

#### STATE OF NEVADA

#### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON Chair

C.J. MANTHE Commissioner

TAMMY CORDOVA

Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN Executive Director

April 29, 2021

Southwest Gas Corporation P.O. Box 98510 Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

RE: Docket No.: 21-02019

Application of Southwest Gas Corporation, filed under Advice Letter No. 522, to revise Gas

Tariff No. 7 to implement changes to support the implementation of Customer Data

Modernization Initiative.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Regulatory Operations Staff has reviewed and processed the tariff sheets as filed in the above referenced docket. Enclosed are copies of the tariff sheets which have been accepted for filing by the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, effective May 1, 2021.

Sincerely,

Debbie Merritt

Administrative Assistant III

lebbie meritt

Enclosure(s)

cc: PUC Master File

4th Revised<br/>CancelingP.U.C.N. Sheet No.1523rd Revised<br/>P.U.C.N. Sheet No.15

## STATEMENT OF RATES OTHER SERVICE CHARGES

| Description   | Southern Nevada     | Northern Nevada     |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Service Establishment Charge 1/                           |                     |                     |
| Normal Service  | \$ 25.00            | \$ 25.00            |
| Expedited Service   | 40.00               | 40.00               |
| Customer-Requested Meter Tests                            |                     |                     |
| First Test  | \$ 0.00             | \$ 0.00             |
| Subsequent Tests 21                                       | 7.50                | 7.50                |
| Returned Item Charge                                      |                     |                     |
| PerItem   | \$ 10.00            | \$ 10.00            |
| <u>Transaction Fees</u>                                   |                     |                     |
| Credit Card Payments 34                                   |                     |                     |
| Residential Customers                                     | \$ 2.50             | \$ 2.50             |
| Commercial Customers                                      | 1.5% of transaction | 1.5% of transaction |
| Paystation Payments⁴                                      | 1.50                | 1.50                |
| Street and Outdoor Lighting Permanent Disconnection Fee 5 |                     |                     |
| Per Device  | \$ 60.00            | \$ 60.00            |
| Excess Flow Valve Installation                            |                     |                     |
| Per Installation  | \$ 200.00           | \$ 200.00           |

<sup>1/</sup> Subject to adjustment for any taxes or governmental impositions.

- 2/ For customers whose annual usage exceeds 180,000 therms per year, the Company may, at its sole discretion, charge the customer for any costs actually incurred by the Company in performing the meter test.
- 3/ A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for transactions processed using a credit or debit card. For Residential Customers, a transaction fee of \$2.50 will be assessed for amounts up to \$750.00. For Commercial Customers, a transaction fee of 1.5% of the total transaction will be assessed and there is no dollar limit for that transaction. For purposes of this section, a Residential Customer is defined as any customer served under the SG-RS, NG-RS, SG-RM, NG-RM, SG-RAC or NG-RAC rate schedules. A Commercial Customer is any customer not served under a Company rate schedule that is considered a Residential Customer pursuant to this tariff section.
- 4/ A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for payment processed at a Paystation location.
- 5/ Applicable to lighting devices served under Schedule No. SG-L/NG-L when the customer has requested permanent disconnection from the Company's distribution system.

| Issued: February 17, 2021  Effective: May 1, 2021  Advice Letter No.: 522 | Issued by<br>Justin Lee Brown<br>Senior Vice President | Filing Accepted Effective  MAY 0 1 2021  Public Utilities Commission of Nevada |
|---|--|--|
|---|--|--|

|           |             | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. | 144 |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-----|
| Canceling | 3rd Revised | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. | 144 |

#### RULE NO. 1

#### **DEFINITIONS**

(Continued)

Service Line Shut-Off

Valve:

A curb valve or other manually operated valve located near the service that is safely accessible to Company personnel or other personnel authorized by the Company to manually shut off gas

flow to the service line.

Shrinkage: The cost of the gas quantities lost, unaccounted for, or used as

company fuel in the transportation process and represented by the differential between the cost of gas on a sales basis and the

cost of gas on a purchased basis.

Shrinkage Rate: The rate used to recover the cost of shrinkage from non-exempt

transportation customers. In Southern Nevada, the high pressure shrinkage rate will be calculated using the ratio of the high-pressure-system miles of pipe to the system total miles of pipe for both the high and low pressure systems, consistent with the calculation approved by the Commission in Docket No. 09-03012. High pressure includes all pipe systems that have a Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 125 psig or greater. Low pressure includes all pipe systems that have a MAOP of less than 125 psig. Customers receiving service off of a high pressure system will pay the high pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms. Customers receiving service off of a low pressure system will pay the low

pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms.

