505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

January 13, 2010

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Advice Letter 832

Don Soderberg, Vice-President/Pricing Southwest Gas Corporation P O Box 98510 Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

Subject: To Update the Tax Factor in Southwest's ITCCA (Preliminary Statement)

Dear Mr. Soderberg:

Advice Letter 832 is effective January 1, 2010.

Sincerely,

Je A. HA

Julie A. Fitch, Director Energy Division



Southwest GRS LORPORATION

Donald L. Soderberg, Vice President/Pricing

December 2, 2009

Attention: Julie Fitch, Director California Public Utilities Commission Energy Division 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4004 San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Southwest Gas Corporation (U 905 G) Advice Letter No. 832

Dear Ms. Fitch:

Enclosed herewith are five (5) copies of Southwest Gas Corporation's Advice Letter No. 832, together with California Gas Tariff Sheet Nos. 7024-G through 7025-G.

Sincerely,

Educed B. Guneky/for

Donald L. Soderberg

DLS:kt Enclosures



Southwest GRS Lorporation

Advice Letter No. 832

December 2, 2009

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Southwest Gas Corporation (Southwest) (U 905 G) tenders herewith for filing the following tariff sheets:

-	Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Canceling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
	7024-G	Preliminary Statements (Continued)	6859-G
	7025-G	Table of Contents	7011-G

<u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this filing is to adjust the tax factors reflected in the Preliminary Statements of Southwest's California Gas Tariff to recover the cost of Federal Income Taxes applicable to customer-contributed facilities pursuant to Ordering Paragraph 7 of Decision (D.) 87-09-026 issued in Order Instituting Investigation 86-11-019.

D.87-09-026 directs utilities to submit to the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an Advice Letter filing to reflect any changes in the tax factor which would cause an increase or decrease of five percentage points or more. As such, Southwest is revising its tax factor to reflect the recent change in the Federal Depreciation Provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), pursuant to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("Act", H.R. 1) signed by the President on February 17, 2009. This provision, which provides an additional depreciation allowance, will expire on December 31, 2009. Therefore, Southwest's tax factor will increase from 20 percent to 31 percent, effective January 1, 2010.

Effective Date

Southwest believes this Advice Letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 1 (effective pending disposition) pursuant to General Order 96-B. Southwest respectfully requests the changes proposed herein are approved with an effective date January 1, 2010, to coincide with the effective date of this provision in the Act.

Protest

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by sending a letter within 20 days of the filing. The protest should set forth the grounds upon which it is based and should be submitted expeditiously. There is no restriction on who may file a protest. Protests should be mailed or faxed to:

Investigation, Monitoring & Compliance Program Manager California Public Utilities Commission, Energy Division 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4002 San Francisco, CA 94102 Facsimile: 415-703-2200



Advice Letter No. 832 Page 2 December 2, 2009

Copies should also be mailed to the attention of Director, Energy Division, Room 4004 at the same address as above, and mailed or faxed to:

Mr. John P. Hester, Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs and Energy Resources Southwest Gas Corporation P.O. Box 98510 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510 Facsimile: 702-876-7037

<u>Notice</u>

In accordance with General Rule 4.3 in General Order 96-B, Southwest is mailing copies of the Advice Letter and related tariff sheets to the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

By <u>Educ (B. Guucha</u> for) Donald L. Soderberg

Attachments

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Advice Letter No. 832

In Conformance with General Order 96-B, General Rule 4.3

Southern California Edison Company Pacific Gas & Electric Company Sierra Pacific Power Company San Diego Gas & Electric Company Southern California Gas Company Southern California Water Company Duane Morris, LLP

Director/Division of Ratepayer Advocates

PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS (Continued)

13. INCOME TAX COMPONENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND ADVANCES (Continued)

Canceling

13C. APPLICABILITY

Income tax shall be collected on Contributions and Advances under the Company's California Gas Tariff, including but not limited to Rule Nos. 13, 15 and 16.

A Public Benefit Exemption may apply on a Contribution or Advance made to the Utility by a government agency on the basis of either:

- 1. The Contribution or Advance is made pursuant to actual condemnation or the threat thereof as recognized by Internal Revenue Code Section 1033; or
- 2. The Contribution or Advance does not reasonably relate to the provision of service, but rather to the benefit of the public at large.

13D. DETERMINATION

The Income Tax Component of Contributions and Advances shall be calculated by multiplying the balance of the applicant's Contributions and Advances by the tax factor of 31% beginning January 1, 2010, and thereafter.

The Company will submit to the Commission an advice letter filing to reflect any changes in the tax factor which would cause an increase or decrease of 5 percentage points or more.

The tax factor is established by using Method 5 as set forth in Decision Nos. 87-09-026 and 87-12-028 in Order Instituting Investigation 86-11-019.

The tax factors in Section 13D shall apply to all Contributions and Advances in accordance with Section D.6 of Rule No. 15, Gas Main Extensions, and Section E.4. of Rule No. 16, Gas Service Extensions.

