

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 11, 2009

Advice Letter 823

John P. Hester, Sr. Vice-President
Regulatory Affairs and Energy Resources
Southwest Gas Corporation
P O Box 98510
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

**Subject: To Implement the Energy Share Program Whereby Customers
May Donate a Designated Amount of Money to the Energy Share
Program via their Monthly Southwest Gas Bill**

Dear Mr. Hester:

Advice Letter 823 is effective August 23, 2009. The Energy Division recommends that Southwest Gas obtain the services of an additional, secular charitable organization which can distribute donations to customers. If obtained, this organization should also be listed in the bill form donation box in the future. In addition, the Energy Division's approval of Advice Letter 823 is conditioned on all donations going to customers, and not to Salvation Army administrative or other expenses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie A. Fitch".

Julie A. Fitch, Director
Energy Division



SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Roger C. Montgomery, Vice President/Pricing

July 24, 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. 823

Dear Ms. Fitch:

Enclosed herewith are an original and five (5) copies of Southwest Gas Corporation's Advice Letter No. 823.

Sincerely,

Roger C. Montgomery

RCM:kt
Enclosures



SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Advice Letter No. 823

July 24, 2009

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Southwest Gas Corporation (Southwest) hereby submits for filing Advice Letter No. 823. There are no tariff sheets associated with this filing.

Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to request authorization from the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to implement the Energy Share program (Program) whereby customers may donate a designated amount of money to the Program via their monthly Southwest bill.

Background

Since 1997, Southwest has worked in partnership with the Salvation Army, a community-based nonprofit organization, to provide one-time emergency energy assistance to Southwest customers. The Salvation Army administers the year-round Program for Southwest and disburses the funds to Southwest customers throughout its California service territories. Donations to the Program assist customers who are facing financial hardships due to emergency or medical situations. Customers who demonstrate hardship and need energy bill payment assistance may only receive funding once per annum.

Currently, the Program is funded entirely through monetary donations by Southwest customers and its employees via Southwest's website or by calling Customer Assistance. Customers also receive information about the Program through an annual bill insert.

Through this filing, Southwest proposes to extend the Program donation option so that any residential customer in good standing may elect to donate money through their monthly bill statement. As illustrated below, a customer bill will include Program contribution boxes of one dollar (\$1), five dollars (\$5), or ten dollars (\$10). (Sample Bill – Attachment A)

Your monthly donation to Energy Share provides emergency aid to neighbors in need. Select an amount listed below and the Salvation Army will do the rest.					
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10

Once the customer selects a contribution amount, the donation will be displayed as a separate line item on the customers' next bill along with a thank you message confirming their contribution, as illustrated below. (Sample Bill – Attachment B)



CURRENT BILLING:		30 Days		Billing		Total	
Meter Reading:	Current	Previous		Factor		Therms	
	July 15	June 15	=		=		
	1668	1633	=	35 X	.8314 =	29	
Gas Usage		29 Therms X		.370210	=		10.74
Monthly Gas Cost		Total Therms X		.272100 X	21/30 Days		
Monthly Gas Cost		Total Therms X		.250080 X	9/30 Days		7.70
Total Monthly Gas Cost							
PPP Surcharge		Total Therms X		.024630	=		0.71
CPUC Surcharge		Total Therms X		.000680	=		0.02
Basic Service Charge							6.00
Energy Share Pledge Amount							5.00 ← line item
Current Bill							\$30.17

Thank you for donating to Energy share. Your generosity provides emergency energy assistance to people in our community who need a helping hand.

Customers who receive Summary Bills, or who are on the Automatic or Equal Payment Plans, utilize Electronic-Bill, or have a credit balance will not receive the Program donation option on their bill. In addition, customers who receive notices regarding disconnects, deposit due, past due, and final bills will not be eligible to donate.

Customers will neither be assessed late fees nor will monthly contributions accrue should they elect not to donate for a given month. Customers who have donated to the Program will receive a year-end summary of the total dollar amount they have contributed to the Program for tax purposes. Customers may discontinue their participation in the Program by contacting Customer Assistance.

In 2006, Southwest implemented the Energy Share Program bill donation option in its Arizona service territories and within the first eight months the Program funding increased nearly \$25,000. Therefore, Southwest believes the Program funding in California will increase as well to assist customers in paying their bills who are experiencing financial hardships.

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other schedules or rules.

Effective Date

Southwest believes this Advice Letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 2 (effective after staff approval) pursuant to General Order 96-B. Southwest seeks to implement this Program donation option on its customers bills beginning September 1, 2009 and respectfully requests that this advice letter be made effective August 23, 2009, which is 30 calendar days after the date filed.



Advice Letter No. 823
Page 3
July 24, 2009

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

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

Service

In accordance with General Order 96-B, General Rule 4.3, Southwest is mailing copies of this advice letter to the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

By 
Roger C. Montgomery

Attachments

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Advice Letter No. 823

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



SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Customer Assistance
Toll Free/Gratis:
1-877-860-6020
English/Espanol

