

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).
 () Form 3 Holdings Reported
 () Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Biehl, George C.

5241 Spring Mountain Road
 Las Vegas, NV 89102
 USA

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Southwest Gas Corporation
 SWX

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year
 December 1998

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 (X) Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
 (specify below)

Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)

(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
			Amount	A/D Price			
Common Stock					22,209 (4)	D	

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				Amount	A/D						
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$15	7/15/96	A	30,000	A	(1) 7/14/06	Common Stock 30,000		30,000	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$19.125	7/15/97	A	7,500	A	(2) 7/14/07	Common Stock 7,500		7,500	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$23.0625	7/21/98	A	7,500	A	(3) 7/21/08	Common Stock 7,500		7,500	D	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The option vests in three annual installments of 12,000 shares in 1997, 9,000 shares in 1998, and 9,000 shares in 1999, beginning on July 15, 1997.

(2) The option vests in three annual installments of 3,000 shares in 1998, 2,250 shares in 1999, and 2,250 shares in 2000, beginning on July 15, 1998.

(3) The option vests in three annual installments of 3,000 shares in 1999, 2,250 shares in 2000, and 2,250 shares in 2001, beginning on July 21, 1999.

(4) Includes 297 shares acquired June through December 1998 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of SWX restricted stock plan.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 /s/George C. Biehl by Faye J. Ringler, Attorney in fact
 DATE
 2/1/99

