

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person

Lowman, James F.

 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)

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4. Statement for Month/Year

March 1997

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

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

() Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)

Senior Vice President/Central Arizona Division

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (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. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Amount	A/D	Price				
Common Stock	3/3/97	A	V	169	A		D		
Common Stock	3/3/97	F	V	359	D	18.50			
Common Stock						6911	(2)	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock						93	(3)	I	Custodian for children

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

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Transaction 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 Month	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Includes 73 shares acquired in March pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the SWX restricted stock plan.

(2) Includes 76 shares acquired in March pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the SWX 401(k) plan.

(3) Includes 1 share acquired in March pursuant to the dividend reinvestment plan.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/s/ James F. Lowman by Faye J. Ringler, Attorney in Fact

DATE

4/1/97