# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

# Form 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2010

**Commission File Number 1-7850** 

# **SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California 88-0085720
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

5241 Spring Mountain Road
Post Office Box 98510

Las Vegas, Nevada

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (702) 876-7237

89193-8510

(Zip Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exduring the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been strequirements for the past 90 days.		
requirements for the past 50 days.	Yes X	_ No
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such size is registrant was required to submit and post such files).		
	Yes _	No
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reported definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "non-accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the E Large accelerated filer X Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company Smal		
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).	Yes	No X
Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.  Common Stock, \$1 Par Value, 45,371,013 shares as of May 3, 2010.		

# **PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

# ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Thousands of dollars, except par value)
(Unaudited)

(Unaudited)				
	MARCH 31,		D	ECEMBER
	IV.	2010		31, 2009
ASSETS	-	2010	-	2009
Utility plant:				
Gas plant	\$	4,452,297	\$	4,418,286
Less: accumulated depreciation		(1,460,799)		(1,431,106)
Acquisition adjustments, net		1,406		1,451
Construction work in progress		36,005		45,872
Net utility plant		3,028,909		3,034,503
Other property and investments		114,443		115,860
Restricted cash		49,776		49,769
Current assets:			-	-,
Cash and cash equivalents		39,005		65,315
Accounts receivable, net of allowances		176,207		157,722
Accrued utility revenue		43,700		71,700
Income taxes receivable, net		-		8,549
Deferred income taxes		23,513		22,410
Deferred purchased gas costs		-		3,251
Prepaids and other current assets		76,780		88,685
Total current assets		359,205		417,632
Deferred charges and other assets	_	288,657	-	288,528
Total assets	\$	3,840,990	\$	3,906,292
Total assets	Ψ	5,6 10,550	=	3,300,232
CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES				
Capitalization:				
Common stock, \$1 par (authorized - 60,000,000 shares; issued				
and outstanding - 45,334,131 and 45,091,734 shares)	\$	46,964	\$	46,722
Additional paid-in capital	,	798,918		792,339
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net		(22,521)		(22,250)
Retained earnings		338,470		285,316
Total Southwest Gas Corporation equity		1,161,831		1,102,127
Noncontrolling interest		(229)		(41)
Total equity		1,161,602		1,102,086
Subordinated debentures due to Southwest Gas Capital II		-		100,000
Long-term debt, less current maturities		1,121,816		1,169,357
Total capitalization		2,283,418		2,371,443
Current liabilities:				
Current maturities of long-term debt		1,344		1,327
Accounts payable		120,328		158,856
Customer deposits		90,487		91,668
Income taxes payable		30,541		-
Accrued general taxes		59,759		40,868
Accrued interest		18,354		19,644
Deferred purchased gas costs		93,344		93,226
Other current liabilities		86,212		68,641
Total current liabilities		500,369		474,230
Deferred income taxes and other credits:				
Deferred income taxes and investment tax credits		438,249		436,113
Taxes payable		2,980		3,079
Accumulated removal costs		195,000		189,000
Other deferred credits		420,974		432,427
Total deferred income taxes and other credits		1,057,203		1,060,619
Total capitalization and liabilities	\$	3,840,990	\$	3,906,292
			_	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED  MARCH 31,  2010 2009				TWELVE MONTHS ENI MARCH 31,			
		2010		2009		2010		2009
Operating revenues:								
Gas operating revenues	\$	614,509	\$	635,106	\$	1,594,246	\$	1,685,201
Construction revenues		54,242		54,756		278,467		335,797
Total operating revenues		668,751		689,862		1,872,713		2,020,998
Operating expenses:								
Net cost of gas sold		352,255		395,810		823,075		951,088
Operations and maintenance		86,705		84,662		350,985		338,116
Depreciation and amortization		47,696		48,522		189,256		194,971
Taxes other than income taxes		9,766		10,111		36,973		36,697
Construction expenses		50,597		48,028		245,030		294,220
Total operating expenses		547,019		587,133		1,645,319		1,815,092
Operating income		121,732		102,729		227,394		205,906
Other income and (expenses):								
Net interest deductions		(18,175)		(18,590)		(74,855)		(81,641)
Net interest deductions on subordinated debentures		(1,912)		(1,933)		(7,710)		(7,730)
Other income (deductions)		(523)		(1,704)		7,826		(13,643)
Total other income and (expenses)		(20,610)		(22,227)		(74,739)		(103,014)
Income before income taxes		101,122		80,502		152,655		102,892
Income tax expense (benefit)		36,662		30,521		51,058		41,090
Net income		64,460		49,981		101,597		61,802
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest		(188)		<u>-</u>		(552)		<u>-</u>
Net income attributable to Southwest Gas Corporation	\$	64,648	\$	49,981	\$	102,149	\$	61,802
Basic earnings per share	\$	1.43	\$	1.13	\$	2.27	\$	1.41
Diluted earnings per share	\$	1.42	\$	1.12	\$	2.26	\$	1.40
Dividends declared per share	\$	0.2500	\$	0.2375	\$	0.9625	\$	0.9125
Dividends declared per share	Ψ	0.2500	Ψ	0.2373	Ψ	0.3025	Ψ	0.5125
Average number of common shares outstanding		45,221		44,424		44,948		43,825
Average shares outstanding (assuming dilution)		45,595		44,680		45,287		44,118

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Thousands of dollars) (Unaudited)

	 THREE MONTHS ENDED  MARCH 31,			TWELVE MON MARC				
	 2010		2009		2010		2009	
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:								
Net income	\$ 64,460	\$	49,981	\$	101,597	\$	61,802	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net								
cash provided by operating activities:								
Depreciation and amortization	47,696		48,522		189,256		194,971	
Deferred income taxes	1,198		9,477		34,519		40,801	
Changes in current assets and liabilities:								
Accounts receivable, net of allowances	(18,485)		(4,739)		(2,639)		48,754	
Accrued utility revenue	28,000		28,100		800		400	
Deferred purchased gas costs	3,369		(13,358)		73,629		3,579	
Accounts payable	(38,528)		(75,316)		4,210		(34,553)	
Accrued taxes	57,882		40,212		40,167		(23,349)	
Other current assets and liabilities	25,540		60,373		(2,100)		(5,704)	
Gains on sale	(232)		(1,065)		(2,458)		(2,428)	
Changes in undistributed stock compensation	2,687		2,215		4,414		3,963	
AFUDC and property-related changes	(278)		(470)		(1,029)		(706)	
Changes in other assets and deferred charges	(14,045)		(550)		(29,048)		(896)	
Changes in other liabilities and deferred credits	3,356		5,155		8,567		6,971	
Net cash provided by operating activities	 162,620		148,537	_	419,885	_	293,605	
Net cash provided by operating activities	102,020		110,007		120,000	_	200,000	
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:								
Construction expenditures and property additions	(34,152)		(52,445)		(198,692)		(291,562)	
Change in restricted cash	(7)		-		(49,776)		-	
Changes in customer advances	(1,264)		(1,768)		(1,972)		(2,461)	
Receipt of exchange fund deposit	-		-		-		28,000	
Miscellaneous inflows	957		2,423		6,467		18,736	
Miscellaneous outflows	-		(1,172)		(2,448)		(3,850)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(34,466)		(52,962)		(246,421)		(251,137)	
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:								
Issuance of common stock, net	4,006		8,152		14,255		36,130	
Dividends paid	(10,742)		(9,998)		(42,694)		(39,449)	
Issuance of long-term debt, net	_		-		49,834		103,797	
Retirement of long-term debt	(328)		(5,346)		(10,636)		(200,573)	
Redemption of subordinated debentures	(100,000)		-		(100,000)		-	
Change in long-term portion of credit facility	(47,400)		(36,000)		(69,000)		64,000	
Change in short-term debt	-		(55,000)		-		-	
	 (154,464)		(98,192)		(158,241)		(36,095)	
Net cash used in financing activities	 		(50,152)		(150,241)			
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(26,310)		(2,617)		15,223		6,373	
Cash at beginning of period	 65,315		26,399		23,782		17,409	
Cash at end of period	\$ 39,005	\$	23,782	\$	39,005	\$	23,782	
Supplemental information:								
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 20,676	\$	21,325	\$	80,122	\$	88,751	
Income taxes paid (received)	(3,655)		93		(25,364)		17,044	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

# Note 1 - Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation

Nature of Operations. Southwest Gas Corporation and its subsidiaries (the "Company") are composed of two segments: natural gas operations ("Southwest" or the "natural gas operations" segment) and construction services. Southwest is engaged in the business of purchasing, distributing, and transporting natural gas in portions of Arizona, Nevada, and California. The public utility rates, practices, facilities, and service territories of Southwest are subject to regulatory oversight. The timing and amount of rate relief can materially impact results of operations. Natural gas sales are seasonal, peaking during the winter months; therefore, results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results for a full year. Variability in weather from normal temperatures, primarily in Arizona, can materially impact results of operations. Natural gas purchases and the timing of related recoveries can materially impact liquidity. NPL Construction Co. ("NPL" or the "construction services" segment), a wholly owned subsidiary, is a full-service underground piping contractor that provides utility companies with trenching and installation, replacement, and maintenance services for energy distribution systems.

Basis of Presentation. The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring items and estimates necessary for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods, have been made. It is suggested that these condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the 2009 Annual Report to Shareholders, which is incorporated by reference into the 2009 Form 10-K.

*Intercompany Transactions.* NPL recognizes revenues generated from contracts with Southwest (see **Note 3** below). Accounts receivable for these services were \$5.1 million at March 31, 2010 and \$5.3 million at December 31, 2009. The accounts receivable balance, revenues, and associated profits are included in the condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company and were not eliminated during consolidation in accordance with accounting treatment for rate-regulated entities.

Other Income (Deductions). The following table provides the composition of significant items included in Other income (deductions) on the consolidated statements of income (thousands of dollars):

		Three Mont	 Twelve M						
	2	March 31 2010 2009			 2010 March			2009	
Change in COLI policies	\$	1,490	\$	(1,594 )	\$ 11,630		\$	(11,535	)
Interest income		21		144	148			1,556	
Miscellaneous income and (expense)		(2,034)		(254)	(3,952	)		(3,664	)
Total other income (deductions)	\$	(523 )	\$	(1,704)	\$ 7,826	_	\$	(13,643	)

Included in the table above is the change in cash surrender values of company-owned life insurance ("COLI") policies. These life insurance policies on members of management and other key employees are used by Southwest to indemnify itself against the loss of talent, expertise, and knowledge, as well as to provide indirect funding for certain nonqualified benefit plans. Current tax regulations provide for tax-free treatment of life insurance (death benefit) proceeds. Therefore, the change in the cash surrender value components of COLI policies as they progress toward the ultimate death benefits are also recorded without tax consequences. See the 2009 Annual Report to Shareholders for additional information about the COLI policies.

# Note 2 - Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost

Southwest has a noncontributory qualified retirement plan with defined benefits covering substantially all employees and a separate unfunded supplemental retirement plan ("SERP") which is limited to officers. Southwest also provides postretirement benefits other than pensions ("PBOP") to its qualified retirees for health care, dental, and life insurance benefits.

