

## STATE OF NEVADA

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON Chair

C.J. MANTHE Commissioner

TAMMY CORDOVA

Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: Dec. 8, 2021 Communications Director, (775) 684-6118

## Public Utilities Commission of Nevada schedules consumer session on Southwest Gas rate application

Contact: Peter Kostes

Carson City, NV – The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) has scheduled a consumer session on Wednesday, Dec. 15, to hear public comments regarding Southwest Gas Corp.'s (SWG's) application to adjust natural gas rates in Nevada.

SWG has filed an application (designated as Docket No. 21-09001) with the PUCN to increase its retail natural gas rates in its Southern and Northern Nevada divisions. In Southern Nevada, SWG's proposed annual revenue increase is approximately \$26.1 million, or 5.60 percent. The proposed annual revenue increase in Northern Nevada is approximately \$4.4 million, or 3.81 percent.

If SWG's request is approved, the average monthly single-family residential bill for natural gas service in Southern Nevada would increase an estimated \$3.39, or 7.44 percent. In Northern Nevada, the estimated average monthly single-family residential bill would increase \$3.49, or 4.55 percent.

In its application, SWG cites six primary factors for the proposed increases: 1) a change in the cost of capital; 2) updating costs related to capital investments, including but not necessarily limited to gas infrastructure replacement projects, service expansion to Mesquite, and the Customer Data Modernization Initiative (CDMI); 3) incremental operations and maintenance expense related to the company's CDMI; 4) increases in expenses due to capital investment, operations and maintenance, wages, benefits, and inflation; 5) the regulatory asset related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and 6) updated customer counts and customer volumes.

Based on the evidence presented in the case, the PUCN may approve rates as proposed or decrease or increase rates as necessary to ensure rates are just and reasonable. Public comment regarding this application will be accepted in-person or telephonically at the consumer session. Written comments also may be submitted to the PUCN electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the PUCN's website, by hand-delivery or via U.S. Mail.

The consumer session, which will be video conferenced between the PUCN's Carson City and Las Vegas offices, is scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, at 6 p.m. Live telephone conference: 1-844-621-3956

Use this access code for telephone conference: 2593-525-2584 Written comments via U.S. Mail to be addressed as follows:

**PUCN** 

Attn: Docket No. 21-09001 1150 E. William St., Carson City, NV 89701; or 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, NV 89148

Public comment at the consumer session will be limited to the contents of the application.

Representatives from SWG and PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff will be present at the consumer session.

Public comments may be limited to five minutes per person. A hearing on this application starts Monday,

Feb. 7, at 10 a.m.

Information about this application is available on the PUCN's website at <u>puc.nv.gov</u>. From the top navigational bar on the home page, select Dockets, followed by Gas Dockets. Scroll to Docket No. 21-09001 and click "View." For information regarding the consumer session, contact the PUCN at (775) 684-6101 or (702) 486-7210. Live links to the consumer session and hearing will be available on the PUCN's website. On the homepage, click on "Calendar – LISTEN LIVE!" to find those links.