Single-Family

Residential Structure:

A permanent residential dwelling, excluding multi-family residential structures, that receives the benefits of natural gas service through

an individual meter.

Soft Credit Check: An inquir

An inquiry initiated by the Company, with the applicant's consent, to a credit agency into a prospective customer's credit to determine creditworthiness. This type of inquiry will show up on a prospective customer's credit report but will not negatively impact that

customer's credit score.

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

Issued by
Justin Lee Brown
Senior Vice President

Advice Letter No.:

522

MAY 0 1 2021

Filing Accepted Effective

Public Utilities Cornmission of Nevada

Canceling

3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

145 145

RULE NO. 1

<u>DEFINITIONS</u> (Continued)

Standing Nomination: A Daily Nomination which is effective for multiple Gas Days.

Standing Nominations cannot exceed the term of the customer's Transportation Service Agreement. A Standing Nomination can be replaced by a new Daily Nomination or Intra-day Nomination; however, upon the expiration of such replacement Nomination, the

Standing Nomination becomes effective again.

Subdivision: An area for single-family dwellings which may be identified by filed

plans.

Summer Season: The six month period beginning May 1 and ending October 31.

Tariff: The entire body of effective rates, charges and rules, collectively, of

the Company, as set forth herein.

Temporary Service: Service to premises, enterprises or activities which are provisional or

interim in nature, or where it is known in advance that the service will be of limited duration. Service which, in the opinion of the Company, is for operations of a speculative character, or the permanency of which has

not been established, is also considered temporary service.

Termination of Service: The intentional cessation of service by the Company to a customer

which has not been requested by the customer and which occurs

pursuant to the tariff of the Company.

Therm: A unit of heating value equivalent to 100,000 British Thermal Units (Btu).

Third-Party: Any person or public agency willing to receive monthly notifications

in the event of a pending termination of service of a residential customer, who assumes no liability for the payment of the

customer's bill.

Timely Payment: The payment of a bill for service prior to the date the bill is past due,

unless otherwise specified.

Transmission Main: A pipeline installed for the purpose of transmitting gas from a source

of supply to distribution center, storage facility or large volume

customer(s).

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

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Justin Lee Brown
Senior Vice President

Advice Letter No.:

522

MAY 0 1 2021

Filing Accepted Effective

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada Canceling

1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

145A

**RULE NO. 1** 

**DEFINITIONS** (Continued)

Transportation Billing

Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7

Quantity:

A customer's monthly scheduled transportation quantity or, if transportation service is provided at separate premises under a

single service agreement, the sum of a customer's metered quantities, including the effect of any adjustment for cycle billing.

Utility:

Public Utility as defined in NRS 704.020 which furnishes gas; in this

case Southwest Gas Corporation.

Weighted Average

Cost of Gas:

(WACOG) The unit price of gas including the actual cost of the gas

and delivery charges.

Winter Season:

The six month period beginning November 1 and ending April 30.

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

Advice Letter No.:

522

Issued by Justin Lee Brown Senior Vice President Filing Accepted Effective

MAY 0 1 2021

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

|           |             | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. |     |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-----|
| Canceling | 1st Revised | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. | 150 |

#### RULE NO. 3

#### APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

#### Α. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

The Company shall require each applicant for service to provide such information as stated in the content listing and also establish credit as provided for in Rule No. 12 of this Nevada Gas Tariff.

An applicant may apply for residential service from the Company by mail, by telephone, or on-line; however, if the applicant is applying for service for the first time, or has not received service from the Company during the preceding two years. such applicant may be required to apply for service in person.

- Content. Such application may include the following information, but is not limited to:
  - Legal name of applicant(s). a.
  - Name of applicant's spouse or co-applicant. b.
  - C. Identification (Social Security number or driver's license number).
  - d. Date of birth.
  - Date and place of application. e.
  - f Location of premises to be served.
  - Date applicant will be ready for service. g.
  - h. Previous address
  - i. Whether the premises have been previously supplied with gas.
  - į. Purposes for which service is to be used.
  - k. Address to which bills are to be mailed or delivered.
  - 1. Rate schedule to be applied where optional rates are in effect.
  - m. Telephone number.
  - n. Third person identification, address and telephone number.
  - ٥. Whether customer or other permanent resident is elderly or disabled.
  - Such additional information as the Company may reasonably require. p.