	Qualified Retirement Plan								
	Period Ended March 31,								
	Three Months					Twelve Months			
		2010		2009		2010		2009	
(Thousands of dollars)		_							
Service cost	\$	4,233	\$	3,848	\$	15,775	\$	15,929	
Interest cost		8,904		8,631		34,800		33,000	
Expected return on plan assets		(9,135)		(8,805)		(35,551)		(34,841)	
Amortization of prior service costs (credits)		-		(1)		(1)		(10)	
Amortization of net loss		2,620		1,063		5,810		3,391	
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	6,622	\$	4,736	\$	20,833	\$	17,469	

		SERP							
		Period Ended March 31,							
	Three Months				Twelve Months				
	<u></u>	2010		2009		2010		2009	
(Thousands of dollars)	<u></u>					_			
Service cost	\$	93	\$	49	\$	239	\$	121	
Interest cost		511		516		2,060		2,047	
Amortization of net loss		289		227		971		975	
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	893	\$	792	\$	3,270	\$	3,143	

			PBO	OP					
	Period Ended March 31,								
	 Three N	<b>Ionth</b>	ıs	Twelve Months			ths		
	 2010		2009		2010		2009		
(Thousands of dollars)	 								
Service cost	\$ 214	\$	182	\$	761	\$	729		
Interest cost	623		593		2,400		2,336		
Expected return on plan assets	(523)		(401)		(1,725)		(2,004)		
Amortization of transition obligation	217		217		867		867		
Amortization of net loss	122		108		448		108		
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 653	\$	699	\$	2,751	\$	2,036		

# **Note 3 – Segment Information**

The following tables list revenues from external customers, intersegment revenues, and segment net income (thousands of dollars):

	Natural Gas		Construction		Takal	
		perations		Services		Total
Three months ended March 31, 2010	ф	C1 4 E00	ф	40.455	ф	CEC CCC
Revenues from external customers	\$	614,509	\$	42,157	\$	656,666
Intersegment revenues	_		_	12,085		12,085
Total	\$	614,509	\$	54,242	\$	668,751
Segment net income (loss)	\$	65,317	\$	(669)	\$	64,648
Three months ended March 31, 2009						
Revenues from external customers	\$	635,106	\$	41,595	\$	676,701
Intersegment revenues		-		13,161		13,161
Total	\$	635,106	\$	54,756	\$	689,862
Segment net income	\$	49,852	\$	129	\$	49,981
Twelve months ended March 31, 2010						
Revenues from external customers	\$	1,594,246	\$	226,969	\$	1,821,215
Intersegment revenues		-		51,498		51,498
Total	\$	1,594,246	\$	278,467	\$	1,872,713
Segment net income	\$	94,885	\$	7,264	\$	102,149
Twelve months ended March 31, 2009						
Revenues from external customers	\$	1,685,201	\$	272,483	\$	1,957,684
Intersegment revenues				63,314		63,314
Total	\$	1,685,201	\$	335,797	\$	2,020,998
Segment net income	\$	54,266	\$	7,536	\$	61,802

#### Note 4 - Derivatives and Fair Value Measurements

Derivatives. In managing its natural gas supply portfolios, Southwest has historically entered into fixed- and variable-price contracts, which qualify as derivatives. In 2008, Southwest also began utilizing fixed-for-floating swap contracts ("Swaps") to supplement its fixed-price contracts. The fixed-price contracts, firm commitments to purchase a fixed amount of gas in the future at a fixed price, qualify for the normal purchases and normal sales exception that is allowed for contracts that are probable of delivery in the normal course of business and are exempt from fair value reporting. The variable-price contracts have no significant market value. The Swaps are recorded at fair value.

The fixed-price contracts and Swaps are utilized by Southwest under its volatility mitigation programs to effectively fix the price on approximately 50 percent of its natural gas portfolios. The maturities of the Swaps highly correlate to forecasted purchases of natural gas, during timeframes ranging from April 2010 through October 2011. Under such contracts, Southwest pays the counterparty at a fixed rate and receives from the counterparty a floating rate per MMBtu ("dekatherm") of natural gas. Only the net differential is actually paid or received. The differential is calculated based on the notional amounts under the contracts (approximately 11.6 million dekatherms at March 31, 2010 and 13.6 million dekatherms at December 31, 2009). Southwest does not utilize derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes, nor does it have trading operations.

The following table sets forth the gains and (losses) recognized on the Company's Swaps (derivatives) for the three months and twelve months ended March 31, 2010 and 2009 and their location in the income statement (thousands of dollars):

#### Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:

Location of Gain or (Loss)

	Recognized in Income on Derivative		Amount of	f Gair	or (Loss) Rec	ogniz	ed in Income	on De	rivative
		Three Months Ended					Twelve M	onths	Ended
		March 31					Ma	rch 31	
		2010 2009			2010		2009		
Swaps	Net cost of gas sold	\$	(16,342)	\$	(8,968)	\$	(11,765)	\$	(27,670)
Swaps	Net cost of gas sold		16,342	*	8,968	*	11,765	*	27,670 *
Total		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-

<sup>\*</sup> Represents the impact of regulatory deferral accounting treatment under U.S. GAAP for rate-regulated entities.

In January 2010, Southwest entered into two forward starting interest rate swaps ("FSIRS") to hedge the risk of interest rate variability during the period leading up to the planned issuance of 10-year fixed-rate debt in December 2010 and March 2012, to replace \$200 million of debt maturing in February 2011 and \$200 million maturing in May 2012, respectively. The counterparties to both agreements comprise four major banking institutions. The first FSIRS has a notional amount of \$125 million (with Southwest as the fixed-rate payer at a rate of 4.26%) and has a mandatory termination date on or before December 7. 2010. The second FSIRS has a notional amount of \$100 million (with Southwest as the fixed-rate payer at a rate of 4.78%) and has a mandatory termination date on or before March 20, 2012.

Southwest has designated the FSIRS agreements as cash flow hedges of forecasted future interest payments. At the inception of the hedges, the terms of the derivatives are the same as perfect hypothetical derivatives; thus, there is an expectation that there will be no ineffectiveness, and that the effective portion of unrealized gains and losses on the FSIRS leading up to the forecasted debt issuances will be reported as a component of other comprehensive income. At termination, the final values will be reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income into earnings over the terms of the debt issuances which is the same period the hedged forecasted transaction affects earnings. However, should conditions occur that indicate the existence of ineffectiveness (e.g., deterioration of counterparty creditworthiness, delay in the forecasted debt issuances, etc.), Southwest will measure ineffectiveness by comparing changes in the fair value of each FSIRS with changes in the fair value of a hypothetical swap (the hypothetical derivative method). Gains and losses due to ineffectiveness will be recognized immediately as part of interest expense. See Note 7 - Equity and

**Comprehensive Income** for additional information. At March 31, 2010, the FSIRS were effective hedges. There was no gain or (loss) reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI") into income (effective portion) and no gain or (loss) recognized in income (ineffective portion) for the Company's derivatives designated as hedging instruments.

The following table sets forth the gains and (losses) recognized on the Company's FSIRS (thousands of dollars):

# **Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments:**

	Amo	unt of
	Gain o	r (Loss)
	Recog	nized in
	Ot	her
	Compr	ehensive
		me on
	Deri	vative
	(Eff	ective
	Por	tion)
Derivatives in cash flow hedging relationships		ch 31, 010
Three months ended:		
Interest rate swaps - FSIRS	\$	(987)
Twelve months ended:		
Interest rate swaps - FSIRS	\$	(987)

The following table sets forth the fair values of the Company's Swaps and FSIRS and their location in the balance sheets (thousands of dollars):

# Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:

March 31, 2010		Asset	Liability	
	<b>Balance Sheet Location</b>	Derivatives	<b>Derivatives</b>	Net Total
Swaps	Other current liabilities	\$ -	\$ (12,970)	\$ (12,970)
Swaps	Other deferred credits	4	(366)	(362)
Total		\$ 4	\$ (13,336)	\$ (13,332)
December 31, 2009		Asset	Liability	

December 51, 2005		A330	-L	LI	aviiity	
	Balance Sheet Location	Deriva	Derivatives		ivatives	Net Total
Swaps	Deferred charges and other assets	\$	85	\$	(27)	\$ 58
Swaps	Prepaids and other current assets		2,921		(361)	2,560
Swaps	Other current liabilities		309		(1,730)	(1,421)
Swaps	Other deferred credits		25		(100)	(75)
Total		\$	3,340	\$	(2,218)	\$ 1,122

# **Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:**

March 31, 2010		Asset	Liability	
	Balance Sheet Location	Derivatives	Derivatives	Net Total
FSIRS	Other current liabilities	\$ -	\$ (792)	\$ (792)
FSIRS	Other deferred credits	<del>_</del>	(195)	(195)
Total		\$ -	\$ (987)	\$ (987)

There were no derivatives designated as hedging instruments at December 31, 2009.

The estimated fair values of the derivatives were determined using future natural gas index prices (as more fully described below). The Company has master netting arrangements with each counterparty that provide for the net settlement of all contracts through a single payment. As applicable, the Company has elected to reflect the net amounts in its balance sheets.

Pursuant to regulatory deferral accounting treatment for rate-regulated entities, Southwest records the unrealized gains and losses in fair value of the Swaps as a regulatory asset and/or liability. When the Swaps settle, Southwest reverses any prior positions held and records the settled position as an increase or decrease of purchased gas under the related purchased gas adjustment ("PGA") mechanism in determining its deferred PGA balances. During the three months ended March 31, 2010, Southwest paid counterparties \$2.7 million and received from counterparties \$831,000 in settlements of matured Swaps. Neither changes in the fair value of the Swaps nor settled amounts have a direct effect on earnings or other comprehensive income. At March 31, 2010, regulatory assets/liabilities offsetting the amounts in the balance sheet were recorded in Prepaids and other current assets (\$13 million) and Deferred charges and other assets (\$362,000). At December 31, 2009, regulatory assets/liabilities offsetting the amounts in the balance sheet were recorded in Prepaids and other current assets (\$1.4 million), Other current liabilities (\$2.6 million), Other deferred credits (\$58,000), and Deferred charges and other assets (\$75,000).

*Fair Value Measurements*. The estimated fair values of Southwest's Swaps were determined at March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009 using NYMEX futures settlement prices for delivery of natural gas at Henry Hub adjusted by the price of NYMEX ClearPort basis Swaps, which reflect the difference between the price of natural gas at a given delivery basin and the Henry Hub pricing points. These Level 2 inputs are observable in the marketplace throughout the full term of the Swaps, but have been credit-risk adjusted with no significant impact to the overall fair value measure.

The estimated fair values of Southwest's FSIRS were determined using a discounted cash flow model that utilizes forecasted interest rate curves. The inputs to the model are the terms of the FSIRS. These Level 2 inputs are observable in the marketplace throughout the full term of the FSIRS, but have been creditrisk adjusted with no significant impact to the overall fair value measure.

The following table sets forth, by level within the three-level fair value hierarchy that ranks the inputs used to measure fair value by their reliability, the Company's financial assets and liabilities that were accounted for at fair value:

# Level 2 - Significant other observable inputs

(Thousands of dollars)	M	arch 31, 2010	December 31, 2009
Assets at fair value:			
Prepaids and other current assets - Swaps	\$	-	\$ 2,560
Deferred charges and other assets - Swaps		-	58
Liabilities at fair value:			
Other current liabilities - Swaps		(12,970)	(1,421)
Other deferred credits - Swaps		(362)	(75)
Other current liabilities - FSIRS		(792)	-
Other deferred credits - FSIRS		(195)	-
Net Assets (Liabilities)	\$	(14,319)	\$ 1,122

No financial assets or liabilities fell within Level 1 or Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

# Note 5 - Redemption of Subordinated Debentures

In June 2003, the Company created Southwest Gas Capital II ("Trust II"), a wholly owned subsidiary, as a financing trust for the sole purpose of issuing preferred trust securities for the benefit of the Company. In August 2003, Trust II publicly issued \$100 million of 7.70% Preferred Trust Securities ("Preferred Trust Securities"). In connection with the Trust II issuance of the Preferred Trust Securities and the related purchase by the Company for \$3.1 million of all of the Trust II common securities ("Common Securities"), the Company issued \$103.1 million principal amount of its 7.70% Junior Subordinated Debentures ("Subordinated Debentures") to Trust II. The Subordinated Debentures became redeemable at the option of the Company in August 2008.

