

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

Sponsored by

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

88-0085720
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

5241 Spring Mountain Road
P.O. Box 98510

Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510
(702) 876-7237

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including
area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

GEORGE C. BIEHL

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary

Southwest Gas Corporation

5241 Spring Mountain Road
P.O. Box 98510

Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510
(702) 876-7237

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of agent for service)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities being registered	Amount to be registered	Proposed maximum offering price per share *	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee
Common Stock (\$1 par value)	1,000,000 shares	\$17.94	\$17,940,000	\$705.04

* Pursuant to Rule 457(c), the maximum offering price, per share and in the aggregate, and the registration fee were calculated based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on March 10, 2009 of \$17.94 per share.



Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan

1,000,000 Shares

Common Stock, \$1 Par Value

We are offering this Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan to our shareholders, our employees, our natural gas customers and residents of Arizona, California and Nevada to purchase shares of Southwest Gas Corporation common stock ("Common Stock"). We refer to the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan as the "Plan" in this prospectus. Anyone who joins and participates in the Plan will be considered a "Participant." Participation is voluntary.

The Plan provides a convenient method for our existing stockholders to reinvest their Common Stock dividends automatically into additional shares of Common Stock and for new stockholders to purchase shares of Common Stock. The Plan is set forth and explained in question-and-answer format under the heading "The Plan" beginning on page 2 of this prospectus. If you own shares of Common Stock and choose not to participate in the Plan, you will receive cash dividends, as declared, in the usual manner.

Shares of Common Stock for Participants under the Plan will either be purchased directly from us or through the Plan agent in the open market. The price of shares purchased by Participants with reinvested dividends, initial investments or optional cash payments will be (i) in the case of the purchase of original shares of Common Stock, the composite closing price of the Common Stock on the investment date as reported on the consolidated tape for New York Stock Exchange listed securities administered by the Consolidated Tape Association (or, if no trading in the Common Stock occurs on that date, the composite closing price on the next preceding date on which trading occurred) or the weighted average composite closing price as reported on the consolidated tape for the Common Stock purchased during the investment period, and (ii) in the case of the purchase of shares of Common Stock in the open market, the weighted average price (excluding brokerage commissions) paid to obtain the Common Stock during the investment period.

The Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol "SWX").

Investing in the Common Stock involves risks. See "[Risk Factors](#)" beginning on page 1.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ THIS PROSPECTUS CAREFULLY AND TO KEEP IT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES, AND IT IS NOT A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this Prospectus is March 13, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Risk Factors	1
Forward-Looking Statements	1
Available Information	2
Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference	2
Overview of Company	3
Use of Proceeds	3
The Plan	4
Purpose	4
Features	4
Administration	5
Participation	5
Initial Investments	7
Reinvested Dividends	8
Optional Cash Payments	8
Expenses	9
Purchasing and Pricing of Shares	10
Safekeeping	10
Participant Accounts and Records	11
Withdrawal and Termination	11
Other Information	12
Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Plan	14
Plan of Distribution	16
Interests of Named Experts and Counsel	16

RISK FACTORS

Investing in the Common Stock involves risks that could affect us and our business, as well as the energy industry generally. Please see the risk factors as discussed under Item 1A. “Risk Factors” of Part I in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Much of the business information, as well as the financial and operational data contained in our risk factors, is updated in our periodic reports, which are also incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Although we have tried to discuss key factors, please be aware that other risks may prove to be important in the future. New risks may emerge at any time, and we cannot predict such risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance. Before purchasing shares of Common Stock, you should carefully consider the risks discussed in the documents incorporated by reference herein and the other information in this prospectus. Each of the risks described could result in a decrease in the value of the Common Stock and your investment in our company.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents we incorporate by reference into it, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Such statements include, without limitation, statements regarding our expectations, hopes or intentions regarding the future. These forward looking statements can often be identified by their use of words such as “expect,” “believe,” “anticipate,” “outlook,” “could,” “target,” “project,” “intend,” “plan,” “seek,” “estimate,” “should,” “may” and “assume,” as well as variations of such words and similar expressions referring to the future.

Forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. A number of important factors affecting our business and financial results 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, the effects of a U.S. economic recession, interest rates, 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 the availability of financing and financing costs, the impact of stock market volatility, rating agency actions, changes in construction expenditures and financing, renewal of franchises, easements and rights-of-way, changes in operations and maintenance expenses, effects of 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. If any of those risks and uncertainties materialize, actual results could differ materially from those discussed in any such forward-looking statement. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ are discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” and in other sections of our current and periodic reports, and other filings, filed from time to time with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. See “Available Information” and “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference” for information about how to obtain copies of those documents. All forward-looking statements in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into it are made only as of the date of the document in which they are contained, based on information available to us as of the date of that document,

[Table of Contents](#)

and we caution you not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements in light of the risks and uncertainties associated with them. We assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any documents filed by us at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our filings with the SEC are also available to the public through the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov> and through the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, on which our common stock is listed.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement and does not contain all the information in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to a contract or other document of the Company, the reference is only a summary and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the SEC's Internet site.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. Information incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus, except to the extent that the information is superseded in this prospectus. This prospectus incorporates by reference the information contained in the following documents:

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K dated February 24, 2009 and February 27, 2009.
- A description of the Common Stock contained in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 22, 2003.

We also incorporate by reference the information in all other documents that we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus. The information contained in any such document will be considered part of this prospectus from the date the document is filed.

If you would like to receive a copy of any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus (which will not include any of the exhibits to the documents other than those exhibits that are specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus), you may call or write to Shareholder Services, Southwest Gas Corporation, P.O. Box 98511, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8511, (800) 331-1119 or (702) 876-7280. We will provide you these documents free of charge.

OVERVIEW OF COMPANY

Southwest was incorporated in March 1931 under the laws of the state of California and is composed of two business segments: natural gas operations 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 of natural gas 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.