Issued: February 17, 2021 Issued by Filing Accepted Effective Justin Lee Brown Effective: Senior Vice President May 1, 2021 MAY 0 1 2021 Advice Letter No.: Public Utilities Commission of Nevada 522

|           | 2nd Revised | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------|
| Canceling | 1st Revised | P.U.C.N. Sheet No. |

204

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**RULE NO. 12** 

## ESTABLISHMENT AND REESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT

#### A. <u>ESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT</u>

Each applicant, as a condition of service, will be required to satisfactorily establish credit.

- 1. An applicant for residential service may establish credit if the applicant:
  - a. Submits payment of a cash deposit to ensure the payment of a bill issued for service, as prescribed in Rule No. 13;
  - b. Provides consent to a soft credit check with the Utility credit bureau vendor and receives an adequate creditworthiness designation;
  - c. Has been a customer of the Company within the preceding two years and has established satisfactory credit;
  - d. Has been a customer of a municipal or any other regulated energy Company within the preceding two years and has made timely payment of each bill issued for service during the 12 months immediately preceding the applicant's request for service;
  - e. Uses a guarantor who must:
    - (1) Be a customer of the Company with satisfactory credit;
    - (2) Assume liability for the customer for whom guarantor is acting for an amount not to exceed the amount of the deposit that the customer otherwise would have been required to pay and for a period not to extend past the date the deposit otherwise would have been required to be refunded; and
    - (3) Make payment for the customer for whom guarantor is acting, in the event guarantor is required to make such payment, within a period not to exceed three months. If payment is not made within this period, the Company may terminate service to the guarantor without notice.

Issued: February 17, 2021

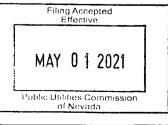
Effective:

May 1, 2021

Advice Letter No.:

522

Issued by
Justin Lee Brown
Senior Vice President



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21-02019

# Public Utilities Commission of Nevada Electronic Filing

Submitted: 4/9/2021 1:08:26 PM

Reference: e8aa7d85-d2d5-4349-83a8-30a45efddc44

Reference:

Filed For: Southwest Gas Corporation
In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Tashia Garry

\_\_\_\_\_

 $By \ electronically \ filing \ the \ document(s),$  the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized agent or

representative of the signer(s) and Southwest Gas Corporation



# **SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION**

April 9, 2021

Ms. Trisha Osborne
Assistant Commission Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 East William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109

Re: Docket No. 21-02019

Dear Ms. Osborne:

Southwest Gas Corporation herewith submits for filing a revision to the tariff sheet No. 204 that was originally filed in Docket 21-02019. Per Staff's recommendation, clarifying language is added to section A.1.b – "and receives an adequate creditworthiness designation" is added after the word "vendor." Only Sheet No. 204 is revised; however, all previously filed tariff sheets under this docket are included for convenience.

Communications regarding this filing should be directed to:

Amy L. Timperley
Director/Regulation & Energy Efficiency
Southwest Gas Corporation
P.O. Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

Telephone: 702-876-7266

E-mail: <u>amy.timperley@swgas.com</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Tashia Garry

Legal Assistant/Regulation & Litigation

**Enclosures** 

c: Ernest Figueroa, BCP Anne-Marie Cuneo, PUCN Canceling 4th Revise

4th Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. \_ 3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. \_

<u>15</u> 15

#### STATEMENT OF RATES OTHER SERVICE CHARGES

| Description  | Southern Nevada     | Northern Nevada     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Service Establishment Charge 1/                            |                     |                     |
| Normal Service   | \$ 25.00            | \$ 25.00            |
| Expedited Service  | 40.00               | 40.00               |
| Customer-Requested Meter Tests                             |                     |                     |
| First Test   | \$ 0.00             | \$ 0.00             |
| Subsequent Tests 2'  | 7.50                | 7.50                |
| Returned Item Charge                                       |                     |                     |
| PerItem  | \$ 10.00            | \$ 10.00            |
| <u>Transaction Fees</u>                                    |                     |                     |
| Credit Card Payments 3/                                    |                     |                     |
| Residential Customers                                      | \$ 2.50             | \$ 2.50 I           |
| Commercial Customers                                       | 1.5% of transaction | 1.5% of transaction |
| Paystation Payments⁴                                       | 1.50                | 1.50                |
| Street and Outdoor Lighting Permanent Disconnection Fee 5/ |                     |                     |
| Per Device   | \$ 60.00            | \$ 60.00            |
| Excess Flow Valve Installation                             |                     |                     |
| Per Installation   | \$ 200.00           | \$ 200.00           |

<sup>1/</sup> Subject to adjustment for any taxes or governmental impositions.