In February 2010, the Company notified holders of the Subordinated Debentures that all of these debentures (and the associated preferred and common securities) would be redeemed (at par) by the Company in March 2010. All of the outstanding Subordinated Debentures were redeemed in March 2010. The Company accomplished the redemption using existing cash and borrowings under the \$300 million credit facility.

## Note 6 - Long-Term Debt

Carrying amounts of the Company's long-term debt and their related estimated fair values as of March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009 are disclosed in the following table. The fair value of the revolving credit facility and the variable-rate IDRBs approximates carrying value. Market values for the debentures, fixed-rate IDRBs, and other indebtedness were determined based on dealer quotes using trading records for March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, as applicable, and other secondary sources which are customarily consulted for data of this kind.

		March 3	31, 2	010	December 31, 2009				
		Carrying		Market		Carrying		Market	
		Amount		Value		Amount		Value	
(Thousands of dollars)									
Debentures:	_		_		_		_		
Notes, 8.375%, due 2011	\$	200,000	\$	211,392	\$	200,000	\$	213,012	
Notes, 7.625%, due 2012		200,000		220,922		200,000		219,240	
8% Series, due 2026		75,000		91,310		75,000		87,005	
Medium-term notes, 7.59% series, due 2017		25,000		28,895		25,000		27,858	
Medium-term notes, 7.78% series, due 2022		25,000		29,608		25,000		28,275	
Medium-term notes, 7.92% series, due 2027		25,000		30,293		25,000		28,848	
Medium-term notes, 6.76% series, due 2027		7,500		8,125		7,500		7,723	
Unamortized discount		(2,028)				(2,196)			
		555,472				555,304			
Revolving credit facility and commercial paper, due 2012		45,000		45,000		92,400		92,400	
Industrial development revenue bonds:									
Variable-rate bonds:									
Tax-exempt Series A, due 2028		50,000		50,000		50,000		50,000	
2003 Series A, due 2038		50,000		50,000		50,000		50,000	
2008 Series A, due 2038		50,000		50,000		50,000		50,000	
2009 Series A, due 2039		50,000		50,000		50,000		50,000	
Fixed-rate bonds:									
6.10% 1999 Series A, due 2038		12,410		11,840		12,410		11,443	
5.95% 1999 Series C, due 2038		14,320		13,422		14,320		12,922	
5.55% 1999 Series D, due 2038		8,270		7,343		8,270		7,038	
5.45% 2003 Series C, due 2038 (rate resets in 2013)		30,000		31,885		30,000		31,422	
5.25% 2003 Series D, due 2038		20,000		17,130		20,000		16,701	
5.80% 2003 Series E, due 2038 (rate resets in 2013)		15,000		15,701		15,000		15,683	
5.25% 2004 Series A, due 2034		65,000		58,309		65,000		55,979	
5.00% 2004 Series B, due 2033		31,200		27,237		31,200		26,096	
4.85% 2005 Series A, due 2035		100,000		83,214		100,000		79,469	
4.75% 2006 Series A, due 2036		24,855		20,078		24,855		19,139	
Unamortized discount		(3,608)		·		(3,644)			
		517,447				517,411			
Other	<u></u>	5,241		5,440		5,569		5,712	
		1,123,160		-,	_	1,170,684		-, -	
Less: current maturities		(1,344)				(1,327)			
Long-term debt, less current maturities	\$	1,121,816			\$	1,169,357			
בסווצ-נפוווו מפטנ, ופגג כעוויפות ווומנעוותופג	Ψ	1,121,010			Ψ	1,100,00/			

As noted in the table above, the Company has \$200 million of 8.375% notes maturing in February 2011. The Company currently intends to issue new debentures in December 2010 to provide funding for this maturing obligation. The Company also has a \$300 million credit facility that expires in May 2012 with sufficient current and forecasted capacity to provide funding for the \$200 million of maturing debentures. Therefore, the \$200 million of debentures due February 2011 continue to be shown as long-term obligations.

# Note 7 – Equity and Comprehensive Income

The table below provides details of activity in equity during the first quarter of 2010.

			Southwes	st Ga	as Corporati	ion E	quity					
						Ac	cumulated					
				F	Additional		Other				Non-	
	Commo	n Sto	ck		Paid-in	Con	nprehensive	I	Retained	C	ontrolling	
(In thousands, except per share	C)						- /T					m . 1
amounts)	Shares	1	Amount		Capital	Inc	ome (Loss)	Ŀ	Earnings		Interest	Total
DECEMBER 31, 2009	45,092	\$	46,722	\$	792,339	\$	(22,250)	\$	285,316	\$	(41)	\$ 1,102,086
Common stock issuances	242		242		6,579							6,821
Net income (loss)									64,648		(188)	64,460
Other comprehensive income												
(loss):												
Net actuarial gain (loss) arising during period,												
less amortization of												
unamortized benefit plan cost,							341					341
net of tax FSIRS unrealized gains							341					541
(losses), net of tax							(612)					(612)
Dividends declared												
Common: \$0.25 per share									(11,494)			(11,494)
MARCH 31, 2010	45,334	\$	46,964	\$	798,918	\$	(22,521)	\$	338,470	\$	(229)	\$ 1,161,602

The tables below are designed to provide details of comprehensive income and year-to-date activity in AOCI. See **Note 4 – Derivatives and Fair Value Measurements** for additional information on the FSIRS.

#### Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive Income								
	Three Months Ended					Twelve Mo	Ended	
		Marc	h 31,	<b>,</b>		Marc		
		2010		2009		2010		2009
				(Thousands	of c	lollars)		·
Net income	\$	64,460	\$	49,981	\$	101,597	\$	61,802
Net actuarial gain (loss) arising during period,								
less amortization of unamortized benefit plan cost, net of tax		341		207		(2,690)		(6,571)
FSIRS unrealized gains (losses), net of tax		(612)		-		(612)		-
Comprehensive income		64,189		50,188		98,295		55,231
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest		(188)		-		(552)		-
Comprehensive income attributable to Southwest Gas Corporation	\$	64,377	\$	50,188	\$	98,847	\$	55,231
Tax (expense) benefit associated with net								
actuarial gain (loss) arising during period	\$	(210)	\$	(126)	\$	1,648	\$	4,028
Tay (aypones) hanefit accordated with ESIDS								
Tax (expense) benefit associated with FSIRS	¢	375	¢		¢	375	¢	
unrealized gain (loss) recognized in other comprehensive income	J.	3/3	ψ		Φ	3/3	Φ	

# **AOCI - Rollforward**

(Thousands of dollars)

		I	)efii	ned Benefit P	lans	6	_			FSIRS		
				Tax						Tax		AOCI
	]	Before-		(Exense)					Before-	(Expense)		
		Tax		Benefit		After-Tax			Tax	 Benefit	 After-Tax	 
Beginning Balance AOCI December 31, 2009	\$	(35,887)	\$	13,637	\$	(22,250)		\$	_	\$ 	\$ _	\$ (22,250)
Current period change		551		(210)	•	( , ,	*	•	(987)	375	(612) **	(271)
Ending Balance in AOCI March 31, 2010	\$	(35,336)	\$	13,427	\$	(21,909)		\$	(987)	\$ 375	\$ (612)	\$ (22,521)

Based on the current FSIRS position, an insignificant amount of the FSIRS existing gains (losses) reported in AOCI at March 31, 2010 is expected to be reclassified into earnings within the next twelve months.

<sup>\*</sup> Net actuarial gain (loss), less amortization of unamortized benefit plan cost \*\* FSIRS unrealized gain (loss) recognized in other comprehensive income

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Southwest Gas Corporation and its subsidiaries (the "Company") consist of two business segments: natural gas operations ("Southwest" or the "natural gas operations" segment) and construction services.

Southwest is engaged in the business of purchasing, distributing, and transporting natural gas in portions of Arizona, Nevada, and California. Southwest is the largest distributor in Arizona, selling and transporting natural gas in most of central and southern Arizona, including the Phoenix and Tucson metropolitan areas. Southwest is also the largest distributor of natural gas in Nevada, serving the Las Vegas metropolitan area and northern Nevada. In addition, Southwest distributes and transports natural gas in portions of California, including the Lake Tahoe area and the high desert and mountain areas in San Bernardino County.

On a seasonally adjusted basis as of March 31, 2010, Southwest had 1,830,000 residential, commercial, industrial, and other natural gas customers, of which 990,000 customers were located in Arizona, 658,000 in Nevada, and 182,000 in California. Residential and commercial customers represented over 99 percent of the total customer base. During the twelve months ended March 31, 2010, 54 percent of operating margin was earned in Arizona, 35 percent in Nevada, and 11 percent in California. During this same period, Southwest earned 86 percent of operating margin from residential and small commercial customers, 4 percent from other sales customers, and 10 percent from transportation customers. These general patterns are expected to continue.

Southwest recognizes operating revenues from the distribution and transportation of natural gas (and related services) to customers. Operating margin is the measure of gas operating revenues less the net cost of gas sold. Management uses operating margin as a main benchmark in comparing operating results from period to period. The principal factors affecting operating margin are general rate relief, weather, conservation and efficiencies, and customer growth. Of these, weather is the primary reason for volatility in margin. Variances in temperatures from normal levels, primarily in Arizona, can have a significant impact on the margin and associated net income of the Company. A decoupled rate structure adopted as part of the Nevada general rate case, effective November 2009, is designed to mitigate the impact of weather variability on margin in Nevada service territories. Weather impacts are substantially offset by the margin tracking mechanism in Southwest's California service territories.

NPL Construction Co. ("NPL" or the "construction services" segment), a wholly owned subsidiary, is a full-service underground piping contractor that provides utility companies with trenching and installation, replacement, and maintenance services for energy distribution systems. NPL operates in 17 major markets nationwide. Construction activity is cyclical and can be significantly impacted by changes in general and local economic conditions, including the housing market, interest rates, employment levels, job growth, the equipment resale market, and local and federal tax rates. Generally, revenues and profits are lowest during the first quarter of the year due to less favorable winter weather conditions. Operating results typically improve as more favorable weather conditions occur during the summer and fall months.

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto, as well as the MD&A, included in the 2009 Annual Report to Shareholders, which is incorporated by reference into the 2009 Form 10-K.

## **Executive Summary**

The items discussed in this Executive Summary are intended to provide an overview of the results of the Company's operations. As needed, certain items are covered in greater detail in later sections of management's discussion and analysis. As reflected in the table below, the natural gas operations segment accounted for an average of 91 percent of twelve-month-to-date consolidated net income over the past two years. As such, management's discussion and analysis is primarily focused on that segment. Natural gas sales are seasonal, peaking during the winter months; therefore, results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results for a full year.