NPL Construction Co., 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.

Southwest is subject to regulation by the Arizona Corporation Commission, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC"). The CPUC regulates the issuance of all securities by Southwest, with the exception of short-term borrowings. Certain of Southwest's accounting practices, transmission facilities and rates are subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Our administrative offices are located at 5241 Spring Mountain Road, P.O. Box 98510, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8510, telephone number (702) 876-7237.

USE OF PROCEEDS

To the extent that we directly issue original shares of Common Stock to Participants under the Plan, we will use the proceeds in connection with our construction program, to pay for additional capital improvements to our facilities and for other corporate purposes. Pending disbursement for this purpose, we may use the proceeds to reduce the amount of our short-term indebtedness; however, we do not anticipate using a material part of the proceeds to discharge indebtedness. We cannot predict how many original shares will be sold under the Plan and, therefore, cannot estimate the amount of proceeds that we will receive. If the Plan agent purchases shares of Common Stock in the open market under the Plan, we will not receive any proceeds.

THE PLAN

The following is a detailed description of the Plan in question-and-answer format. For additional information concerning the Plan, please contact Shareholder Services at (800) 331-1119 or (702) 876-7280.

PURPOSE

1. *What is the purpose of the Plan?*

The purpose of the Plan is to provide to our shareholders, our natural gas customers, our employees and residents of Arizona, California and Nevada a simple and convenient method of investing in the Common Stock. Shares of Common Stock purchased under the Plan will be either authorized but unissued shares purchased from us (“Original Issue Shares”) or outstanding shares purchased in the open market or through negotiated transactions (“Open Market Shares”). The decision to purchase shares in the open market will depend upon the financial requirements of the Company. To the extent we purchase or the Plan agent purchases Original Issue Shares, we will use the sale proceeds for our continuing construction program to pay for additional capital improvements and for other corporate purposes. If the Plan agent purchases Open Market Shares, we will not receive any sale proceeds.

FEATURES

2. *What are the features of the Plan?*

You may make an initial investment in shares of Common Stock by making a minimum payment of \$250. Thereafter, you may invest in additional shares by making optional cash payments of no less than \$50. Your initial investment and any optional cash payments in the aggregate may not exceed \$100,000 per calendar year.

You also have the opportunity to set up a traditional individual retirement account (“IRA”) within the Plan to invest and hold shares of Common Stock. The IRA will be set up with an independent trustee and maintained by the Company as a part of the Plan.

You must reinvest all of your cash dividends automatically in additional shares of Common Stock when the total shares owned by you are less than 250 shares. If you own 250 or more shares, you have the option of receiving one-half of your dividends in cash. If you deposit and maintain all of your shares with the Plan for safekeeping purposes only, you will have the option of receiving all of your dividends in cash.

Full investment of funds is possible under the Plan because we will credit fractions of shares of Common Stock, as well as full shares, to your Plan account or accounts. In addition, we will credit dividends on fractional shares, as well as full shares, to your Plan account. We will provide simplified record keeping by preparing and distributing to you regular statements of Plan accounts.

ADMINISTRATION

3. *Who administers the Plan?*

We administer the Plan, maintain records, send statements of Plan accounts to Participants and perform other duties relating to the Plan. We will appoint an independent Plan agent to act for you in purchasing and selling shares of our Common Stock in the open market through negotiated transactions and, under limited circumstances, from us. Subject to the objective of obtaining the lowest overall cost of shares purchased, the Plan agent will have full discretion in all matters relating to purchases and sale of such shares. We will register in the name of the nominee those shares purchased for you under the Plan, and the nominee will hold those shares for your Plan account until you otherwise instruct us.

We will maintain an escrow account to deposit all initial and optional payments. Dividends will also be deposited in such account during periods of time when Open Market Shares are being purchased for the Plan. Such account will be maintained with an independent broker-dealer or bank, as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

The IRA option under the Plan will be administered by Marshall & Ilsley Trust Company N.A. (the "Trustee") under the provisions of Section 408a of the Internal Revenue Code. The Company will make the IRA option available as a part of the Plan under the Prohibited Transaction Exemption 2006-09 granted by the U.S. Department of Labor. The Trustee will be responsible for the IRA trust agreement or other applicable disclosure documents relating to such agreement.

4. *Where should I send my correspondence regarding the Plan?*

You should direct and send all correspondence regarding the Plan to:

Shareholder Services
Southwest Gas Corporation
P.O. Box 98511
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8511

PARTICIPATION

5. *Who may participate in the Plan?*

Our shareholders, our natural gas customers, our employees and all residents of Arizona, California and Nevada are eligible to participate in the Plan.

A Plan account may be opened in your name, jointly in your name and that of another person, in your name and that of a single beneficiary, in the name of your trust, or in your name as custodian for a minor or as trustee for another person by completing the Enrollment and Authorization Form in the proper manner.

Table of Contents

6. *How does an eligible individual join the Plan?*

- If you are a shareholder of record, you may join the Plan by completing and returning an Enrollment Form. If you are a beneficial shareholder (i.e., the record shareholder is your nominee), evidence acceptable to us regarding your ownership of Common Stock will need to accompany the Enrollment Form.

- If you are one of our natural gas customers, you may join the Plan by completing an Enrollment Form and returning it to us along with a minimum initial investment of \$250.

- If you are one of our employees and participate in our Employees' Investment Plan, or EIP, you may join the Plan by completing and returning an Enrollment Form. If you are one of our employees and do not participate in the EIP, you may join the Plan by completing an Enrollment Form and returning it to us along with a minimum initial investment of \$250.

- If you are a resident of Arizona, California or Nevada and do not otherwise qualify to participate in the Plan, you may join the Plan by completing an Enrollment Form and returning it to us along with a minimum initial investment of \$250.

We will furnish Enrollment Forms to you at any time upon your request to Shareholder Services, Southwest Gas Corporation, P.O. Box 98511, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8511, or by telephoning the Company at (800) 331-1119 or (702) 876-7280.