<sup>5/</sup> Applicable to lighting devices served under Schedule No. SG-L/NG-L when the customer has requested permanent disconnection from the Company's distribution system.

| Issued:<br>February 17, 2021 |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Effective:<br>May 1, 2021    | lssued by<br>Justin Lee Brown<br>Senior Vice President | - |
| Advice Letter No.: 522       |  |   |

<sup>2/</sup> For customers whose annual usage exceeds 180,000 therms per year, the Company may, at its sole discretion, charge the customer for any costs actually incurred by the Company in performing the meter test.

<sup>3/</sup> A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for transactions processed using a credit or debit card. For Residential Customers, a transaction fee of \$2.50 will be assessed for amounts up to \$750.00. For Commercial Customers, a transaction fee of 1.5% of the total transaction will be assessed and there is no dollar limit for that transaction. For purposes of this section, a Residential Customer is defined as any customer served under the SG-RS, NG-RS, SG-RM, NG-RM, SG-RAC or NG-RAC rate schedules. A Commercial Customer is any customer not served under a Company rate schedule that is considered a Residential Customer pursuant to this tariff section.

<sup>4/</sup> A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for payment processed at a Paystation location.

Canceling

4th Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

144 144

#### RULE NO. 1

## **DEFINITIONS**

(Continued)

Service Line Shut-Off

Valve:

A curb valve or other manually operated valve located near the service that is safely accessible to Company personnel or other personnel authorized by the Company to manually shut off gas

flow to the service line.

Shrinkage:

The cost of the gas quantities lost, unaccounted for, or used as company fuel in the transportation process and represented by the differential between the cost of gas on a sales basis and the cost of gas on a purchased basis.

Shrinkage Rate:

The rate used to recover the cost of shrinkage from non-exempt transportation customers. In Southern Nevada, the high pressure shrinkage rate will be calculated using the ratio of the high-pressuresystem miles of pipe to the system total miles of pipe for both the high and low pressure systems, consistent with the calculation approved by the Commission in Docket No. 09-03012. High pressure includes all pipe systems that have a Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 125 psig or greater. Low pressure includes all pipe systems that have a MAOP of less than 125 psig. Customers receiving service off of a high pressure system will pay the high pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms. Customers receiving service off of a low pressure system will pay the low pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms.

Single-Family Residential Structure: A permanent residential dwelling, excluding multi-family residential structures, that receives the benefits of natural gas service through

an individual meter.

Soft Credit Check:

An inquiry initiated by the Company, with the applicant's consent, to a credit agency into a prospective customer's credit to determine creditworthiness. This type of inquiry will show up on a prospective customer's credit report but will not negatively impact that

customer's credit score.

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

Issued by Justin Lee Brown Senior Vice President

Advice Letter No.:

3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 145 145 2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

#### RULE NO. 1

Canceling

### **DEFINITIONS**

(Continued)

Standing Nomination: A Daily Nomination which is effective for multiple Gas Days.

Standing Nominations cannot exceed the term of the customer's Transportation Service Agreement. A Standing Nomination can be replaced by a new Daily Nomination or Intra-day Nomination; however, upon the expiration of such replacement Nomination, the

Standing Nomination becomes effective again.

Subdivision: An area for single-family dwellings which may be identified by filed

plans.

Summer Season: The six month period beginning May 1 and ending October 31.

Tariff: The entire body of effective rates, charges and rules, collectively, of

the Company, as set forth herein.

Temporary Service: Service to premises, enterprises or activities which are provisional or

> interim in nature, or where it is known in advance that the service will be of limited duration. Service which, in the opinion of the Company, is for operations of a speculative character, or the permanency of which has

not been established, is also considered temporary service.

Termination of Service: The intentional cessation of service by the Company to a customer

which has not been requested by the customer and which occurs

pursuant to the tariff of the Company.

Therm: A unit of heating value equivalent to 100,000 British Thermal Units (Btu).

Third-Party: Any person or public agency willing to receive monthly notifications

> in the event of a pending termination of service of a residential customer, who assumes no liability for the payment of the

customer's bill.

Timely Payment: The payment of a bill for service prior to the date the bill is past due,

unless otherwise specified.

A pipeline installed for the purpose of transmitting gas from a source Transmission Main:

of supply to distribution center, storage facility or large volume

customer(s).