Summary Operating Results

	Period Ended March 31,										
		Three I	Month	S		hs					
	2010			2009	2010			2009			
		(I:	n thous	ands, excep	t per :	share amount	s)				
Contribution to net income											
Natural gas operations	\$	65,317	\$	49,852	\$	94,885	\$	54,266			
Construction services		(669)		129		7,264		7,536			
Net income	\$	64,648	\$	49,981	\$	102,149	\$	61,802			
Average number of common											
shares outstanding		45,221		44,424		44,948		43,825			
Basic earnings per share											
Consolidated	\$	1.43	\$	1.13	\$	2.27	\$	1.41			
Natural Gas Operations											
Operating margin	\$	262,254	\$	239,296	\$	771,171	\$	734,113			

Consolidated results for the first quarter of 2010 increased compared to the same period in 2009 primarily due to a significant improvement in natural gas segment operating results. The Company achieved net income of \$64.6 million, a record for any quarterly period in its history. Basic earnings per share of \$1.43 were the highest quarterly total in at least the past 25 years.

# 1st Quarter 2010 Overview

Natural gas operations highlights include the following:

- · Operating margin increased approximately \$23 million, or 10 percent, compared to the prior-year's quarter primarily due to improved weather (\$13 million) and rate relief in Nevada (\$9 million) and California (\$1 million)
- $\cdot\,$  \$100 million of 7.70% Subordinated Debentures redeemed at par in March 2010
- · Paiute rate case settlement approved by the FERC in April 2010
- · Quarterly dividend increased from 23.75 cents to 25 cents per share, effective with the June 2010 payment
- · Standard & Poor's revised the Company's credit rating outlook to positive from stable
- · Liquidity position remains strong

Weather and Conservation. The rate structures in each of Southwest's three states provide varying levels of protection from risks that drive operating margin volatility, particularly weather risk and conservation efforts. Southwest's exposure to these risks on operating margin is largely limited to its Arizona operating areas as both Nevada and California operations are now under decoupled rate structures. During the first quarter of 2010, weather had a positive influence on operating margin as temperatures in Arizona were relatively normal, whereas, in the first quarter of 2009, the estimated weather impact on operating margin was a reduction of \$13 million as Arizona experienced one of its warmest winters in 100 years.

Additionally, throughout 2009 Southwest experienced a decline in consumption over and above the more typical impacts of conservation from improvements in new construction practices and energy efficient appliances. This excess decline was attributed to the impact of the difficult economic environment and, in particular, vacant homes. During the first quarter of 2010, Southwest noted an overall increase in average residential customer consumption, but this improvement was largely driven by cooler weather. Southwest continues to note an excessive number of vacant homes as compared to historical levels. Consequently, further economic-related declines are possible. Southwest continues to work with Arizona regulators on decoupling initiatives to mitigate the impacts of declining consumption.

*Customer Growth.* Southwest completed 17,000 first-time meter sets over the last twelve months. These meter sets led to 9,000 net additional active customers. Southwest continues to project sluggish net customer growth (1% or less) for the year.

*FERC General Rate Case.* In April 2010, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") approved an offer of settlement from Paiute Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of the Company, which resolved all issues related to its general rate case. The settlement provides for an increase of approximately \$900,000 in annual operating income. See **Rates and Regulatory Proceedings** for more information.

Credit Rating – Outlook Revised. In April 2009, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("S&P") upgraded the Company's unsecured long-term debt ratings from BBB- (with a positive outlook) to BBB (with a stable outlook). In April 2010, S&P affirmed the BBB rating and revised the Company's outlook to "positive." S&P cited the Company's stronger financial performance and an improved debt to capital ratio. S&P debt ratings range from AAA (highest rating possible) to D (obligation is in default). The S&P rating of BBB indicates the issuer of the debt is regarded as having an adequate capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

Liquidity. Southwest believes its liquidity position remains strong. Southwest has a \$300 million credit facility maturing in May 2012, \$150 million of which is designated for working capital needs. The facility is provided through a consortium of eight major banking institutions. Usage of the facility in the first quarter of 2010 was minimal. The outstanding balance at March 31 was \$45 million leaving \$255 million available for long-term and working capital needs. The lower usage was primarily due to improved profitability, natural gas prices that were relatively stable, and gas-cost related rate mechanisms that favorably impacted operating cash flows. In the first quarter of 2010, cash and borrowings under the credit facility were used by the Company to redeem \$100 million in subordinated debentures. The current slowdown in housing construction has also allowed Southwest to fund construction expenditures primarily with internally generated cash.

#### **Results of Natural Gas Operations**

**Quarterly Analysis** 

	Three Months Ended					
		March 31,				
		2010		2009		
		(Thousands	of do	f dollars)		
Gas operating revenues	\$	614,509	\$	635,106		
Net cost of gas sold		352,255		395,810		
Operating margin		262,254		239,296		
Operations and maintenance expense		86,705		84,662		
Depreciation and amortization		42,696		42,339		
Taxes other than income taxes		9,766		10,111		
Operating income		123,087		102,184		
Other income (expense)		(531)		(1,786)		
Net interest deductions		18,024		18,182		
Net interest deductions on subordinated debentures		1,912		1,933		
Income before income taxes		102,620		80,283		
Income tax expense		37,303		30,431		
Contribution to consolidated net income	\$	65,317	\$	49,852		

Contribution to consolidated net income from natural gas operations improved \$15.5 million in the first quarter of 2010 compared to 2009. The improvement in contribution reflects increased operating margin and improved other income, partially offset by higher operating expenses.

Operating margin increased \$23 million in the first quarter of 2010 compared to the first quarter of 2009. Differences in heating demand, caused primarily by weather variations, provided \$13 million of the operating margin increase as temperatures in the current quarter were normal, while temperatures were significantly warmer than normal in the first quarter of 2009. Rate relief provided \$10 million of the operating margin increase, consisting of \$9 million in Nevada and \$1 million in California. Customer growth had a negligible impact as 9,000 net new customers were added during the last twelve months.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$2 million, or two percent, principally due to higher employee-related and general costs.

Depreciation expense increased \$357,000, or one percent, as a result of additional plant in service, partially offset by lower depreciation rates in the Nevada rate jurisdictions, effective June 2009. Average gas plant in service for the current period increased \$153 million, or four percent, compared to the corresponding period a year ago. This was attributable to new business, reinforcement work, franchise requirements, routine pipe replacement activities, and the addition of two new operations centers in southern Nevada in the second quarter of 2009.

Other income improved \$1.3 million between quarters as the cash surrender values of COLI policies increased by \$1.5 million in the first quarter of 2010 compared to a decrease of \$1.6 million in the prior-year quarter, partially offset by a \$1.3 million increase in costs associated with certain Arizona non-recoverable pipe replacement work.

# Twelve-Month Analysis

	Twelve Months Ended					
	 March 31,					
	 2010 200					
	(Thousands of dolla					
Gas operating revenues	\$ 1,594,246	\$	1,685,201			
Net cost of gas sold	 823,075		951,088			
Operating margin	771,171		734,113			
Operations and maintenance expense	350,985		338,116			
Depreciation and amortization	167,207		168,031			
Taxes other than income taxes	 36,973		36,697			
Operating income	216,006		191,269			
Other income (expense)	7,845		(13,729)			
Net interest deductions	73,933		79,926			
Net interest deductions on subordinated debentures	 7,710		7,730			
Income before income taxes	142,208		89,884			
Income tax expense	 47,323		35,618			
Contribution to consolidated net income	\$ 94,885	\$	54,266			

Contribution to consolidated net income from natural gas operations increased by \$40.6 million in the current twelve-month period as compared to the corresponding period a year ago. The improvement in contribution was a result of increased operating margin, a substantial improvement in other income, and reduced financing costs, partially offset by an increase in operating expenses.

Operating margin increased \$37 million between periods. Rate relief and rate changes provided a net \$18 million increase, consisting of rate relief of \$16 million in Arizona, \$11 million in Nevada, and \$3 million in California, partially offset by a decrease of \$12 million related to the return to a seasonal margin methodology in California in 2009. Differences in heating demand caused primarily by weather variations between periods resulted in a \$23 million operating margin increase as warmer-than-normal temperatures were experienced during both periods (during the twelve-month period of 2010, operating margin was negatively impacted by \$5 million, while the negative impact in the twelve-month period of 2009 was \$28 million). Customer growth contributed \$1 million in operating margin. Conservation resulting from current economic conditions and energy efficiency negatively impacted operating margin by an estimated \$5 million.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$12.9 million, or four percent, primarily due to general cost increases and higher employee-related benefit costs.

Depreciation expense decreased \$824,000 as a result of lower depreciation rates in the California (\$3 million annualized reduction) and Nevada (\$2.3 million annualized reduction) rate jurisdictions effective in January and June 2009, respectively. Average gas plant in service for the current period increased \$178 million, or four percent, compared to the corresponding period a year ago.

Other income improved \$21.6 million between the twelve-month periods of 2010 and 2009. This was primarily due to an \$11.6 million increase in the cash surrender values of COLI policies in the current period compared to cash surrender value declines in the prior period of \$11.5 million, partially offset by a \$1.4 million reduction in interest income between the twelve-month periods.

Net financing costs decreased \$6 million between the twelve-month periods of 2010 and 2009 primarily due to a reduction in outstanding debt and lower interest rates associated with Southwest's commercial credit and other variable-rate facilities.

#### **Results of Construction Services**

Contribution to consolidated net income from construction services for the three months ended March 31, 2010 decreased \$798,000 compared to the same period of 2009. Gains on sales of equipment were \$232,000 and \$1.1 million for the first quarters of 2010 and 2009, respectively. NPL's operating results continue to be influenced by the general slowdown in the new housing market. It is anticipated that the current economic environment will continue to impact construction services results in 2010.

Revenues decreased \$514,000 primarily due to the impact of poor weather conditions in the majority of NPL's operating areas during the first quarter of 2010 as compared to the first quarter of 2009. Construction expenses increased \$2.6 million due primarily to higher fuel and fuel-related expenses and a decrease in gains on sales of equipment between the current and prior-year first quarters. Depreciation expense declined \$1.2 million between the quarters.

Contribution to consolidated net income from construction services for the twelve-month period of 2010 decreased \$272,000 compared to the same period of 2009. Gains on sales of equipment were \$2.5 million and \$2.4 million for the twelve-month periods of 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Revenues decreased \$57.3 million due primarily to a reduction in the volume of new construction work resulting from the general slowdown in the new housing market. Construction expenses decreased \$49.2 million between the twelve-month periods due to the reduction in work, while depreciation expense declined \$4.9 million. Interest expense decreased \$791,000 between the twelve-month periods due to a reduction in outstanding debt.

NPL's revenues and operating profits are influenced by weather, customer requirements, mix of work, local economic conditions, bidding results, and the equipment resale market. Generally, revenues and profits are lowest during the first quarter of the year due to unfavorable winter weather conditions. Operating results typically improve as more favorable weather conditions occur during the summer and fall months.

# **Rates and Regulatory Proceedings**

*California General Rate Cases.* Effective January 2009, Southwest received general rate relief in California. The California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") decision authorized an overall increase of \$2.8 million in 2009 with an additional \$400,000 deferred to 2010. In addition, attrition increases were approved to be effective for the years 2010-2013 of 2.95% in southern and northern California and approximately \$100,000 per year for the South Lake Tahoe rate jurisdiction. In October 2009, Southwest filed for attrition increases which were approved effective January 2010 in the amount of \$2.7 million (including the \$400,000 previously deferred).