7. *When can an eligible individual join the Plan?*

If you are one of our shareholders, or one of our employees who is participating in the EIP, you may join the Plan at any time. If we receive an Enrollment Form on or before the record date for a dividend payment, reinvestment of dividends will begin with that dividend. If we receive an Enrollment Form after the record date, reinvestment of dividends will begin with the next dividend payment date. (See also Question 11 below.)

Our natural gas customers, our employees who do not participate in the EIP, and residents of Arizona, California and Nevada who are not already shareholders, will join the Plan once their initial minimum investment of \$250 has been used to purchase shares of Common Stock. An initial minimum investment of \$250 received during any month will be invested as of the next investment date or during the next investment period. Upon the purchase of shares of Common Stock with your initial minimum investment, you will become a Participant under the Plan.

8. *What does the Enrollment Form provide?*

The Enrollment Form authorizes us to do the following:

Initial Investment. Upon our receipt of a minimum initial investment payment of \$250 from one of our natural gas customers, one of our employees who does not participate in the EIP, or a resident of Arizona, California and Nevada who is not already a shareholder, we or the Plan agent will purchase shares of Common Stock for your Plan account on the next investment date or during the next investment period. (See also Question 10 below.)

[Table of Contents](#)

Optional Cash Payments. Upon our receipt of optional cash payments, in amounts from a minimum of \$50 up to a maximum of \$100,000 per calendar year, we or the Plan agent will purchase shares of Common Stock for your Plan account on the next investment date or during the next investment period. (See also Optional Cash Payments below.)

Dividend Reinvestment. We or the Plan agent will automatically reinvest dividends on all shares of Common Stock held in Plan accounts on the investment date or during the next investment period that coincides with the payment of dividends for shares of Common Stock. (See also Question 11 below.) We or the Plan agent also will automatically reinvest dividends on all of the shares you hold of record outside the Plan. If you own a total of 250 or more shares, you will have the option of receiving one-half of your dividends in cash. If you deposit and maintain all of your shares with the Plan for safekeeping purposes only, you will have the option of receiving all of your dividends in cash.

IRA. If you decide to set up an IRA and have completed your IRA account agreement, your initial investment and optional cash payments, up to the annual limit for traditional IRA contributions, will be invested by the Trustee primarily in shares of Common Stock as provided for in the Plan.

INITIAL INVESTMENTS

9. *Is there any investment requirement to continue to participate in the Plan?*

Yes. Participants are required to invest and/or reinvest a minimum of \$250 annually.

10. *When will initial minimum investment payments be invested?*

The timing for the investment of the initial minimum investment payments depends upon whether the shares of Common Stock will be purchased by us or by the Plan agent. If we purchase Original Issue Shares, the purchases will occur twice during the month. If the Plan agent purchases Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares, the purchases will occur once each month. We will not pay you any interest on payments that we receive and hold prior to investment.

Company Purchases. Initial investment payments that we receive by the 10th day of any month will be invested in Original Issue Shares on the 15th day of the month. Initial investment payments that we receive after the 10th and on or before the 25th day of any month will be invested in Original Issue Shares on the first business day of the following month. If any of these dates are not business days, the planned action will be extended to the following business day. These dates are the “investment date(s)” for purposes of the Plan. We may delay or authorize the Plan agent to make purchases directly from us during periods when the Plan is being marketed or during other distributions of Common Stock.

Plan Agent Purchases. Initial investment payments received by the 25th day of any month will be invested in Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares by the Plan agent during the 30-day period commencing on the 26th day of the month. This period is the “investment period” for purposes of the Plan.

[Table of Contents](#)

Upon our receipt of your written request on or before the investment date or the day before the start of the investment period in which we are holding the initial investment, you may, without withdrawing from the Plan, receive the return of a portion of the initial investment payment, provided that a minimum of \$250 is maintained in the Plan.

REINVESTED DIVIDENDS

11. *When will dividends be reinvested?*

You may direct that any dividends on shares of Common Stock be reinvested under the Plan, and we will reinvest those dividends on the investment date or during the investment period coinciding with the payment of the dividend. We have ordinarily paid Common Stock dividends on the first business day of March, June, September, and December, but we cannot guarantee or assure you that we will continue to pay dividends on this basis. Common Stock acquired with reinvested dividends will either be Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares, depending on the financial requirements of the Company.

Instructions regarding the automatic reinvestment of dividends on shares of Common Stock that you hold of record will be effective on the next dividend payment date if we receive your Enrollment Form by the record date (which is normally the 15th calendar day (or the first business day thereafter) of the month preceding the month in which a dividend is paid) established for a dividend payment. If we receive instructions after the record date for a dividend, those instructions will not be effective until the next dividend payment date.

OPTIONAL CASH PAYMENTS

12. *Who is eligible to make optional cash payments?*

Once you become a Participant, you are eligible to make optional cash payments of at least \$50 at any time. You may make an optional cash payment after joining the Plan by enclosing your payment with the coupon provided on your statement. Thereafter, you should enclose and send to us optional cash payments with the form provided with your statement of your Plan account.

Optional cash payments cannot be less than \$50 and cannot exceed \$100,000 per calendar year per Participant. Optional cash payments can be made by check or money order payable and delivered to: Southwest Gas Corporation DRSP, P.O. Box 98511, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8511, Attention: Shareholder Services. You should include your Plan account number on all checks.

13. *When will optional cash payments be invested and when will dividends be paid on shares of Common Stock purchased with optional cash payments?*

The timing of the investment of optional cash payments depends upon whether the Common Stock will be purchased by us or by the Plan agent. If we purchase Original Issue Shares, the purchases will occur twice during the month. If the Plan agent purchases Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares, the purchases will occur once each month. We will not pay any interest on payments that we receive and hold prior to investment.

