

Southwest's C.E.O. Addresses

Natural Gas Issues

NEWS TO USE

Dear Customer,

As you know, energy issues have been at the top of the nation's agenda for quite sometime. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to address natural gas issues and how they impact Southwest Gas customers.

Natural gas burns cleaner than other fossil fuels and is easier on the environment. That's why it is the premium fuel for our heating, cooking, clothes drying and water heating needs, and is best used directly by natural gas-fueled appliances.

Also, because natural gas is a reliable and environmentally friendly fuel, it has become an increasingly popular way for electric utilities to generate electricity. In fact, the Energy Information Administration estimates that this past year alone, nearly 85 percent of new electric generation plants have been fueled by natural gas.

At Southwest Gas, we believe it is preferable to use natural gas directly in homes and businesses with natural gas-fueled appliances instead of using it to generate electricity. This further helps to maximize the value we can all receive from natural gas and can be an important contributor to our individual and national interest in energy efficiency.

Energy independence is important to all of us. It's comforting to know that nearly 90 percent of the natural gas consumed in our country is produced here as well. We encourage Congress and other leaders to develop a clearly articulated national energy policy that continues to encourage domestic energy supplies and increase emphasis on energy efficiency and conservation – it's important to our communities, those who live and work there, as well as to the security of our nation.

Energy efficiency is of increased importance as we enter the winter months. That's why this newsletter also includes energy savings tips to help you manage your energy consumption and options for bill payment. For more information on these topics, you can also visit us at

www.swgas.com.

Thank you for taking the time to become further acquainted with energy issues that affect us all – together, we can take steps and do our part to use energy wisely.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Shaw', with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

Jeff Shaw