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

Advice Letter No.:

522

Issued by Justin Lee Brown Senior Vice President

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION P.O. Box 98510 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510 Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. \_

145A 145A

RULE NO. 1

Canceling

**DEFINITIONS** 

(Continued) Transportation Billing

A customer's monthly scheduled transportation quantity or, if transportation service is provided at separate premises under a

single service agreement, the sum of a customer's metered quantities, including the effect of any adjustment for cycle billing.

Public Utility as defined in NRS 704.020 which furnishes gas; in this Utility:

case Southwest Gas Corporation.

Weighted Average

Cost of Gas:

Quantity:

(WACOG) The unit price of gas including the actual cost of the gas

and delivery charges.

Winter Season: The six month period beginning November 1 and ending April 30.

Issued:

February 17, 2021

Effective:

May 1, 2021

Issued by Justin Lee Brown Senior Vice President

Advice Letter No.:

Canceling \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

150 150

#### **RULE NO. 3**

#### **APPLICATION FOR SERVICE**

#### A. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

The Company shall require each applicant for service to provide such information as stated in the content listing and also establish credit as provided for in Rule No. 12 of this Nevada Gas Tariff.

An applicant may apply for residential service from the Company by mail, by telephone, or on-line; however, if the applicant is applying for service for the first time, or has not received service from the Company during the preceding two years, such applicant may be required to apply for service in person.

- 1. <u>Content.</u> Such application may include the following information, but is not limited to:
  - a. Legal name of applicant(s).
  - b. Name of applicant's spouse or co-applicant.
  - c. Identification (Social Security number or driver's license number).
  - d. Date of birth.
  - e. Date and place of application.
  - f. Location of premises to be served.
  - g. Date applicant will be ready for service.
  - h. Previous address
  - i. Whether the premises have been previously supplied with gas.
  - Purposes for which service is to be used.
  - k. Address to which bills are to be mailed or delivered.
  - I. Rate schedule to be applied where optional rates are in effect.
  - m. Telephone number.
  - n. Third person identification, address and telephone number.
  - o. Whether customer or other permanent resident is elderly or disabled.
  - Such additional information as the Company may reasonably require.

Issued:
February 17, 2021

Issued by
Justin Lee Brown
Senior Vice President

Advice Letter No.:
522

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|----|----|----|----|---|---|

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

204 204

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RULE NO. 12

#### ESTABLISHMENT AND REESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT

#### A. **ESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT**

Each applicant, as a condition of service, will be required to satisfactorily establish credit.

- 1. An applicant for residential service may establish credit if the applicant:
  - Submits payment of a cash deposit to ensure the payment of a bill issued for service, as prescribed in Rule No. 13;
  - b. Provides consent to a soft credit check with the Utility credit bureau vendor and receives an adequate creditworthiness designation;
  - c. Has been a customer of the Company within the preceding two years and has established satisfactory credit;
  - d. Has been a customer of a municipal or any other regulated energy Company within the preceding two years and has made timely payment of each bill issued for service during the 12 months immediately preceding the applicant's request for service;
  - e. Uses a guarantor who must:
    - (1) Be a customer of the Company with satisfactory credit;
    - (2) Assume liability for the customer for whom guarantor is acting for an amount not to exceed the amount of the deposit that the customer otherwise would have been required to pay and for a period not to extend past the date the deposit otherwise would have been required to be refunded; and
    - (3) Make payment for the customer for whom guarantor is acting, in the event guarantor is required to make such payment, within a period not to exceed three months. If payment is not made within this period, the Company may terminate service to the guarantor without notice.

| Issued:<br>February 17, 2021 |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Effective:<br>May 1, 2021    | Issued by<br>Justin Lee Brown<br>Senior Vice President |  |
| Advice Letter No.: 522       |  |  |

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# Original Filing

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada Electronic Filing

Submitted: 2/17/2021 2:46:48 PM

Reference: e6c3d9b2-5598-44bc-98d8-84ea9575c201

Reference:

Filed For: Southwest Gas Corporation
In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Tashia Garry

\_\_\_\_\_

By electronically filing the document(s), the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized

agent or representative of the signer(s) and Southwest Gas Corporation



## SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

February 17, 2021

Ms. Trisha Osborne Assistant Commission Secretary Public Utilities Commission of Nevada 1150 East William Street Carson City, NV 89701-3109

Dear Ms. Osborne:

Southwest Gas Corporation (Company) herewith submits for filing Advice Letter No. 522 to reflect revisions to the Company's Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7 related to business process changes resulting from the implementation of the Company's Customer Data Modernization Initiative May 3, 2021. The Company requests proposed revisions to the subject tariff sheets become effective May 1, 2021.