FERC General Rate Case. Paiute Pipeline Company ("Paiute"), a subsidiary of the Company, filed a general rate case with the FERC in February 2009. The filing fulfilled an obligation from the settlement agreement reached in the 2005 Paiute general rate case. The application requested an increase in operating revenues of approximately \$3.9 million. In accordance with FERC requirements, the requested new rates went into effect in September 2009, subject to refund. In April 2010, the FERC approved an offer of settlement from Paiute which resolved all issues related to its general rate case. The settlement provides for an increase of approximately \$900,000 in Paiute's annual operating income. Paiute has been accruing a liability for the difference between the requested rates and the anticipated settlement rates since September 2009. As of March 31, 2010, Paiute has accrued approximately \$2 million for refunds to customers.

Arizona energy efficiency and decoupling proceeding. The Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") convened a series of workshops starting in 2009 to evaluate "rate and regulatory incentives" and establish standards to promote energy efficiency and conservation for utility customers. In conjunction with these workshops, Southwest and other interested parties submitted proposed regulations to the ACC in June 2009. Rate designs which would decouple revenues from customer usage were the topic of much discussion in the proceeding, and were incorporated in several of the parties' draft regulations. Additional workshops directly pertaining to revenue decoupling were recently held and will continue through the second quarter with a final decision outlining the related regulations expected by year-end.

## **PGA Filings**

The rate schedules in all of Southwest's service territories contain provisions that permit adjustments to rates as the cost of purchased gas changes. These deferred energy provisions and purchased gas adjustment clauses are collectively referred to as "PGA" clauses. Differences between gas costs recovered from customers and amounts paid for gas by Southwest result in over- and under-collections. At March 31, 2010, over-collections in all service territories resulted in a liability of \$93.3 million on the Company's balance sheet. Filings to change rates in accordance with PGA clauses are subject to audit by state regulatory commission staffs. PGA changes impact cash flows but have no direct impact on profit margin. However, gas cost deferrals and recoveries can impact comparisons between periods of individual income statement components. These include Gas operating revenues, Net cost of gas sold, Net interest deductions, and Other income (deductions).

As of March 31, 2010, December 31, 2009, and March 31, 2009, Southwest had the following outstanding PGA balances payable (millions of dollars):

	March 2010		nber 31, 2009	M	larch 31, 2009
Arizona	\$	(30.9)	\$ (33.2)	\$	4.3
Northern Nevada		(5.5)	1.2		1.5
Southern Nevada		(53.1)	(60.0)		(20.5)
California		(3.8)	2.0		(5.0)
	\$	(93.3)	\$ (90.0)	\$	(19.7)

#### **Capital Resources and Liquidity**

Cash on hand and cash flows from operations have generally been sufficient over the past two years to provide for net investing activities (primarily construction expenditures and property additions). During the past two years, the Company has been able to use cash inflows to reduce the net amount of debt outstanding (including short-term borrowings). The Company's capitalization strategy is to maintain an appropriate balance of equity and debt (including short-term borrowings).

To facilitate future financings, the Company has a universal shelf registration statement providing for the issuance and sale of registered securities from time to time, which may consist of secured debt, unsecured debt, preferred stock, or common stock. The number and dollar amount of securities issued under the universal shelf registration statement, which was filed with the SEC and automatically declared effective in December 2008, will be determined at the time of the offerings, if any, and presented in the applicable prospectuses.

#### Cash Flows

*Operating Cash Flows.* Cash flows provided by consolidated operating activities increased \$14.1 million in the first quarter of 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009. The primary drivers of the change were an increase in net income between quarters and temporary fluctuations in working capital components.

*Investing Cash Flows*. Cash used in consolidated investing activities decreased \$18.5 million in the first quarter of 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009. The decrease was primarily due to reductions in construction expenditures and equipment purchases, a result of the new housing market slowdown.

*Financing Cash Flows.* Cash used in consolidated financing activities increased \$56.3 million during the first quarter of 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009 primarily due to debt repayments, including the redemption of the Subordinated Debentures. Dividends paid increased in the first quarter of 2010 as compared to 2009 as a result of a quarterly dividend increase and an increase in the number of shares outstanding.

The capital requirements and resources of the Company generally are determined independently for the natural gas operations and construction services segments. Each business activity is generally responsible for securing its own financing sources. The capital requirements and resources of the construction services segment are not material to the overall capital requirements and resources of the Company.

Gas Segment Construction Expenditures, Debt Maturities, and Financing

During the twelve-month period ended March 31, 2010, construction expenditures for the natural gas operations segment were \$194 million (including the construction of two new operations centers for the Southern Nevada Division completed in the second quarter of 2009). Approximately 49 percent of these expenditures represented new construction and the balance represented costs associated with routine replacement of existing transmission, distribution, and general plant. Cash flows from operating activities of Southwest were \$396 million which provided sufficient funding for construction expenditures and dividend requirements of the natural gas operations segment.

Southwest estimates natural gas segment construction expenditures during the three-year period ending December 31, 2012 will be approximately \$570 million. Of this amount, approximately \$200 million are expected to be incurred in 2010. During the three-year period, cash flows from operating activities of Southwest are expected to provide sufficient funding for the gas operations total construction expenditures and dividend requirements. During the three-year period, the Company expects to raise \$8 million to \$10 million from its various common stock programs. Any cash requirements not met by operating activities are expected to be provided by existing credit facilities and/or other external financing sources. The timing, types, and amounts of these additional external financings will be dependent on a number of factors, including conditions in the capital markets, timing and amounts of rate relief, growth levels in Southwest service areas, and earnings. These external financings may include the issuance of both debt and equity securities, bank and other short-term borrowings, and other forms of financing.

In March 2010, the Company redeemed the \$100 million, 7.70% Subordinated Debentures (Preferred Securities) at par. The Company facilitated the redemption using existing cash and borrowings under the \$300 million credit facility.

Southwest has \$200 million of long-term debt maturing in February 2011 and \$200 million maturing in May 2012. The Company currently intends to issue \$250 million of new debentures in December 2010 and \$200 million of debentures in March 2012 to provide funding for the maturing obligations (and a portion of the redeemed Subordinated Debentures). In connection with these planned debt issuances, the Company, in January 2010, entered into two forward-starting interest rate swap ("FSIRS") agreements to hedge the risk of interest rate variability during the period leading up to the planned issuances. See **Note 4 – Derivatives and Fair Value Measurements** for more information on the FSIRS.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2010, the Company issued shares of common stock through the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan ("DRSPP") and for exercised stock options, raising approximately \$4 million. Beginning in the second quarter of 2010, the Company plans to cease issuing new common stock under the DRSPP (the DRSPP will purchase shares on the open market as needed).

# Dividend Policy

The Company has a common stock dividend policy which states that common stock dividends will be paid at a prudent level that is within the normal dividend payout range for its respective businesses, and that the dividend will be established at a level considered sustainable in order to minimize business risk and maintain a strong capital structure throughout all economic cycles. In February 2010, the Board of Directors increased the quarterly dividend payout from 23.75 cents to 25 cents per share, effective with the June 2010 payment.

# Liquidity

Liquidity refers to the ability of an enterprise to generate sufficient amounts of cash through its operating activities and external financing to meet its cash requirements. Several general factors (some of which are out of the control of the Company) that could significantly affect liquidity in future years include variability of natural gas prices, changes in the ratemaking policies of regulatory commissions, regulatory lag, customer growth in the natural gas segment's service territories, Southwest's ability to access and obtain capital from external sources, interest rates, changes in income tax laws, pension funding requirements, inflation, and the level of Company earnings. Natural gas prices and related gas cost recovery rates have historically had the most significant impact on Company liquidity.

On an interim basis, Southwest generally defers over- or under-collections of gas costs to PGA balancing accounts. In addition, Southwest uses this mechanism to either refund amounts over-collected or recoup amounts under-collected as compared to the price paid for natural gas during the period since the last PGA rate change went into effect. At March 31, 2010, the combined balance in the PGA accounts totaled an over-collection of \$93.3 million. See **PGA Filings** for more information on recent regulatory filings.

The Company has a \$300 million credit facility that expires in May 2012. Southwest has designated \$150 million of the \$300 million facility as long-term debt and the remaining \$150 million for working capital purposes. At March 31, 2010, \$45 million was outstanding on the long-term portion and no borrowings were outstanding on the short-term portion of the credit facility. The credit facility can be used as necessary to meet liquidity requirements, including temporarily financing under-collected PGA balances, if any. This credit facility has been, and is expected to continue to be, adequate for Southwest's working capital needs outside of funds raised through operations and other types of external financing. Management believes the Company currently has a solid liquidity position.

The following table sets forth the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the Company. Due to the seasonal nature of the Company's business, these ratios are computed on a twelve-month basis:

	For the Twelve	e Months Ended
	March 31,	December 31,
	2010	2009
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	2.70	2.46

Earnings are defined as the sum of pretax income plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of all interest expense including capitalized interest, one-third of rent expense (which approximates the interest component of such expense), and net amortized debt costs.

# **Forward-Looking Statements**

This quarterly report contains statements which constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("Reform Act"). All statements other than statements of historical fact included or incorporated by reference in this quarterly report are forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding the Company's plans, objectives, goals, projections, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions. The words "may," "will," "should," "could," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "continue," "forecast," and similar words and expressions are generally used and intended to identify forward-looking statements. For example, statements regarding operating margin earned, customer growth, the composition of our customer base, price volatility, risks and costs associated with having non-performing assets associated with new homes, timing of improvements in the housing market, amount and timing for completion of estimated future construction expenditures, forecasted operating cash flows and results of operations, funding sources of cash requirements, sufficiency of working capital, bank lending practices, the Company's views regarding its liquidity position, ability to raise funds and receive external financing, the amount and form of any such financing, future financing cost savings, the effectiveness of forward-starting interest rate swap agreements in hedging against changing interest rates, liquidity, the impact of the application of certain accounting standards, statements regarding future gas prices, gas

purchase contracts and derivative financial interests, the impact of certain legal proceedings, and the timing and results of future rate hearings and approvals are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are intended to be subject to the safe harbor protection provided by the Reform Act.

A number of important factors affecting the business and financial results of the Company could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, the impact of weather variations on customer usage, customer growth rates, conditions in the housing market, our ability to recover costs through our PGA mechanisms, the effects of regulation/deregulation, the timing and amount of rate relief, changes in rate design, changes in gas procurement practices, changes in capital requirements and funding, the impact of conditions in the capital markets on financing costs, changes in construction expenditures and financing, renewal of franchises, easements and rights-of-way, changes in operations and maintenance expenses, effects of pension expense forecasts, accounting changes, future liability claims, changes in pipeline capacity for the transportation of gas and related costs, acquisitions and management's plans related thereto, competition, and our ability to raise capital in external financings. In addition, the Company can provide no assurance that its discussions regarding certain trends relating to its financing and operations and maintenance expenses will continue in future periods. For additional information on the risks associated with the Company's business, see Item 1A. Risk Factors and Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009.

All forward-looking statements in this quarterly report are made as of the date hereof, based on information available to the Company as of the date hereof, and the Company assumes no obligation to update or revise any of its forward-looking statements even if experience or future changes show that the indicated results or events will not be realized. **We caution you not to unduly rely on any forward-looking statement(s).** 

#### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

See **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk** in the Company's 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC. No material changes have occurred related to the Company's disclosures about market risk.

#### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company has established disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and to provide reasonable assurance that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or management override of the control. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and may not be detected.

Based on the most recent evaluation, as of March 31, 2010, management of the Company, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, believe the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective at attaining the level of reasonable assurance noted above.

