

STATE OF NEVADA

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Contact: Dawn Rivard

Date: June 23, 2025 Consumer Outreach Director, (702) 486-7214

PUCN Vote Decreases Rates for Southwest Gas Customers in Nevada

Carson City, Nev. – On June 23, 2025, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) voted to issue an order in Docket No. 25-05009 that will lower bills for Southwest Gas customers statewide.

The PUCN's decision, which adopts the terms of a settlement entered into by the PUCN's Regulatory Operations Staff, Southwest Gas, and the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP), will result in a reduction to the rates that Southwest Gas charges to recover the costs of purchasing natural gas for its customers.

Specifically, Southwest Gas will change its Deferred Energy Accounting Adjustment (DEAA) rate from a positive \$0.16528 per therm to a negative (\$0.20000) per therm in Southern Nevada, and from a positive \$0.15000 per therm to a negative (\$0.25000) per therm in Northern Nevada.

This change will be effective July 1, 2025, and should lower the average Southwest Gas customer's monthly gas bill by over \$13 per month in Southern Nevada (based on an average of 37 therms usage per month), and by over \$22 per month in Northern Nevada (based on an average of 57 therms usage per month). (See Exhibit 1 to the accepted Stipulation for an average bill comparison.)

The DEAA is a pass-through rate, meaning Southwest Gas does not profit from its expenditures on fuel purchased on behalf of the utility's customers. Nevada law allows the utility to earn a return on investments in infrastructure necessary to provide safe and reliable utility service to customers, but not on its purchases of natural gas that it sells to consumers.

The rates that Southwest Gas charges to recover the costs of purchasing natural gas consist of two components: the Base Tariff Energy Rate (BTER) and DEAA. The BTER is set to collect from ratepayers the estimated cost of natural gas and is updated quarterly to reflect the average recorded costs for the previous twelve months. The DEAA rate eliminates the difference between the BTER revenues and the utility's actual costs of fuel and purchased power, so that in the end, ratepayers only reimburse the utility for its actual costs. If the BTER was set too high, customers receive a credit in the DEAA. If the BTER was too low, the utility collects the difference.

The decrease approved today in the DEAA is due to changing market conditions.

The BCP, which is part of the Nevada Attorney General's Office, represents the collective interests of residential and small business customers in PUCN proceedings. The BCP's role is to advocate for reliable utility service at the lowest reasonable cost for those consumers.

For help regarding docket 25-05009, contact the BCP at (775) 684-1100, or the PUCN at (775) 684-6101.

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