chatterjee, Commissioner
The Honorable James Danly, Commissioner
The Honorable Allison Clements, Commissioner
The Honorable Mark C. Christie, Commissioner

Re: Spire STL Pipeline LLC Temporary Emergency Certificate Application
Docket No. CP17-40-000

Dear Chairman Glick and Commissioners,

As president of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, I am writing in support of Spire STL Pipeline's temporary emergency certificate application at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) so it can continue to operate on an interim basis and the St. Louis region, especially our region's most vulnerable populations, can avoid potentially dire and life-threatening gas shortages in the months ahead and throughout the winter. While I know FERC will further consider the original pipeline approval on remand, granting this temporary emergency certificate right now is the easiest way to help protect homes and businesses in the St. Louis area that depend on STL Pipeline for their critical gas supply needs.

For over a century, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis has been a champion for economic and social justice for the region's Black community. Spire STL Pipeline has been an ally in our mission by partnering with us on various programs to help those in need, while also providing affordable and reliable natural gas service to our collective community's most vulnerable populations. They have invested in our community by modernizing the infrastructure that delivers the reliable and affordable energy we need to heat our homes to provide sanctuary during the winter's coldest months and operate our ovens to feed our families all year long. But this isn't just about residents, Spire serves over 40,000 business customers throughout the region. And after the devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic, we know now more than ever, operational disruptions like these disproportionately impact small businesses. The very businesses our most disadvantaged communities rely on not only for jobs, but to provide critical services for their families. The businesses that are not only the lifeline for regions economic stability and growth, but the heart and soul of every community in greater St. Louis.

Just a few short months ago, the STL Pipeline proved to be critical infrastructure for the St. Louis region during winter storm Uri. While other states were dealing with natural gas service outages and price spikes, Spire continued to provide its customers with the natural gas needed to heat their homes. It is estimated that, because of this pipeline, ratepayers were saved collectively nearly \$300 million during the 9-day storm. It is alarming to think that if this pipeline ceases operations during this upcoming winter as many as 400,000 Spire customers, including 175,000 families who struggle to pay their bill and already face unprecedented challenges every day, could be without service.

On behalf of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, I support Spire STL Pipeline's temporary emergency certificate application so that the St. Louis region can avoid potentially dire and life-threatening gas shortages in the months ahead and throughout the winter. I look forward to the FERC's prompt consideration and response on the temporary emergency certificate application for this crucial energy infrastructure in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael McMillan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael McMillan
President & CEO