Communications regarding this Advice Letter should be directed to:

Amy L. Timperley
Director/Regulation & Energy Efficiency
Southwest Gas Corporation
P.O. Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

Telephone: 702-876-7266

E-mail: <u>amy.timperley@swqas.com</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Tashia Garry

Legal Assistant/Regulation & Litigation

**Enclosures** 

c: Ernest Figueroa, BCP Anne-Marie Cuneo, PUCN



Advice Letter No. 522

February 17, 2021

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Southwest Gas Corporation (Southwest Gas or Company) tenders herewith for filing the following tariff sheets applicable to its Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7:

| Proposed PUCN Sheet No.    | Supersedes PUCN Sheet No.  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 4th Revised Sheet No. 15   | 3rd Revised Sheet No. 15   |
| 4th Revised Sheet No. 144  | 3rd Revised Sheet No. 144  |
| 3rd Revised Sheet No. 145  | 2nd Revised Sheet No. 145  |
| 2nd Revised Sheet No. 145A | 1st Revised Sheet No. 145A |
| 2nd Revised Sheet No. 150  | 1st Revised Sheet No. 150  |
| 2nd Revised Sheet No. 204  | 1st Revised Sheet No. 204  |

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 704.110, Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 701B.245, 703.535, 704.116, 704.953 through 704.9718, and all other applicable sections of Chapters 703 and 704 of the NAC, as well as the relevant provisions of its Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7 (Tariff), Southwest Gas respectfully files this Advice Letter to implement certain changes to the Company's Tariff to support the implementation of its Customer Data Modernization Initiative (CDMI) in May 2021. As described in Docket No. 19-03042, the CDMI contemplates the replacement of two critical customer service systems – the Customer Service System (CSS) and the Gas Transaction System (GTS). The Company requests an effective date of May 1, 2021 for each of the aforementioned tariff sheets. The requested tariff changes primarily focus on two areas – Establishment of Credit and Credit Card transaction fees.

#### **Establishment of Credit**

The Company proposes changes to Rule 12 of its Tariff to allow it to perform a soft credit check for an applicant for residential service as a method to establish credit. A soft credit check contemplates a credit inquiry to determine the creditworthiness of a customer to establish new service while not negatively impacting that customer's credit score. A customer's creditworthiness will not be determined solely by that customer's FICO score, but rather by utilizing a proprietary model developed by Experian that primarily considers a customer's ability to make payment on other utility accounts. The Company will obtain consent for this inquiry from prospective customers when those customers contact the Company to establish service via telephone or through its self service portal. If a customer's creditworthiness is deemed unsatisfactory to the Company utilizing this methodology, the customer will be notified and may establish credit through the current practice of providing a deposit and/or providing a letter of credit from another utility. Proposed changes to Rule 1 of the Company's Tariff include a definition of a Soft Credit Check.

The Company believes this change is reasonable because the addition of soft credit checks to Rule 12 will provide residential customers with added flexibility and convenience by offering an additional method to establish those customers' credit in a manner that is satisfactory to the Company pursuant to NAC 704.327(d). Moreover, the Company anticipates that less customer deposits will be collected by implementing the soft credit check approach as only those customers considered high risk with respect to paying utility obligations will be required to make a deposit.



#### **Credit Card Payment Transaction Fee**

The Company currently stores customer checking account information for those customers enrolled in an automatic payment plan or Automated Clearing House (ACH) payments and currently utilizes a third-party vendor for credit card payment transactions. In an effort to further increase security of its customers' personally identifiable information (PII) and consolidate services with a single vendor, the Company determined it will not maintain customer PII in its new customer information system and it will implement an alternative methodology where one vendor will support a single self-service integration point for customer ACH, credit card and interactive voice payments. This methodology will encrypt customers' information and the Company will receive a unique identifier confirming a successful payment transaction (tokenization). The ability to receive payment tokenization and increase customer PII security results in a change to the third-party credit card payment transaction fees. For residential customers, the credit card transaction fee will change from \$2.00<sup>i</sup> per credit card payment to \$2.50 per credit card payment. Moreover, the limit that a residential customer may pay via credit card will increase from \$300 to \$750. For commercial customers, in lieu of paying \$2.00 for each transaction up to \$300, the \$300 per transaction limit will be removed and a 1.5% fee of the transaction amount will be applied. Consisent with today's practice, the transaction fees are charged by a third-party for their service and the amount collected for the subject fees is not retained by the Company.