[Table of Contents](#)

Company Purchases. If we receive optional cash payments by the 10th day of any month, we will invest the payments in Original Issue Shares on the 15th day of the month. If we receive optional cash payments after the 10th and on or before the 25th day of any month, we will invest the payments in Original Issue Shares on the first business day of the following month. These dates are the “investment date(s)” for purposes of the Plan. If any of these dates are not business days, the planned action will be extended to the following business day. We may delay or authorize the Plan agent to purchase shares directly from us during periods when the Plan is being marketed or during other distributions of Common Stock.

Plan Agent Purchases. If the Plan agent receives optional cash payments by the 25th day of any month, the Plan agent will invest those payments in Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares during the investment period, which is the 30-day period commencing on the 26th day of the month.

When we directly purchase Original Issue Shares, we will reinvest any dividends on shares of Common Stock purchased with optional cash payments on the investment date that coincides with the payment of a dividend. Common Stock dividend payment dates are ordinarily the first business day of March, June, September, and December. We cannot guarantee or assure you that we will continue to pay dividends on this basis. When the Plan agent purchases Original Issue Shares or Open Market Shares, the “investment period” will be the 30-day period beginning on the 26th day of the month preceding the dividend date.

You may, without withdrawing from the Plan, direct us to return to you any optional cash payment that we are holding upon our receipt of your written request on or before the investment date or the day before the start of the investment period.

14. *How do I make payments?*

You may vary the amount of the optional cash payment at any time (no less than \$50). However, you are encouraged to set an investment goal and then send us a fixed amount every month or quarter. You may make a payment by enclosing and sending to us a check or money order payable to Southwest Gas Corporation with the Enrollment Form or on the optional cash payment form provided with your statement. If you are making your payment to your IRA account, your check or money order should be made payable to the Trustee. In addition, Participants may also make electronic transfers from their checking or savings accounts. Plan investments must be made separately from payments for gas service. Optional cash payments under the Plan cannot be included in a check or money order submitted for payment of gas service or with an invoice for gas service.

EXPENSES

15. *Will I be charged any expenses in connection with the purchase of shares of Common Stock under the Plan?*

Except for service fees associated with the maintenance of an IRA, there are no expenses charged to participants in connection with purchases of Common Stock under the Plan. We do not charge you, and you are not responsible for, any expenses in connection with purchases of Common Stock under the Plan. We will pay all costs of administration of the Plan and any brokerage commissions or service fees incurred in purchasing shares of Common Stock. However, if you request that we sell your shares, we will deduct any related, incurred brokerage commissions or service fees from the sale proceeds that we remit to you.

PURCHASING AND PRICING OF SHARES

16. *How many shares of Common Stock will be purchased for me?*

The number of shares of Common Stock to be purchased for you on any investment date or during the investment period will depend upon the amount of the optional cash payments received since your last investment in the Plan, the amount of your dividends to be reinvested and the price of the Common Stock on the investment date or during the investment period. On each investment date or at the end of each investment period, your Plan account will be credited with that number of shares of Common Stock, including fractional shares computed to four decimal points, equal to the total amount to be invested and reinvested on your behalf, divided by the price of the Common Stock on the investment date or during the investment period. Fractional shares will earn proportionate dividends as declared.

17. *How is the purchase price of shares of Common Stock determined?*

When we purchase Original Issue Shares, the price of the shares of Common Stock will be the composite closing price of the Common Stock as reported on the consolidated tape for New York Stock Exchange listed securities administered by the Consolidated Tape Association on the investment date, or, if no trading in the Common Stock occurs on that date, the composite closing price on the last trading date before the investment date. When the Plan agent purchases Original Issue Shares, the price of the shares will be the weighted average composite closing price of the Common Stock, as reported on the consolidated tape for the New York Stock Exchange listed securities administered by the Consolidated Tape Association, acquired during the investment period. When the Plan agent purchases Open Market Shares, the price of the shares will be the weighted average price of the Common Stock acquired during the investment period.

SAFEKEEPING

18. *Do I have the option of depositing my stock certificate(s) in the Plan for safekeeping?*

Yes. The Plan provides you the opportunity to deposit your Common Stock certificate(s) with the Plan for safekeeping. By taking advantage of this option, you will eliminate the risk and inconvenience associated with the loss, misplacement or destruction of your certificate(s). By participating in the Plan through this option, you have the opportunity to buy additional shares of Common Stock, sell shares and reinvest your dividends through the Plan. You also have the opportunity to receive your dividends in cash. (See also Question 2 above.)

19. *Does your Company offer an IRA Option under the Plan?*

Yes. A Traditional IRA option is available as a way of investing in our common stock through the Plan. You can establish an IRA by returning a completed enrollment form and making an initial minimum investment of \$250. You can also roll over an existing IRA into an IRA established under the Plan. For more information contact our Shareholder Services directly at (800) 331-1119 or (702) 876-7280 to receive a complete IRA enrollment packet. Please refer to the IRA trust agreement and other disclosure documents made available by the Trustee for important information regarding the IRA and tax consequences of participating in an IRA.

PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

20. *What records and accounts will you maintain for me?*

We will maintain a Plan account for you. We will credit to your Plan account all shares of Common Stock purchased for you under the Plan. When we issue to you certificate(s) for shares or when we sell shares for your Plan account, we will withdraw those shares from your Plan account.

21. *What Plan reports will you send me?*

You will receive a statement of your Plan account after each dividend and after any other Plan account activity. THESE STATEMENTS ARE YOUR CONTINUING RECORD OF THE COST OF YOUR PURCHASES. YEAR-END AND FINAL STATEMENTS SHOULD BE RETAINED FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES. In addition, you will receive each amended prospectus for the Plan and copies of all communications sent generally to other holders of Common Stock, including our quarterly reports to shareholders, our annual report to shareholders, notice of annual meeting and proxy statement and tax information with respect to dividends paid. You are entitled to vote all shares of Common Stock, including fractional shares, held in your Plan account, and you will receive a Plan proxy enabling you to vote your shares. (See also Question 30 below.)

WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION

22. *When may I withdraw from the Plan?*

You may withdraw from the Plan by providing a written request to us. You must arrange for your request to be signed by all adult registered holders listed on your Plan account. We will generally process these requests weekly. If we receive your request within three business days of the ex-dividend date for a particular dividend and on or before the record date for that dividend, we will process the request after the record date. If we receive your request after the record date and on or before the investment date or investment period for that dividend, we will not process your request until we reinvest that dividend in your Plan account. (See also Question 25 below.)

23. *How do I withdraw from the Plan?*

In order to withdraw from the Plan, you must notify us and instruct us in writing to issue to you either a certificate of the whole shares of Common Stock in your Plan account or to deliver to you the proceeds of sale. You must arrange for your request to be signed by all registered holders listed on your Plan account. We will sell fractional shares in all cases. On or prior to requesting the sale of shares or the sale of fractional shares, we must have a certified tax identification number on file to avoid federal income tax withholding.

24. *Can you terminate me as a Participant?*

Yes. Our administrative costs for each Plan account do not justify inactivity. We reserve the right to terminate your Plan account if you have not invested or reinvested a minimum of \$250 in any twelve-month period. In addition, we reserve the right to terminate your Plan account if your check or other form of remittance has not been honored.

[Table of Contents](#)

25. *What happens upon my withdrawal from, or the termination or discontinuance of, the Plan?*

When you withdraw from the Plan, or when we terminate your Plan account or discontinue the Plan, we will issue certificates for all shares of Common Stock credited to the Plan accounts within 30 days of that event, and we will then make cash payments for fractional shares. We will sell fractional shares through the Plan agent, and we will deduct any selling costs from the sale proceeds before we make the cash payment.

In the alternative, you may request that we sell all of the shares of Common Stock, both whole and fractional, credited to your Plan account. If you request a sale, the Plan agent will sell the shares. If we receive the request within three business days of the ex-dividend date for a particular dividend and on or before the record date for that dividend, we will process the request after the record date. If we receive the request after the record date and on or before the investment date or investment period for that dividend, we will not process the request until that dividend is reinvested in your Plan account. We will charge to you any related selling costs, and you will receive the sale proceeds less these costs.

If we receive your withdrawal request on or before the record date for a particular dividend, we will pay directly to you that dividend and all subsequent dividends upon shares of Common Stock registered in your name. If we receive your withdrawal request after the record date, we will not process the request until we reinvest that dividend in your Plan account. Once we process the request, we will pay directly to you all subsequent dividends upon shares registered in your name.

If we receive your withdrawal request on or before the investment date or the day before the start of the next investment period, we will return any payment that we are holding. If we receive your withdrawal request after such dates, we will reinvest any payment that we are holding.

26. *Is there a grace period to re-enroll in the Plan?*

No. You may re-enroll in the Plan at any time after you have withdrawn from the Plan, as long as you continue to qualify under the terms of the Plan. (See Participation above.)

OTHER INFORMATION

27. *Will you issue certificates for shares of Common Stock purchased under the Plan?*

Yes. Upon your request, we will issue to you certificates for shares of Common Stock purchased under the Plan. You may withdraw from your Plan account whole shares up to the number credited to your Plan account. We will continue to credit your Plan account any remaining full and fractional shares. We will register the certificates for shares issued to you in the same name or names in which your Plan account is maintained. We will either reinvest or pay dividends in cash on all of your shares, including those shares for which certificates have been issued, as provided under the Plan. We will not issue certificates for fractional shares under any circumstances.

[Table of Contents](#)

28. *May I request that you sell a portion of the shares of Common Stock held in my Plan account?*

Yes. Upon your written request, we will withdraw and sell, through the Plan agent, any number of whole shares of Common Stock credited to your Plan account, provided that you maintain a minimum of 100 shares in your Plan account. We will charge you for any related selling costs, and you will receive the sale proceeds less these costs.

If we receive the partial withdrawal request within three business days of the ex-dividend date for a particular dividend or between that date and the record date for that dividend, we will process the request after the record date. We will either reinvest or pay dividends in cash on the shares of Common Stock as provided for in the Plan. (See also Question 8 above.) On or prior to requesting the sale of shares, we must have a certified tax identification number on file to avoid federal income tax withholding.

29. *May I pledge or assign shares of Common Stock in my Plan account?*

No. You may not pledge or assign shares of Common Stock credited to your Plan account. If you wish to assign or pledge shares, you must request that certificates for the shares be issued in your name.

30. *How will my shares of Common Stock be voted at meetings of shareholders?*

You will receive Plan proxy cards covering the number of full and fractional shares of Common Stock held under your Plan account, thereby enabling you to vote your shares. If you return to us a proxy card that is properly signed and marked for voting, all of the shares covered by the proxy card will be voted as marked. If no instructions are indicated on a properly signed and returned proxy card, your shares will be voted in accordance with our recommendations. If the Plan proxy card is not returned, a Participant's shares may be voted only if the Participant or a duly appointed representative votes in person at the meeting.

31. *What are your and the Plan agent's liabilities under the Plan?*

The Plan provides that we and any Plan agent will not be liable for any act done in good faith or any good faith omission, including, without limitation, (i) any claim of liability arising out of failure to terminate your Plan account upon your death prior to our receipt of legally sufficient instructions to do so, (ii) with respect to prices at which shares of Common Stock are purchased or sold for the Participant's account, (iii) the times when such purchases or sales are made or (iv) with respect to any fluctuation in the market value after the purchase or sale of shares.

YOU SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT NEITHER WE NOR THE PLAN AGENT CAN ASSURE YOU OF PROFITS OR PROTECT YOU AGAINST LOSSES IN THE VALUE OF THE SHARES OF COMMON STOCK PURCHASED UNDER THE PLAN OR ASSURE YOU OF ANY FUTURE DIVIDENDS.