There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) during the first quarter of 2010 that have materially affected, or are likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

# **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

## ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company is named as a defendant in various legal proceedings. The ultimate dispositions of these proceedings are not presently determinable; however, it is the opinion of management that none of this litigation individually or in the aggregate will have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

ITEMS 1A. through 3. None.

ITEM 4. REMOVED AND RESERVED

ITEM 5. None.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

The following documents are filed as part of this report on Form 10-Q:

Exhibit Amended Bylaws of Southwest Gas Corporation.

3(ii)

Exhibit - Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.

12.01

Exhibit - Section 302 Certifications.

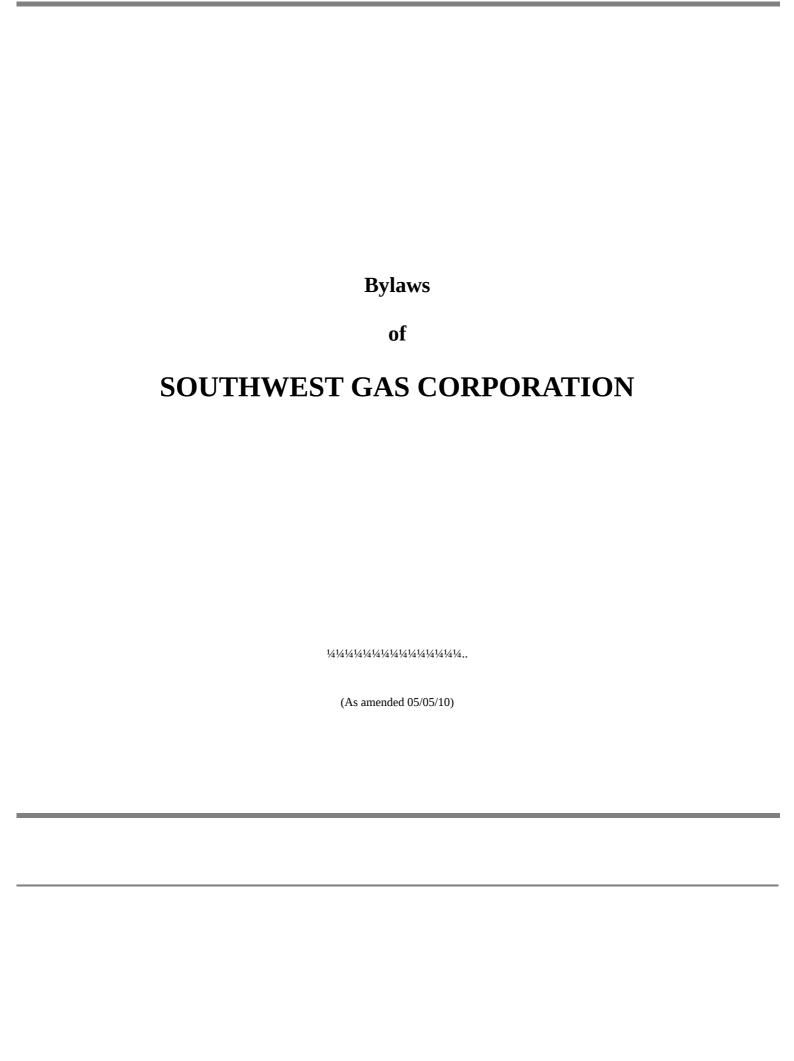
31.01

Exhibit - Section 906 Certifications.

32.01

# **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act thereunto duly authorized.	of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned		
	Southwest Gas Corporation		
	(Registrant)		
Date: May 7, 2010			
	/s/ Roy R. Centrella		
	Roy R. Centrella		
	Vice President/Controller and Chief Accounting Officer		
	26		



#### **BYLAWS**

OF

# SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

#### **ARTICLE I**

#### Section 1. Principal Office

The principal office for the transaction of the business of the Corporation is hereby fixed and located at 5241 Spring Mountain Road, in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada.

## Section 2. Other Offices

Branch or subordinate offices may at any time be established by the Board of Directors at any place or places where the Corporation is qualified to do business.

## Section 3. Terminology

All personal pronouns used herein are employed in a generic sense and are intended and deemed to be neutral in gender.

## **ARTICLE II**

#### **MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

## Section 1. Regular Meeting

Commencing in May 2009, the regular annual meeting of shareholders shall be held at the principal office of the corporation, or at such other place within or without the State of California as the officers of the corporation may deem convenient and appropriate, at 10:00 a.m. on the first Thursday after the third day of May of each year, if not a legal holiday, and if a legal holiday, then at 10:00 a.m. on the next succeeding business day, for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors and transacting such other business as properly may come before the meeting; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may, by resolution, establish a different date not more than 120 days thereafter if, in its sole discretion, it deems such postponement appropriate.

# Section 2. Special Meetings

Except in those instances where a particular manner of calling a meeting of the shareholders is prescribed by law or elsewhere in these Bylaws, a special meeting of the shareholders may be called at any time by the Chief Executive Officer or other

officers acting for him or by the Board of Directors, or by the holders of not less than one-third of the voting shares then issued and outstanding. Each call for a special meeting of the shareholders shall state the time, place, and the purpose of such meeting; if made by the Board of Directors, it shall be by resolution duly adopted by a majority vote and entered in the minutes; if made by an authorized officer or by the shareholders, it shall be in writing and signed by the person or persons making the same, and unless the office of Secretary be vacant, delivered to the Secretary. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting other than as is stated in the call and the notice based thereon.

#### Section 3. Notice of Regular and Special Meetings of the Shareholders

Notice of each regular and special meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation shall be given by mailing to each shareholder a notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting addressed to him at his address as it appears upon the books of the Corporation. Each such notice shall be deposited in the United States Mail with the postage thereon prepaid at least ten days prior to the time fixed for such meeting. If the address of any such shareholder does not appear on the books of the Corporation and his post office address is unknown to the person mailing such notices, the notice shall be addressed to him at the principal office of the Corporation.

#### Section 4. Quorum

At any meeting of the shareholders, the presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except when it is otherwise provided by law. Any regular or special meeting of the shareholders may adjourn from day to day or from time to time if, for any reason, there are not present in person or by proxy the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote at said meeting. Such adjournment and the reasons therefor shall be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings.

## Section 5. Waiver of Notice

When all the shareholders of the Corporation are present at any meeting, or when the shareholders not represented thereat give their written consent to the holding thereof at the time and place the meeting is held, and such written consent is made a part of the records of such meeting, the proceedings had at such meeting are valid, irrespective of the manner in which the meeting is called or the place where it is held.

#### Section 6. Proper Business for Shareholder Meetings

1. At a meeting of the shareholders, only such business shall be proper as shall be brought before the meeting: (i) pursuant to the Corporation's notice of meeting; (ii) by or at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Corporation; or (iii) by any shareholder of the Corporation who is a shareholder of record at the time of giving the

notice provided for herein, who shall be entitled to vote at such meeting and who complies with the notice procedures set forth herein.

- 2. For business to be properly brought before a meeting by a shareholder pursuant to clause (iii) above, the shareholder must have given timely notice thereof in writing to the Secretary. To be timely as to an annual meeting of shareholders, a shareholder's notice must be received at the principal executive office of the Corporation not less than 120 calendar days before the date of the Corporation's proxy statement released to shareholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting; provided however, that if the date of the meeting is changed by more than 30 days from the date of the previous year's meeting, notice by shareholder to be timely must be received no later than the close of business on the 10th day following the earlier of the day on which notice of the date of the meeting was mailed to shareholders or public disclosure of such date was made. To be timely as to a special meeting of shareholders, a shareholder notice must be received not later than the call of the meeting as provided for in Section 2 of this Article II. Such shareholder notice shall set forth as to each matter the shareholder proposes to bring before the meeting: (a) a brief description of and the reasons for proposing such matter at the meeting; (b) the name and address, as they appear on the Corporation's books, and the name and address of the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the proposal is made; (c) the class and number of shares of the Corporation which are owned beneficially and of record by such shareholder of record and by the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the proposal is made; and (d) any material interest of such shareholder of record and the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the proposal.
- 3. Notwithstanding anything in these Bylaws to the contrary, no business shall be proper at a meeting unless brought before it in accordance with the procedures set forth herein. Further, a shareholder shall also comply with all applicable requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder with respect to the matters set forth herein.
- 4. The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation or the individual designated as chairman of the meeting shall, if the facts warrant, determine, and declare to the meeting that business was not properly brought before the meeting and in accordance with the procedures proscribed herein, and if the chairman should so determine, that any such business not properly brought before the meeting shall not be transacted.
- 5. Notwithstanding anything provided herein to the contrary, the procedures for submission of shareholder proposals have not expended, altered, or affected in any manner, whatever rights or limitations may exist regarding the ability of a shareholder of the Corporation to submit to a proposal for consideration by shareholders of the Corporation under California or federal law.

#### ARTICLE III

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# Section 1. Number - Quorum

The business of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors, whose number shall be not fewer than eleven (11) nor greater than fourteen (14), as the Board of Directors or the shareholders by amendment of these Bylaws may establish, provided, however, that a reduction in the authorized number of directors shall not remove any director prior to the expiration of his term of office, and provided further that the shareholders may, pursuant to law, establish a different and definite number of directors or different maximum and minimum numbers of directors by amendment of the Articles of Incorporation or by a duly adopted amendment to these Bylaws. A majority of the prescribed number of directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the trans- action of business. At a meeting at which a quorum is present, every decision or act of a majority of the directors present made or done when duly assembled shall be valid as the act of the Board of Directors, provided that a minority of the directors, in the absence of a quorum, may adjourn from day to day but may transact no business.

#### Section 2. Exact Number of Directors

The number of Directors of the Corporation is hereby established, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this Article III, as twelve (12).

#### Section 3. Director Nominating Procedure

- 1. Except for the filling of vacancies, as provided for in Section 6 of this Article III, only persons who are nominated in accordance with the procedures set forth herein shall be qualified to serve as directors. Nominations of persons for election to the Board may be made at a meeting of shareholders: (a) by or at the direction of the Board or (b) by any shareholder of the Corporation who is a shareholder of record at the time of giving of notice provided for in this Bylaw, who shall be entitled to vote for the election of directors at the meeting and who complies with the notice procedures set forth in this Bylaw.
- 2. Nominations by shareholders shall be made pursuant to timely notice in writing to the Secretary. To be timely as to an annual meeting, a shareholder's notice must be received at the principal executive offices of the Corporation not less than 20 days prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting; provided, however, that if the date of the annual meeting is changed by more than 30 days from such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder to be timely must be so received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the earlier of the day on which

notice of the date of the meeting was mailed to shareholders or public disclosure of such date was made. To be timely as to a special meeting at which directors are to be elected, a shareholder's notice must be received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the earlier of the day on which notice of the date of the meeting was mailed to shareholders or public disclosure of such date was made. Such shareholder's notice shall set forth: (a) as to each person whom the shareholder proposes to nominate for election or reelection as a director all information relating to such person that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for election of directors, or is otherwise required, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (including such person's written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected); (b) as to the shareholder giving the notice, (i) the name and address, as they appear on the Corporation's books, of such shareholder and (ii) the class and number of shares of the Corporation which are beneficially owned by such shareholder and also which are owned of record by such shareholder; and (c) as to the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the nomination is made, (i) the name and address of such person and (ii) the class and number of shares of the Corporation which are beneficially owned by such person. At the request of the Board, any person nominated by the Board for election as a director shall furnish to the Secretary that information required to be set forth in the shareholder's notice of nomination which pertains to the nominee.