The Company believes this change in credit card transaction fees is reasonable considering the additional security to protect its customers' Pll and the additional flexibility afforded to its customers through the increased limits on credit card payment transactions.

This filing is made in accordance with the Nevada Administrative Code, Chapter 703, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Respectfully submitted,
SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Amy L. Timperley

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Approved in Docket No. 12-03002

4th Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. Canceling

3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

#### STATEMENT OF RATES OTHER SERVICE CHARGES

| \$ 25.00<br>40.00   | \$ 25.00   |
|---------------------|--|
| ,                   | \$ 25.00   |
| 40.00               |  |
| 70.00               | 40.00  |
|                     |  |
| \$ 0.00             | \$ 0.00  |
| 7.50                | 7.50   |
|                     |  |
| \$ 10.00            | \$ 10.00   |
|                     |  |
|                     |  |
| \$ 2.50             | \$ 2.50 I  |
| 1.5% of transaction | 1.5% of transaction  |
| 1.50                | 1.50   |
|                     |  |
| \$ 60.00            | \$ 60.00   |
|                     |  |
| \$ 200.00           | \$ 200.00  |
|                     | 7.50<br>\$ 10.00<br>\$ 2.50<br>1.5% of transaction<br>1.50<br>\$ 60.00 |

<sup>1/</sup> Subject to adjustment for any taxes or governmental impositions.

<sup>5/</sup> Applicable to lighting devices served under Schedule No. SG-L/NG-L when the customer has requested permanent disconnection from the Company's distribution system.

| Issued:<br>February 17, 2021 |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Effective:<br>May 1, 2021    | Issued by<br>Justin Lee Brown<br>Senior Vice President | Т |
| Advice Letter No.: 522       |  |   |

<sup>2/</sup> For customers whose annual usage exceeds 180,000 therms per year, the Company may, at its sole discretion, charge the customer for any costs actually incurred by the Company in performing the meter test.

<sup>3/</sup> A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for transactions processed using a credit or debit card. For Residential Customers, a transaction fee of \$2.50 will be assessed for amounts up to \$750.00. For Commercial Customers, a transaction fee of 1.5% of the total transaction will be assessed and there is no dollar limit N for that transaction. For purposes of this section, a Residential Customer is defined as any customer served under N the SG-RS, NG-RS, SG-RM, NG-RM, SG-RAC or NG-RAC rate schedules. A Commercial Customer is any customer IN not served under a Company rate schedule that is considered a Residential Customer pursuant to this tariff section.

<sup>4/</sup> A transaction fee is assessed and paid directly to the third-party vendor for payment processed at a Paystation location.

4th Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

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Canceling

RULE NO. 1

## DEFINITIONS

(Continued)

Service Line Shut-Off

Valve:

A curb valve or other manually operated valve located near the service that is safely accessible to Company personnel or other

personnel authorized by the Company to manually shut off gas

flow to the service line.

Shrinkage: The cost of the gas quantities lost, unaccounted for, or used as

company fuel in the transportation process and represented by the differential between the cost of gas on a sales basis and the

cost of gas on a purchased basis.

Shrinkage Rate: The rate used to recover the cost of shrinkage from non-exempt

transportation customers. In Southern Nevada, the high pressure shrinkage rate will be calculated using the ratio of the high-pressuresystem miles of pipe to the system total miles of pipe for both the high and low pressure systems, consistent with the calculation approved by the Commission in Docket No. 09-03012. High pressure includes all pipe systems that have a Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 125 psig or greater. Low pressure includes all pipe systems that have a MAOP of less than 125 psig. Customers receiving service off of a high pressure system will pay the high pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms. Customers receiving service off of a low pressure system will pay the low

pressure shrinkage rate for all applicable therms.

Single-Family Residential Structure: A permanent residential dwelling, excluding multi-family residential structures, that receives the benefits of natural gas service through

an individual meter.

Soft Credit Check: An inquiry initiated by the Company, with the applicant's consent, to

a credit agency into a prospective customer's credit to determine creditworthiness. This type of inquiry will show up on a prospective customer's credit report but will not negatively impact that

customer's credit score.

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3rd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 145 2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 145

#### RULE NO. 1

Canceling

# DEFINITIONS (Continued)

Standing Nomination: A Daily Nomination which is effective for multiple Gas Days.

Standing Nominations cannot exceed the term of the customer's Transportation Service Agreement. A Standing Nomination can be replaced by a new Daily Nomination or Intra-day Nomination; however, upon the expiration of such replacement Nomination, the

Standing Nomination becomes effective again.