This Plan is purely voluntary on our part. Neither the Plan's establishment nor any amendment nor the creation of any Plan account will be construed as giving Participants any legal or equitable rights against us or the Plan agent unless specifically provided for in the Plan or conferred by the Plan agents' or our affirmative actions according to the terms and provisions in the Plan. These actions will not be construed as giving any employee the right to be retained in our service.

Table of Contents

32. *May you modify, suspend or discontinue the Plan?*

Yes. We reserve the right to suspend, modify or discontinue the Plan at any time and to interpret and regulate the Plan as we deem necessary or desirable in connection with the operation of the Plan. We will mail to you notice of any suspension, modification or termination at the address shown in our records. (See also Question 25 above.)

33. *What happens if you make a rights offering?*

As we will do for all shareholders, we will notify you of a rights offering. Upon receiving notification that rights are exercisable, you should instruct us, before the rights expire, to exercise the rights. If we do not timely receive those instructions, the Plan agent will sell the unexercised rights on the open market and proportionally credit your Plan account to the extent the rights are not exercised with the proceeds for investment on the next investment date or investment period.

34. *What happens if you declare a stock split or issue a stock dividend?*

In the event of a stock split or stock dividend, we will proportionally credit your Plan account the additional shares of Common Stock attributable to your interest in the Plan.

35. *May I obtain a complete text of the Plan?*

Yes. You may request a copy of the Plan from Shareholder Services, Southwest Gas Corporation, P.O. Box 98511, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8511, or by telephoning the Company at (800) 331-1119 or (702) 876-7280.

36. *Is it important that I stay in contact with the Company?*

Yes. Many state unclaimed property laws specify that if an account owner does not initiate “active contact” with the administrator (Southwest Gas Corporation) during any three-year period, the property in the account may be deemed “abandoned.” For accounts that meet a state’s definition of “abandoned,” the administrator may be legally required to transfer the property in the account, including shares and dividends, to the state of the account’s last known residence. To prevent this from occurring, Participants should cash dividend checks and respond as directed to mailings requesting that they contact the Administrator, and immediately notify the Administrator of any change of address.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN

The following is a brief summary of some of the material federal income tax consequences of participation in the Plan as of the date of this prospectus. It is based on the Internal Revenue Code, applicable Treasury Regulations, judicial authority, and administrative rulings and practice, all as of the date of this prospectus and all of which are subject to change, including changes with retroactive effect. It does not apply to tax-exempt shareholders or those holding shares through a tax-advantaged account, such as a 401(k) Plan or

[Table of Contents](#)

Individual Retirement Account. This summary may not reflect every possible situation that could result from participation in the Plan and does not address special considerations that may be relevant to particular holders based on their tax situation. Therefore, you are advised to consult your own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences (including federal, state, local and other tax laws and U.S. tax withholding laws) applicable to your particular situation.

In general, cash dividends paid by us and reinvested under the Plan are treated, for federal income tax purposes, as if you actually received a distribution in cash. Generally, any such distribution will be taxable to you as ordinary dividend income to the extent of your share of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. The amount of any distribution in excess of earnings and profits, not taxable as ordinary dividend income, will reduce your tax basis in the Common Stock with respect to which the distribution was received, and, to the extent it exceeds your tax basis, as gain from a sale of that Common Stock. The tax basis for federal income tax purposes of any shares of Common Stock acquired through the Plan will be the price at which the shares are credited to your Plan account as described in the section entitled "Purchasing and Pricing of Shares." In connection with open market purchases, brokerage commissions that we pay on your behalf are treated as distributions, for federal income tax purposes, in the same manner as if you had received that amount in cash. The amounts paid for brokerage commissions are also includable in the tax basis of shares purchased. The information return sent to you and the Internal Revenue Service following the end of each year, if so required, will show such amounts paid on your behalf. Your holding period for shares acquired through the Plan will begin on the day after the date the shares are credited to your Plan account.

You will not realize a gain or loss for federal income tax purposes on the transfer of shares to the Plan or the withdrawal of whole shares from the Plan. You generally, however, will realize a gain or loss on the sale of any of your shares (including the receipt of cash for a fractional share) held in the Plan. The amount of gain or loss generally will be the difference between the amount you receive for the shares and the tax basis of those shares. In order to determine the tax basis of your shares acquired through the Plan, you should retain all of your transaction statements.

If you are a U.S. shareholder electing to participate in the Plan, you must provide your Taxpayer Identification Number (generally, your Social Security Number) or certify that you are exempt from backup withholding. Failure to provide a correct Taxpayer Identification Number will result in backup withholding at the current federal rate. Withholding also may occur upon notification from the Internal Revenue Service directing the Plan to institute backup withholding. If you are subject to backup withholding, only the amount of dividends net of any withholding tax will be available for reinvestment under the Plan.

If you are a foreign shareholder electing to participate in the Plan and your dividends are subject to U.S. federal income tax withholding, only the amount of dividends net of any withholding tax will be available for reinvestment under the Plan. The statements confirming purchases made for a foreign participant will indicate that tax has been withheld.

We will send you a year-end statement which will include information for that year regarding total dividends paid on Plan shares of Common Stock. In addition, following the end of each year, we generally will send you an Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-DIV showing total dividends and qualified dividends, if applicable, paid to you during the year, whether or not they are reinvested under the Plan. We will also send you

[Table of Contents](#)

an Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-B in the event of a sale or the liquidation or closing of your account. You should retain the tax forms and your year-end or final statement for tax reporting purposes.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Shares of Common Stock for Participants under the Plan will either be directly purchased from us or through the Plan agent in the open market. We will pay any brokerage commissions or service fees for purchases of shares of our Common Stock under the Plan and all costs for administration of the Plan. (See also Question 15 above.)