VICTORVILLE, CA 92393

Hearing Impaired: Dial 711
www.swgas.com

PLEASE RETAIN THIS TOP PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS



PO BOX 0000
HELENDALE CA 92342-0000

Service Address: 92342

Rate Schedule: 201/GS-10 RESIDENTIAL GAS SERVICE

Your Local Office Is 13471 MARIPOSA ROAD, VICTORVILLE CA 92395

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CYCLE	DATE MAILED	PAST DUE AFTER	PLEASE PAY AMOUNT DUE
	12	07/23/09	08/11/09	\$17.16
PREVIOUS BILLING:				
Previous Balance				15.07
Payment(s) Since Last Bill - Thank You				15.07CR
Balance Forward				\$0.00
CURRENT BILLING:				
Meter Reading:	32 Days	Previous	Billing	Total
July 21	Current	June 19	Factor	Therms
805	805	789	14 X .9555	13
Gas Usage				13 Therms X .568540 = 7.39
Monthly Gas Cost				Total Therms X .287090 X 17/32 Days
Monthly Gas Cost				Total Therms X .500700 X 15/32 Days
Total Monthly Gas Cost				3.81
PPP Surcharge				Total Therms X .072740 = 0.95
CPUC Surcharge				Total Therms X .000680 = 0.01
Basic Service Charge				5.00
Current Bill				\$17.16

Due on or before: 08/11/09 **Amount due: \$17.16**

Important Messages:
Your next meter read date is: Aug. 19, 2009

NOW, IT'S EASIER THAN EVER TO DONATE TO ENERGY SHARE, A SALVATION ARMY PROGRAM THAT OFFERS SHORT-TERM EMERGENCY AID TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND SENIORS STRUGGLING TO PAY MOUNTING UTILITY BILLS. YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT CAN HELP. SELECT A MONTHLY DONATION BELOW AND THE SALVATION ARMY WILL DO THE REST.

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Therms / Days =	15 / 32	11 / 30	11 / 32
Avg Daily Therms	0.41	0.37	0.34
Avg Monthly Temperature	67	67	64

Previous Balance	Payments & Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Bill	Current Balance	AMOUNT DUE
15.07	- 15.07	= 0.00	+ 17.16	= 17.16	\$17.16

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS • RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT

Your monthly donation to Energy Share provides emergency aid to neighbors in need. Select an amount listed below and the Salvation Army will do the rest.

\$1 \$5 \$10

← Contribution Boxes

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CYCLE	DATE MAILED	PAST DUE AFTER	AMOUNT DUE
	12	07/23/09	08/11/09	\$17.16

PO BOX 0000
HELENDALE CA 92342-0000

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION
PO Box 98890
Las Vegas NV 89150-0101

121000002000250000017160000000007

This bill is now due and payable. Please make check payable to SWG and write account number on front of check or money order. Do not send cash through the mail or place cash in the night depository.



SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Customer Assistance
Toll Free/Gratis:
1-877-860-6020
English/Espanol

VICTORVILLE, CA 92393

Hearing Impaired: Dial 711
www.swgas.com

PLEASE RETAIN THIS TOP PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS



PO BOX 000
HELENDALE CA 92342-0000

92342

Service Address:
Rate Schedule: 201/GS-10 RESIDENTIAL GAS SERVICE

Your Local Office Is 13471 MARIPOSA ROAD, VICTORVILLE CA 92395

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CYCLE	DATE MAILED	PAST DUE AFTER	PLEASE PAY AMOUNT DUE
	12	07/23/09	08/11/09	\$31.06
PREVIOUS BILLING:				
Previous Balance				38.31
Payment(s) Since Last Bill - Thank You				38.31CR
Balance Forward				\$0.00
CURRENT BILLING:				
Meter Reading:	32 Days	Previous	Billing	Total
1126	July 21	June 19	Factor	Therms
		1103	.9555	22
Gas Usage				
Baseline	19 Therms	X	.568540	
Hier 11	3 Therms	X	.730180	
Total Gas Usage				12.99
Monthly Gas Cost	Total Therms	X	.287090	X 17/32 Days
Monthly Gas Cost	Total Therms	X	.300700	X 15/32 Days
Total Monthly Gas Cost				6.46
PPP Surcharge	Total Therms	X	.072740	=
CPUC Surcharge	Total Therms	X	.000680	=
Basic Service Charge				5.00
Energy Share Pledge Amount				5.00
Current Bill				\$31.06

← Donation Line Item

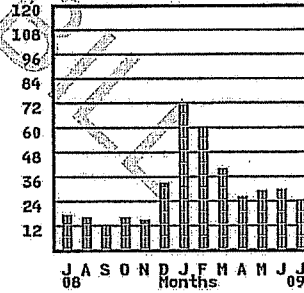
Due on or before: 08/11/09 Amount due: \$31.06

Important Messages:

Your next meter read date is: Aug. 19, 2009

FOR FAST, CONVENIENT ACCESS TO YOUR ACCOUNT,
SOUTHWEST GAS OFFERS AUTOMATED INFORMATION
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. CALL
877-860-6020 TO ACCESS THIS FEATURE.

T
H
E
R
M
S



Gas Usage History Information:

	Therms / Days =	Avg Daily Therms	Avg Monthly Temperature
This Month	22 / 32 =	0.69	67
Last Month	30 / 30 =	0.97	67
Last Year	16 / 32 =	0.50	84

Previous Balance	Payments & Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Bill	Current Balance	AMOUNT DUE
38.31	- 38.31	= 0.00	+ 31.06	= 31.06	\$31.06

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS • RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT

Thank you for donating to Energy share. Your generosity provides emergency energy assistance to people in our community who need a helping hand.

← Thank You Message

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CYCLE	DATE MAILED	PAST DUE AFTER	AMOUNT DUE
	12	07/23/09	08/11/09	\$31.06

PO BOX 000
HELENDALE CA 92342-0000

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION
PO Box 98890
Las Vegas NV 89150-0101

12100000680028000003106000000007

This bill is now due and payable. Please make check payable to SWG and write account number on front of check or money order. Do not send cash through the mail or place cash in the night depository.