Advice Letter No. 832 Decision No. 87-09-026 & 87-12-028 Issued by John P. Hester Senior Vice President Date Filed <u>December 2, 2009</u> Effective <u>January 1, 2010</u> Resolution No. Ι

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(Sheet 1 of 12)

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Canceling

The following listed sheets contain all the effective rates and rules affecting rates and service and information relating thereto in effect on and after the date indicated thereon.

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Advice Letter No. 832 Decision No. Issued by John P. Hester Senior Vice President Date FiledDecember 2, 2009EffectiveJanuary 1, 2010Resolution No.

CALIFORNIA GROSS-UP COMPUTATION INCLUDING CALIFORNIA INCOME TAXES *WITH REGULAR MACRS DEPRECIATION ON 15 YEAR PROPERTY CPUC DECISION 87-09-026 Attachment to Advice Letter No. 832 SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION Effective Period 01/01/2010

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Federal 50% bonus tax depreciation provided by the 2008 Economic Stimulus Plan expires on 12/31/2009. American Recovery and Revinvestment Act of 2009

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31%

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

DIVISION B-TAX, UNEMPLOYMENT, HEALTH, STATE FISCAL RELIEF, AND OTHER PROVISIONS

TITLE I-TAX PROVISIONS

SEC. 1201. SPECIAL ALLOWANCE FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED DURING 2009.

(a) EXTENSION OF SPECIAL ALLOWANCE .---

(1) IN GENERAL.-Paragraph (2) of section 168(k) is amended-

(A) by striking "January 1, 2010" and inserting "January 1, 2011", and

(B) by striking "January 1, 2009" each place it appears and inserting "January 1, 2010".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS .-

(A) The heading for subsection (k) of section 168 is amended by striking "JANUARY 1, 2009" and inserting "JANUARY 1, 2010".

(B) The heading for clause (ii) of section 168(k)(2)(B) is amended by striking "PRE-JANUARY 1, 2009" and inserting "PRE-JANUARY 1, 2010".

(C) Subparagraph (B) of section 168(I)(5) is amended by striking "January 1, 2009" and inserting "January 1, 2010".

(D) Subparagraph (C) of section 168(n)(2) is amended by striking "January 1, 2009" and inserting "January 1, 2010".

(E) Subparagraph (B) of section 1400N(d)(3) is amended by striking "January 1, 2009" and inserting "January 1, 2010".

(3) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS .-

(A) Subparagraph (D) of section 168(k)(4) is amended-

(i) by striking "and" at the end of clause (i), (ii) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii), and (iii) by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause: "(ii) 'April 1, 2008' shall be substituted for 'January 1, 2008' in subparagraph (A)(iii)(I) thereof, and".

(B) Subparagraph (A) of section 6211(b)(4) is amended by inserting "168(k)(4)," after "53(e),". (b) EXTENSION OF ELECTION TO ACCELERATE THE AMT AND RESEARCH CREDITS IN LIEU OF BONUS DÉPRECIATION .--

(1) IN GENERAL.-Section 168(k)(4) (relating to election to accelerate the AMT and research credits in lieu of bonus depreciation) is amended-

(A) by striking "2009" and inserting "2010"in subparagraph (D)(iii) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(3)), and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(H) SPECIAL RULES FOR EXTENSION PROPERTY .-

"(i) TAXPAYERS PREVIOUSLY ELECTING ACCELERATION .--- In the case of a taxpayer who made the election under subparagraph (A) for its first taxable year ending after March 31, 2008-

"(I) the taxpayer may elect not to have this paragraph apply to extension property, but

"(II) if the taxpayer does not make the election under subclause (I), in applying this paragraph to the taxpayer a separate bonus depreciation amount, maximum amount, and maximum increase amount shall be computed and applied to eligible qualified property which is extension property and to eligible qualified property which is not extension property.

"(ii) TAXPAYERS NOT PREVIOUSLY ELECTING ACCELERATION .-- In the case of a taxpayer who did not make the election under subparagraph (A) for its first taxable year ending after March 31, 2008-

"(I) the taxpayer may elect to have this paragraph apply to its first taxable year ending after December 31, 2008, and each subsequent taxable year, and

"(II) if the taxpayer makes the election under subclause (I), this paragraph shall only apply to eligible qualified property which is extension property.

"(iii) EXTENSION PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'extension property' means property which is eligible qualified property solely by reason of the extension of the application of the special allowance under paragraph (1) pursuant to the amendments made by section 1201(a) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009 (and the application of such extension to this paragraph pursuant to the amendment made by section 1201(b)(1) of such Act)."

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 6211(b)(4)(A) is amended by inserting "168(k)(4)," after "53(e),". (c) EFFECTIVE DATES.-

(1) IN GENERAL.-Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2008, in taxable years ending after such date.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS .-- The amendments made by subsections (a)(3) and (b)(2) shall apply to taxable years ending after March 31, 2008.