3. Except for the filling of vacancies, as provided for in Section 6 of this Article III, no person shall be qualified to serve as a director of the Corporation unless nominated in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Bylaw. The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation or the individual designated as chairman of the meeting shall, if the facts warrant, determine, and declare to the meeting that a nomination was not made in accordance with the procedures prescribed by these Bylaws, and if the chairman should so determine, that the defective nomination shall be disregarded. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Bylaw, a shareholder shall also comply with all applicable requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder with respect to the matters set forth in this Bylaw.

#### Section 4. Qualification of Directors

The majority of directors of the Board of Directors shall not be officers or employees of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries and shall not have held such positions at any time during the three years prior to election or selection to the Board of Directors. Whether an individual, who is an officer or employee of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, satisfies this qualification requirement will be determined at the time of his or her election or selection.

#### Section 5. Election and Term of Office

The directors shall be elected at each annual meeting of shareholders, but if any such annual meeting is not held, or the directors are not elected thereat, the directors may be elected at any special meeting of shareholders held for that purpose. All directors shall hold office until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

## Section 6. Vacancies

Vacancies on the Board of Directors may be filled by a majority of the remaining directors, though they be less than a quorum, and each director so elected shall hold office until his successor is qualified following the election at the next annual meeting of the shareholders or at any special meeting of shareholders duly called for that purpose prior to such annual meeting. A vacancy shall be deemed to exist in case the shareholders (or the Board of Directors, within the provisions of Section 1 of this Article III) shall increase the authorized number of directors, but shall fail, for a period of thirty days from the effective date of such increase, to elect the additional directors so provided for, or in case the shareholders fail at any time to elect the full number of authorized directors. When one or more of the directors shall give notice to the Board of Directors of his or their resignation from said Board, effective at a future date, the Board of Directors shall have the power to fill such vacancy or vacancies to take effect when such resignation or resignations become effective. Each director so appointed shall hold office during the remainder of the term of office of the resigning director or directors or until their successors are appointed and qualify.

#### Section 7. First Meeting of Directors

Immediately following each annual meeting of shareholders, the Board of Directors shall hold a regular meeting for the purpose of organization, election of officers, and the transaction of other business. Notice of such meeting is hereby dispensed with.

# Section 8. Regular Meetings

Commencing in 2004, the time for other regular meetings of the Board of Directors, when held, shall be 8 a.m. on the third Tuesday of January, September, and November, the first Tuesday of March, the first Wednesday of May, and fourth Tuesday of July, unless a different schedule is established by a resolution of the Board. If any regular meeting date shall fall on a legal holiday, then the regular meeting date shall be the business day next following.

#### Section 9. Special Meetings

A special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by the Chief Executive Officer or other officer acting for him, or by three directors. Any and all business may be transacted at a special meeting. Each call for a special meeting shall be in writing, signed by the person or persons making the same, addressed and delivered to the Secretary, and shall state the time and place of such meeting.

# Section 10. Notice of Regular and Special Meetings of the Directors

No notice shall be required to be given of any regular meeting of the Board of Directors, but each director shall take notice thereof. Notice of each special meeting of the Board

of Directors shall be given to each of the directors by: (i) mailing to each of them a copy of such notice at least five days; or (ii) delivering personally or by telephone, including voice messaging system or other system or technology designed to record and communicate messages, telegraph, facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic means such notice at least 48 hours, prior to the time affixed for such meeting to the address of such director as shown on the books of the Corporation. If his address does not appear on the books of the Corporation, then such notice shall be addressed to him at the principal office of the Corporation.

# Section 11. Waiver of Notice

When all the directors of the Corporation are present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, however called or noticed, and sign a written consent thereto on the record of such meeting, or if the majority of the directors are present, and if those not present sign in writing a waiver of notice of such meeting, whether prior to or after the holding of such meeting, which waiver shall be filed with the Secretary of the Corporation, the transactions of such meeting are as valid as if had at a meeting regularly called and noticed.

## Section 12. Action by Unanimous Consent of Directors

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board shall individually or collectively consent in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board, and such action by written consent shall have the same force and effect as if approved or taken at a regular meeting duly held. Any certificate or other document which relates to action so taken shall state that the action was taken by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors without a meeting, and that these Bylaws authorize the directors to so act.

# Section 13. Telephonic Participation in Meetings

Members of the Board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, so long as all members participating in such meeting can hear one another. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV

### **POWERS OF DIRECTORS**

### Section 1. The directors shall have power:

1. To call special meetings of the shareholders when they deem it necessary, and they shall call a meeting at any time upon the written request of shareholders holding one-third of all the voting shares;

- 2. To appoint and remove at pleasure all officers and agents of the Corporation, prescribe their duties, fix their compensation, and require from them as necessary security for faithful service;
- 3. To create and appoint committees, offices, officers, and agents of the Corporation, and to prescribe and from time to time change their duties and compensation, but no committee shall be created and no member appointed thereto except upon approval of a majority of the whole Board of Directors; and
- 4. To conduct, manage, and control the affairs and business of the Corporation and to make rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the State of California, or the Bylaws of the Corporation, for the guidance of the officers and management of the affairs of the Corporation.

#### ARTICLE V

#### **DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

# Section 1. It shall be the duty of the directors:

- 1. To cause to be kept a complete record of all their minutes and acts, and of the proceedings of the shareholders, and present a full statement at the regular annual meeting of the shareholders, showing in detail the assets and liabilities of the Corporation, and generally the condition of its affairs. A similar statement shall be presented at any other meeting of the shareholders when theretofore required by persons holding at least one-half of the voting shares of the Corporation;
- 2. To declare dividends out of the profits arising from the conduct of the business, whenever such profits shall, in the opinion of the directors, warrant the same;
- 3. To oversee the actions of all officers and agents of the Corporation, see that their duties are properly performed; and
- 4. To cause to be issued to the shareholders, in proportion to their several interests, certificates of stock.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **OFFICERS**

<u>Section 1.</u> The officers shall include a Chairman of the Board of Directors, a Chief Executive Officer, who may be designated Chairman, a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Controller, and may include one or more Executive Vice Presidents, Senior Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents, Assistant Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, and Assistant Treasurers. All such officers shall be elected by and hold office at the

pleasure of the Board of Directors, provided that the Chief Executive Officer shall have authority to dismiss any other officer. Any director shall be eligible to be the Chairman of the Board of Directors and any two or more of such offices may be held by the same person, except that the Chief Executive Officer or President may not also hold the office of Secretary. Any officer may exercise any of the powers of any other officer in the manner specified in these Bylaws, as specified from time to time by the Board of Directors, and/or as specified from time to time by the Chief Executive Officer or senior officer acting in his or her absence or incapacity, and any such acting officer shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him or her.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

#### **FEES AND COMPENSATION**

<u>Section 1.</u> Directors shall be reimbursed for their expenses, and shall be compensated for their services as directors in such amounts as the Board may fix by resolution. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity as an officer, agent, employee, or otherwise, and receiving compensation therefor.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

## INDEMNIFICATION

## Section 1. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Each person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is involved in any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, formal or informal, whether brought in the name of the Corporation or otherwise and whether of a civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative nature (hereinafter a "proceeding"), by reason of the fact that he or she, or a person of whom he or she is the legal representative, is or was a director or officer of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee, or agent of another Corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, whether the basis of such proceeding is an alleged action or inaction in an official capacity, or in any other capacity while serving as a director or officer, shall, subject to the terms of any agreement between the Corporation and such person, be indemnified and held harmless by the Corporation to the fullest extent permissible under California law and the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, against all costs, charges, expenses, liabilities, and losses (including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise tax or penalties, and amounts paid or to be paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection therewith, and such indemnification shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director or officer and shall inure to the benefit of his or her heirs, executors, and administrators;

provided, however, that: (a) the Corporation shall indemnify any such person seeking indemnification in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such

person only if such proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of the Corporation, (b) the Corporation shall indemnify such person seeking indemnification in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) other than a proceeding by or in the name of the Corporation to procure a judgment in its favor only if any settlement of such a proceeding is approved in writing by the Corporation, and (c) that no such person shall be indemnified (i) on account of any suit in which judgment is rendered against such person for an accounting of profits made from the purchase or sale by such person of securities of the Corporation pursuant to the provisions of Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and amendments thereto or similar provisions of any federal, state, or local statutory law; (ii) if a court of competent jurisdiction finally determines that any indemnification hereunder is unlawful; (iii) for acts or omissions involving intentional misconduct or knowing and culpable violation of law; (iv) for acts or omissions that the director or officer believes to be contrary to the best interests of the Corporation or its shareholders or that involve the absence of good faith on the part of the director or officer; (v) for any transaction for which the director or officer derived an improper personal benefit; (vi) for acts or omissions that show a reckless disregard for the director's or officer's duty to the Corporation or its shareholders in circumstances in which the director or officer was aware, or should have been aware, in the ordinary course of performing his or her duties, of a risk of serious injury to the Corporation or its shareholders; (vii) for acts or omissions that constitute an unexcused pattern of inattention that amounts to an abdication of the director's or officer's duties to the Corporation or its shareholders; (viii) for costs, charges, expenses, liabilities, and losses arising under Section 310 or 316 of the General Corporation Law of California (the "Law"); and (ix) as to circumstances in which indemnity is expressly prohibited by Section 317 of the Law. The right to indemnification conferred in this Article shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by the Corporation expenses incurred in defending any proceeding in advance of its final disposition; provided, however, that if the Law requires the payment of such expenses incurred by a director or officer in his or her capacity as a director or officer (and not in any other capacity in which service was or is rendered by such person while a director or officer, including, without limitation, service to an employee benefit plan) in advance of the final disposition of a proceeding, such advances shall be made only upon delivery to the Corporation of an undertaking, by or on behalf of such director or officer, to repay all amounts to the Corporation if it shall be ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified.

## Section 2. Indemnification of Employees and Agents

A person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is involved in any proceedings by reason of the fact that he or she is or was an employee or agent of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as an employee or agent of another enterprise, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, whether the basis of such action is an alleged action or inaction in an official capacity or in any other capacity while serving as an employee or agent, may, subject to the terms of any agreement between the Corporation and such person, be indemnified and held harmless by the Corporation to the fullest extent permitted by California law and the

Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, against all costs, charges, expenses, liabilities, losses (including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties, and amounts paid or to be paid in settlement), reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection therewith. The immediately preceding sentence is not intended to be and shall not be considered to confer a contract right on any employee or agent (other than directors and officers) of the Corporation.

#### Section 3. Right of Directors and Officers to Bring Suit

If a claim under Section 1 of this Article is not paid in full by the Corporation within 30 days after a written claim has been received by the Corporation, the claimant may at any time thereafter bring suit against the Corporation to recover the unpaid amount of the claim and, if successful in whole or in part, the claimant shall also be entitled to be paid the expense of prosecuting such claim. Neither the failure of the Corporation (including its Board, independent legal counsel, or its shareholders) to have made a determination prior to the commencement of such action that indemnification of the claimant is permissible in the circumstances because he or she has met the applicable standard of conduct, if any, nor an actual determination by the Corporation (including its Board, independent legal counsel,

or its shareholders) that the claimant has not met the applicable standard of conduct, shall be a defense to the action or create a presumption for the purpose of an action that the claimant has not met the applicable standard of conduct.