INTERESTS OF NAMED EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

Mr. Robert M. Johnson, Esq., our Assistant General Counsel, has given an opinion to the SEC upon the validity of the shares of Common Stock being registered. We employ Mr. Johnson on a full-time basis.

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

No dealer, salesperson or other individual has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus in connection with the offer made by this prospectus and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by us or any agent, dealer or underwriter. Neither the delivery of this prospectus nor any sale made hereunder shall under any circumstances create an implication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date hereof. This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation by anyone in any state in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.



SOUTHWEST GAS

**DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT
AND
STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**

1,000,000 Shares

COMMON STOCK, \$1 Par Value

PROSPECTUS

PART II
INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN THE PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following is a statement of the estimated expenses to be incurred by Southwest Gas Corporation in connection with a distribution of an assumed amount of \$17,940,000 of the securities registered under this registration statement:

SEC registration fee	\$705.04
Accounting fees and expenses	+
Legal fees and expenses	+
Printing fees	+
Miscellaneous	+
TOTAL	<u>\$705.04</u>

+ Estimated expenses are not presently known.

Other than the expenses listed above and annual administration costs of approximately \$25,000, no other significant expenses of issuance and distribution are expected to arise since the purchase of the 1,000,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock, \$1 par value, will be made directly from the Company with no underwriting discounts or commissions payable.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 317 of the General Corporation Law of California provides that a corporation has the power, and in some cases is required, to indemnify an agent, including a director or officer, who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding, against certain expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts under certain circumstances. Article VIII of the Registrant's Bylaws provides for the indemnification of directors, officers and agents as allowed by statute. In addition, the Registrant has purchased directors and officers insurance policies which provide insurance against certain liabilities for directors and officers of the Company.

Item 16. Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description of Exhibit</u>
4.1	Form of Common Stock Certificate, par value \$1 per share (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 22, 2003)
5.1	Opinion of Counsel of the Company regarding legality of the securities to be registered
12.1	Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed charges (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 12.01 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2008)
23.1	Consent of Counsel of the Company (included in opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement)
23.2	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm
24.1	Powers of Attorney

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

- (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

Table of Contents

- (ii) to reflect in the Prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a twenty percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and;
- (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this Registration Statement or any material change to such information in this Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this Registration Statement.

That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

- (A) Each prospectus filed by a Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of this Registration Statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in this Registration Statement; and
- (B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in this Registration Statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of this Registration Statement relating to the securities in this Registration Statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of this Registration Statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement or prospectus that is part of this Registration Statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in this Registration Statement or prospectus that was part of this Registration Statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

Table of Contents

That, for the purpose of determining liability of a Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this Registration Statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about an undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

[Table of Contents](#)

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ ROBERT L. BOUGHNER *</u> (Robert L. Boughner)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ THOMAS E. CHESTNUT *</u> (Thomas E. Chestnut)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ STEPHEN C. COMER *</u> (Stephen C. Comer)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ RICHARD M. GARDNER *</u> (Richard M. Gardner)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ JAMES J. KROPID *</u> (James J. Kropid)	Chairman of the Board of Directors	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ MICHAEL O. MAFFIE *</u> (Michael O. Maffie)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ ANNE L. MARIUCCI *</u> (Anne L. Mariucci)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ MICHAEL J. MELARKEY *</u> (Michael J. Melarkey)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ CAROLYN M. SPARKS *</u> (Carolyn M. Sparks)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ THOMAS A. THOMAS *</u> (Thomas A. Thomas)	Director	March 13, 2009
<u>/s/ TERRENCE L. WRIGHT *</u> (Terrence L. Wright)	Director	March 13, 2009

* By /s/ GEORGE C. BIEHL
(George C. Biehl)
Attorney-in-fact

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
5.1	Opinion of Counsel of the Company regarding legality of the securities to be registered
23.1	Consent of Counsel of the Company (included in opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement)
23.2	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm
24.1	Powers of Attorney

March 13, 2009

Southwest Gas Corporation
5241 Spring Mountain Road
Las Vegas, NV 89150

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As counsel for Southwest Gas Corporation (the "Company"), I have examined the Registration Statement on Form S-3 to be filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, of 1,000,000 shares of the Company's \$1 par value Common Stock (the "Stock") pursuant to the provisions of the Company's Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan. I also have examined the steps taken by the Company and its Board of Directors in connection with the authorization and proposed issuance and sale of the Stock, and I am familiar with resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company. I am also familiar with the application filed by the Company with the California Public Utilities Commission for authority to issue the Stock, and the orders issued by said Commission authorizing the issuance of same.

Based on the foregoing and upon such other matters as I deem relevant in the circumstances, it is my opinion that the Company has received all required authorizations from state regulatory agencies having jurisdiction over the issuance of the Stock by the Company. Subject to the actions authorized by the Company's Board of Directors, the Stock, upon issuance and sale thereof in the manner specified in the Registration Statement, will be duly authorized, legally and validly issued, fully paid, and nonassessable outstanding Stock of the Company.

I hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement, and I further consent to the use of my name under the caption "Interests of Named Experts and Counsel" in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus which forms a part thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ ROBERT M. JOHNSON

Robert M. Johnson

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our report dated February 27, 2009 relating to the financial statements and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in the 2008 Annual Report to Shareholders, which is incorporated by reference in Southwest Gas Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008. We also consent to the reference to us under the heading "Experts" in such Registration Statement.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Los Angeles, California
March 12, 2009

**AMENDING THE DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND STOCK
PURCHASE PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE
ISSUANCE AND SALE THROUGH THE PLAN OF
ADDITIONAL SHARES OF COMMON STOCK**

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Southwest Gas Corporation (the "Corporation") established the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan ("Plan") as a convenient means to attract and retain investors;

WHEREAS, The Board believes it to be in the best interests of the Corporation to amend the Plan to allow the Company to move between original issue shares and open market purchases based on the financial requirements of the Corporation;

WHEREAS, The Board further believes that it is in the best interests of this Corporation to reserve an additional 1,000,000 shares of its \$1 par value common stock (the "Additional Shares") for issuance and sale in accordance with the provisions of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, This Corporation has existing authorization from the California Public Utilities Commission to issue and sell the contemplated level of Additional Shares through the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Effective February 24, 2009, the following provisions of the Plan are amended to read as follows:

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Plan is to provide shareholders, natural gas customers, residents of Arizona, California and Nevada ("Residents"), and employees of Southwest Gas Corporation (the "Company") a simple and convenient method of investing in shares of the Company's Common Stock ("Common Stock"). Shares purchased under the Plan will be either (i) authorized but unissued shares purchased from the Company ("Original Issue Shares") or (ii) outstanding shares purchased in the open market or through negotiated transactions ("Open Market Shares"). The decision to purchase Open Market Shares will depend upon the financial requirements of the Company. To the extent Original Issue Shares are purchased, the Company will use the proceeds for its continuing construction program and for other corporate purposes.

4. Investment of Initial and Optional Payments

4.5 Common Stock acquired with initial and optional payments will either be Original Issue Shares, or Open Market Shares depending on the financial requirements of the Company. Movement between Original Issue Shares and Open Market Shares will not occur more than once in any 3-month period.

5. Reinvestment of Dividends

5.2 Common Stock acquired with reinvested dividends will either be Original Issue Shares, or Open Market Shares depending on the financial requirements of the Company. Movement between Original Issue Shares and Open Market Shares will not occur more than once in any 3-month period.

and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That with the adoption of the foregoing resolution, the Plan shall be republished, as amended and restated, effective as of the adoption of said amendments; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the management committee charged with the responsibility of administering this Corporation's tax-qualified pension plans (the "Benefits Committee") is responsible for making the determination whether original issue or open market shares will be the source of common stock for the Plan; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Board authorizes the reservation of the Additional Shares to be issued and sold from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, subject to first obtaining all required governmental authorizations therefore and compliance with other terms and conditions as are hereinafter specified in these resolutions; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Chief Executive Officer, President, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President/Finance, Treasurer, Chief Accounting Officer, Secretary, and Assistant Corporate Secretaries (collectively, the "Authorized Officers" which term shall include such officers, attorneys, agents, and employees as they may respectively specify) are, and each of them hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such instruments as they deem necessary and suitable in order to carry out the intent and purpose of these resolutions and the execution by any such Authorized Officer of any such instrument, or the undertaking by any of them of any such action, in connection with the matters specified in these resolutions shall conclusively establish their authority therefore from this Corporation and the approval and ratification by this Corporation thereof; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed, to prepare, execute and cause to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") any required registration statements, and all amendments and supplements thereto, for the purpose of registering under the federal securities laws, the Additional Shares for issuance in accordance with the provisions of the Plan; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That each director of this Corporation appoints Jeffrey W. Shaw, George C. Biehl, Edward A. Janov, and Kenneth J. Kenny (or such other individuals as the Board may determine from time to time), and each of them individually, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with the full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in such person's name, power, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to execute and file registration statements on the applicable form or forms and on behalf of this Corporation to execute and file any and all amendments and/or supplements thereto to be filed by this Corporation with the SEC under the federal securities laws, for the purpose of registering the Additional Shares for issuance in accordance with the provisions of the Plan; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized in the name and on behalf of this Corporation to prepare and file, or cause to be prepared and filed, applications for listing the Additional Shares on the New York Stock Exchange and any other stock exchange or exchanges that any of the Authorized Officers deems appropriate if listing of the Additional Shares is deemed advisable by any Authorized Officer; and that the Authorized

Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized in the name and on behalf of this Corporation to execute and deliver such applications and any listing agreements or documents required by any such exchange in connection therewith, and to make such changes in any of the same as may be necessary or appropriate to conform with the requirements for listing, and to communicate with and to appear (if requested) before the officials of any such exchange, and to file, or cause to be filed, amendments or supplements to any of the foregoing documents and take such other action that any Authorized Officer deems appropriate; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Additional Shares shall be executed on behalf of this Corporation by any one or more of the Authorized Officers, under the corporate seal of this Corporation reproduced or otherwise imprinted thereon, and shall be attested by this Corporation's Secretary or any of its Assistant Secretaries; that the signature of each or both of such officers on the Additional Shares may be manual or facsimile; that the Additional Shares bearing the manual or facsimile signatures of individuals who were at the time the proper officers of this Corporation shall bind this Corporation, notwithstanding that such individuals or any of them have ceased to hold such offices prior to the authentication and delivery of the Additional Shares or did not hold such offices at the dates of issuance of such shares; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized to pay any and all expenses and fees arising in connection with the issuance and sale of the Additional Shares, including, without limitation, qualification under the Exchange Act or under securities or Blue Sky laws of any state or other jurisdiction in which such shares are offered, any listings of the Additional Shares on any exchange and otherwise in connection with matters contemplated by these resolutions; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized in the name and on behalf of this Corporation to make all such arrangements, to do and perform all such acts and things, and to execute and deliver all such officers' certificates, financing documents, and such other instruments and documents as any Authorized Officer deems necessary or appropriate in order to fully effectuate the purposes of the foregoing resolutions and any action taken by this Board; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed on behalf of this Corporation to execute and deliver, or to cause to be executed and delivered, any and all agreements and documents necessary to

effectuate the foregoing resolutions, with such terms and such changes therein as the Authorized Officers executing the same approve, with such approval being conclusively determined by the execution thereof; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That each of the Authorized Officers are, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed on behalf of this Corporation to make, or cause to be made, such filings and to take, or cause to be taken, such other actions as may be necessary to effectuate the foregoing resolutions; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That all acts previously taken by each of the Authorized Officers in order to effectuate the purposes of these resolutions are hereby confirmed and ratified.