Subdivision: An area for single-family dwellings which may be identified by filed

plans.

Summer Season: The six month period beginning May 1 and ending October 31.

Tariff: The entire body of effective rates, charges and rules, collectively, of

the Company, as set forth herein.

Temporary Service: Service to premises, enterprises or activities which are provisional or

interim in nature, or where it is known in advance that the service will be of limited duration. Service which, in the opinion of the Company, is for operations of a speculative character, or the permanency of which has

not been established, is also considered temporary service.

Termination of Service: The intentional cessation of service by the Company to a customer

which has not been requested by the customer and which occurs

pursuant to the tariff of the Company.

Therm: A unit of heating value equivalent to 100,000 British Thermal Units (Btu).

Third-Party: Any person or public agency willing to receive monthly notifications

in the event of a pending termination of service of a residential customer, who assumes no liability for the payment of the

customer's bill.

Timely Payment: The payment of a bill for service prior to the date the bill is past due,

unless otherwise specified.

Transmission Main: A pipeline installed for the purpose of transmitting gas from a source

of supply to distribution center, storage facility or large volume

customer(s).

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SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION P.O. Box 98510 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510 Nevada Gas Tariff No. 7

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. \_

145A 145A

RULE NO. 1

Canceling

**DEFINITIONS** (Continued)

Transportation Billing

Quantity:

A customer's monthly scheduled transportation quantity or, if transportation service is provided at separate premises under a single service agreement, the sum of a customer's metered

quantities, including the effect of any adjustment for cycle billing.

Utility:

Public Utility as defined in NRS 704.020 which furnishes gas; in this

case Southwest Gas Corporation.

Weighted Average

Cost of Gas:

(WACOG) The unit price of gas including the actual cost of the gas

and delivery charges.

Winter Season: The six month period beginning November 1 and ending April 30.

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Senior Vice President

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 150 150

#### RULE NO. 3

Canceling

#### APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

#### APPLICATION FOR SERVICE Α.

The Company shall require each applicant for service to provide such information as stated in the content listing and also establish credit as provided for in Rule No. 12 of this Nevada Gas Tariff.

An applicant may apply for residential service from the Company by mail, by telephone, or on-line; however, if the applicant is applying for service for the first time, or has not received service from the Company during the preceding two years, such applicant may be required to apply for service in person.

- 1. Content. Such application may include the following information, but is not limited to:
  - a. Legal name of applicant(s).
  - Name of applicant's spouse or co-applicant. b.
  - C. Identification (Social Security number or driver's license number).
  - d. Date of birth.
  - Date and place of application. e.
  - f. Location of premises to be served.
  - g. Date applicant will be ready for service.
  - h. Previous address
  - Î. Whether the premises have been previously supplied with gas.
  - İ. Purposes for which service is to be used.
  - k. Address to which bills are to be mailed or delivered.
  - I. Rate schedule to be applied where optional rates are in effect.
  - Telephone number. m.
  - Third person identification, address and telephone number. n.
  - Whether customer or other permanent resident is elderly or disabled. Ο.
  - Such additional information as the Company may reasonably require.

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| Canceling |         |

2nd Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No. 1st Revised P.U.C.N. Sheet No.

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### RULE NO. 12

#### ESTABLISHMENT AND REESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT

#### Α. ESTABLISHMENT OF CREDIT

Each applicant, as a condition of service, will be required to satisfactorily establish credit.

- 1. An applicant for residential service may establish credit if the applicant:
  - Submits payment of a cash deposit to ensure the payment of a bill issued for service, as prescribed in Rule No. 13;
  - b. Provides consent to a soft credit check with the Utility credit bureau vendor;
  - C. Has been a customer of the Company within the preceding two years and has established satisfactory credit;
  - Has been a customer of a municipal or any other regulated energy d. Company within the preceding two years and has made timely payment of each bill issued for service during the 12 months immediately preceding the applicant's request for service;
  - Uses a guarantor who must: e.
    - Be a customer of the Company with satisfactory credit; (1)
    - (2) Assume liability for the customer for whom guarantor is acting for an amount not to exceed the amount of the deposit that the customer otherwise would have been required to pay and for a period not to extend past the date the deposit otherwise would have been required to be refunded; and
    - Make payment for the customer for whom guarantor is acting, in (3)the event guarantor is required to make such payment, within a period not to exceed three months. If payment is not made within this period, the Company may terminate service to the guarantor without notice.

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