## Section 4. Successful Defense

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, to the extent that a director or officer has been successful on the merits or otherwise (including the dismissal of an action without prejudice or the settlement of a proceeding or action without admission of liability) in defense of any proceeding referred to in Section 1 or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection therewith.

## Section 5. Non-Exclusivity of Rights

The right to indemnification provided by this Article shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, bylaw, agreement, vote of shareholders, disinterested directors, or otherwise.

## Section 6.Insurance

The Corporation may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any director, officer, employee, or agent of the Corporation or another Corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise against any expense, liability or loss, whether or not the Corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such expense, liability, or loss under the law.

#### Section 7. Expenses as a Witness

To the extent that any director, officer, employee, or agent of the Corporation is by reason of such position, or a position with another entity at the request of the Corporation, a witness in any action, suit, or proceeding, he or she shall be indemnified against all costs and expenses actually and reasonably incurred by him or her on his or her behalf in connection therewith.

#### Section 8. Indemnity Agreements

The Corporation may enter into agreements with any director, officer, employee, or agent of the Corporation providing for indemnification to the fullest extent permissible under the law and the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation.

## Section 9. Separability

Each and every paragraph, sentence, term, and provision of this Article is separate and distinct so that if any paragraph, sentence, term, or provision hereof shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or unenforceability of any other paragraph, sentence, term, or provision hereof. To the extent required, any paragraph, sentence, term, or provision of this Article may be modified by a court of competent jurisdiction to preserve its validity and to provide the claimant with, subject to the limitations set forth in this Article and any agreement between the Corporation and claimant, the broadest possible indemnification permitted under applicable law.

# Section 10. Effect of Repeal or Modification

Any repeal or modification of this Article shall not adversely affect any right of indemnification of a director or officer existing at the time of such repeal or modification with respect to any action or omission occurring prior to such repeal or modification."

## **ARTICLE IX**

#### **CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

<u>Section 1.</u> If there shall be a Chairman of the Board of Directors, he shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the stockholders and the Board of Directors, and perform such other duties as the Bylaws or the Board of Directors shall require of him.

#### ARTICLE X

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER; OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall, at their first regular meeting, elect such officers as are required by Article VI hereof and such additional officers authorized by Article VI hereof as the Board, in its discretion, may choose to elect. If at any time the Chief Executive Officer shall be unable to act, the President (if there shall be one who is not also the Chief Executive Officer) shall act in his place and perform his duties; if the President or next most senior officer is unable to perform such duties, then the vice presidents, in such sequence as the Board of Directors may specify, shall act. If all the foregoing shall be unable to act, the senior officer among them shall appoint some other person in whom shall be vested, for the time being, all the duties and functions of Chief Executive Officer, to act until the Board of Directors can be convened and elect appropriate officers. The Chief Executive Officer (or person acting as such) shall:

- 1. Preside (if there shall be no Chairman of the Board of Directors or in his absence) over all meetings of the shareholders and directors;
- 2. Sign on behalf of the Corporation contracts and other instruments in writing within the scope of his authority or if, when, and as directed to do so by the Board of Directors, but nothing herein shall limit the power of the Board of Directors to authorize such contracts and other instruments in writing to be signed by any other officer or person or limit the power of the Chief Executive Officer to delegate his authority in any such matter to another officer or other officers of the Corporation. The Chief Executive Officer or any other officer specified by the Board of Directors may sign certificates of stock as provided in Article XIII hereof;
- 3. Delegate duties and responsibilities to any other officers and/or employees of the Corporation in any manner not prohibited by these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors, and change such duties and responsibilities so delegated from time to time at will;
- 4. Call the directors together when he deems it necessary, and have, subject to the advice of the directors, direction of the affairs of the Corporation; and
- 5. Generally discharge such other duties as may be required of him by the Bylaws of the Corporation.

#### ARTICLE XI

#### **SECRETARY**

## Section 1. The Board of Directors shall elect a Secretary:

- 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the shareholders, and to keep the corporate seal of the Corporation. He shall be responsible for maintaining proper records showing the number of shares of stock of all classes and series issued and transferred by any shareholder, and the dates of such issuance and transfer;
- 2. Whenever it is provided in these Bylaws that notice shall be given either of regular or special meetings of the shareholders, regular or special meetings of the directors, or otherwise, such notice shall be given by the Secretary or by the Chief Executive Officer or by any person designated by either of them, or by any authorized person who shall have signed the call for such meeting. Any notice which the Secretary may give or serve, or act required to be done by him, may with like effect be given or served or done by or under the direction of an Assistant Secretary;
- 3. The Secretary shall discharge such other duties as pertain to his office or which may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

#### **TREASURER**

<u>Section 1.</u> The Treasurer shall receive and keep all the funds of the Corporation and pay them out only on checks or otherwise, as directed by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may provide for a depository of the funds of the Corporation, and may by resolution prescribe the manner in which said funds shall be drawn from said depository.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

#### CERTIFICATES OF STOCK

Section 1. Certificates of stock shall be of such form and device as the Board of Directors may lawfully direct, and shall be entitled to have a certificate signed by the genuine or facsimile signatures of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer or the President or any authorized Vice President and the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary. Each certificate shall express on its face its number, date of issuance, the number of shares for which and the person to whom it is issued, the kind of shares represented by said certificate, and such other matters as may be required by law. Certificates of stock may be issued prior to full payment, in harmony with all permits issued by regulatory authorities having jurisdiction in the premises, or as is otherwise allowed by

law, but any certificate issued prior to full payment must show on its face what amount has been paid thereon.

#### ARTICLE XIV

## TRANSFER OF STOCK

<u>Section 1.</u> Shares of stock of the Corporation may be transferred at any time by the holders, or by power of attorney, or by their legal representative, by endorsement on the certificate of stock, but no transfer is valid until the surrender of the endorsed certificate. A surrendered certificate shall be delivered up for cancellation before a new one is issued in lieu thereof, and the Secretary shall preserve the certificate so canceled or a suitable record thereof. If, however, a certificate is lost or destroyed, the Board of Directors may order a new certificate issued as is by law required or permitted.

#### ARTICLE XV

## **VOTING**

<u>Section 1.</u> At all corporate meetings, each shareholder, either in person or by proxy, shall be entitled to as many votes as he owns shares of stock; however, every shareholder entitled to vote at any election for directors shall have the right to cumulate his votes.

# Section 2. Proxies

Every person entitled to vote or execute consents shall have the right to do so either in person or by one or more agents authorized by a written proxy executed by such person or his duly authorized agent and filed with the Secretary of the Corporation; provided that no such proxy shall be valid after the expiration of eleven (11) months from the date of its execution, unless the person executing it specifies therein the length of time for which such proxy is to continue in force, which in no case shall exceed seven (7) years from the date of its execution.

### **ARTICLE XVI**

## **INDEBTEDNESS**

<u>Section 1.</u> The Board of Directors shall have power to incur indebtedness, and the terms and amount thereof shall be entered in the minutes. The Board of Directors shall have the power to secure said indebtedness, or any obligation or obligations of the Corporation, by pledge, mortgage, deed of trust, or other security given upon any property owned by it or in which it has any interest.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

#### REGISTRAR AND/OR TRANSFER AGENT

<u>Section 1.</u> The Board of Directors may designate and appoint one or more registrars and/or transfer agents for the registration of the stock of the Corporation, and make such rules and regulations for the registrations of stock at the office of such registrars and/or transfer agents as may to the Board of Directors seem desirable. The Corporation may act as its own transfer agent, at the direction of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may, in its discretion, fix a transfer fee for transfer of stock certificates.

#### **ARTICLE XVIII**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

## Section 1. Meetings. Notice. When Conclusive.

An entry made in the minutes of the directors or shareholders, pursuant to resolution or recital, to the effect that the notice of such meeting required by these Bylaws to be given has been given, shall be conclusive upon the Corporation, its directors, shareholders, and all other persons that such notice has been duly given in proper form and substance to the proper persons and for the requisite length of time.

## ARTICLE XIX

## **SEAL**

<u>Section 1.</u> The Board of Directors shall provide a suitable seal containing the name of the Corporation, the year of its creation, and other appropriate words, and may alter the same at pleasure.

## ARTICLE XX

## **AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

## Section 1. Power of Shareholders

New Bylaws may be adopted or these Bylaws may be amended or repealed by the vote of shareholders entitled to exercise a majority of the voting power of the Corporation or by the written assent of such shareholders, except as otherwise provided by law or by the Articles of Incorporation.

# Section 2. Power of Directors

Subject to the right of the shareholders as provided in Section 1 of this Article XX to adopt, amend, or repeal Bylaws, the Board of Directors may adopt, amend, or repeal any of the Bylaws of this Corporation, except that the powers of the Board of Directors to change, and/or establish the authorized number of directors of this Corporation shall be as set forth in Article III of these Bylaws.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the Bylaws of Southwest Gas Corporation, a California Corporation, as in effect on the date hereof.

WITNESS my hand this 5th day of May 2010.

/s/George C. Biehl

George C. Biehl Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary



# SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES (Thousands of dollars)

For the Twelve Months Ended

	Mar 31,		-	December 31,								
		2010		2009		2008		2007		2006		2005
1. Fixed charges:						_		_		_		
A) Interest expense	\$	81,038	\$	81,861	\$	90,403	\$	94,035	\$	92,878	\$	87,687
B) Amortization		2,241		2,097		2,880		2,783		3,467		3,700
C) Interest portion of rentals		6,556		6,644		7,802		7,952		6,412		6,333
Total fixed charges	\$	89,835	\$	90,602	\$	101,085	\$	104,770	\$	102,757	\$	97,720
2. Earnings (as defined):												
D) Pretax income from continuing operations	\$	152,655	\$	132,035	\$	101,808	\$	131,024	\$	128,357	\$	68,435
Fixed Charges (1. above)	Ψ	89,835	Ψ	90,602	Ψ	101,085	Ψ	104,770	Ψ	102,757	Ψ	97,720
Total earnings as defined	\$	242,490	\$	222,637	\$	202,893	\$	235,794	\$	231,114	\$	166,155
		2.70		2.46		2.01		2.25		2.25		1.70



#### Certification

## I, Jeffrey W. Shaw, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Southwest Gas Corporation;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 7, 2010

/s/ JEFFREY W. SHAW

Jeffrey W. Shaw Chief Executive Officer Southwest Gas Corporation

#### Certification

## I, George C. Biehl, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Southwest Gas Corporation;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 7, 2010

/s/ GEORGE C. BIEHL

George C. Biehl Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary Southwest Gas Corporation



## SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

# **CERTIFICATION**

In connection with the periodic report of Southwest Gas Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2010 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), I, Jeffrey W. Shaw, the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, hereby certify as of the date hereof, solely for purposes of Title 18, Chapter 63, Section 1350 of the United States Code, that to the best of my knowledge:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company at the dates and for the periods indicated.

This Certification has not been, and shall not be deemed, "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Dated: May 7, 2010

/s/ Jeffrey W. Shaw
Jeffrey W. Shaw
Chief Executive Officer

## SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

## **CERTIFICATION**

In connection with the periodic report of Southwest Gas Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2010 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report"), I, George C. Biehl, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary of the Company, hereby certify as of the date hereof, solely for purposes of Title 18, Chapter 63, Section 1350 of the United States Code, that to the best of my knowledge:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company at the dates and for the periods indicated.

This Certification has not been, and shall not be deemed, "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Dated: May 7, 2010

/s/ George C. Biehl

George C. Biehl

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary