BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Spire Missouri, Inc., for) Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Convenience) And Necessity to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain,) And Otherwise Control and Manage a Natural Gas) Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Barton) County as an Expansion of its Existing Certificated Areas)

File No. GA-2019-0214

STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, ("Commission") by and through counsel, and for its *Staff Report and Recommendation*, states as follows:

1. On January 17, 2019, Spire Missouri, Inc. ("Spire" or the "Company"), filed its *Application for Certificate of Convenience and Request for Waiver*, with the Commission requesting a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage natural gas distribution system in order to provide gas service in Barton county, Missouri ("Application").

2. On February 19, 2019, the Commission issued its Order directing Staff to file a Recommendation regarding Spire's Application no later than March 11, 2019.

3. On February 22, 2019, Staff filed its Motion for Extension of Time to File Report and Recommendation. On that same day, the Commission issued its Order Extending the Deadline for Staff to issue its Recommendation from March 11, 2019 to no later than April 19, 2019.

4. As discussed in Staff's Memorandum, attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated by reference, Staff is of the opinion that Spire has fulfilled the requirements

1

of 4 CSR 240-3.205 and the Tartan criteria for approval, subject to the conditions stated on page 3 of the Memorandum, of a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity.

5. For these reasons, as more fully explained in Staff's Memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission <u>approve</u> Spire's Application for its requested CCN.

WHEREFORE, for the above stated reasons, Staff prays the Commission approve Spire Missouri, Inc.'s certificate of convenience and necessity for the service areas described in the Company's January 17, 2019, Application; and grant such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Ron Irving</u>

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to counsel of record this 10th day of April, 2019.

<u>/s/ Ron Irving</u>