

Antonio Gill

ORIGINAL



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From: AARP [aarpaz@aarp.org]  
Sent: Monday, September 19,  
To: Pierce-Web  
Subject: Please Don't Raise our S

**Southwest Gas**  
**G-01551A-10-0458**  
**In Opposition**

Sep 19, 2011

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

Southwest Gas is asking for a rate increase of more than \$65 a year for the average single family residence.

Thousands of Arizonans are out of work.

There have been no Social Security COLA increases for two years. Although the Insurance companies have not hesitated to raise the part D premium and my part B premium goes up every year.

The cost of food and gasoline are way up.

Many Arizonans are struggling to make ends meet. Many retired Arizonans are especially having a difficult time making ends meet as the cost of gas, food, insurance, and generally the cola has increased over the last year. I have gas hot water and gas heat, the increase that Southwest is asking for is too much in this time of need of most Arizonans.

As an elected Commissioner, please don't grant the Southwest Gas request to raise our rates more than \$65 a year.

Please vote NO on the South West Gas rate increase request!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tan Barefoot

Tucson, AZ 85750-5909

Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**

SEP 26 2011

DOCKETED BY

AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

2011 SEP 26 P 1:04

RECEIVED

September 23, 2011

Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Consumer comments in favor of decoupling, Southwest Gas Company rate case, #G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

As a Southwest Gas customer and an Arizonan who is very concerned about the costs of energy and energy waste, I strongly urge you to support the adoption of both energy efficiency *and* decoupling in the Southwest Gas rate case.

Our current system isn't working for me or others who are interested in conserving energy and lowering utility bills. We are sending billions of dollars and many jobs out of the state to buy fuel for our energy needs. If we don't fix the problem now, we are setting ourselves up to pay higher energy bills because utilities will buy more fuel from out of state and build more infrastructure, which we will ultimately pay for on our utility bills (*PLUS* interest!). To make matters worse, the current system financially rewards utilities for selling us more energy than we need. This results in wasteful energy use that drives bills UP and UP.

The Commission and the utilities should be helping Arizonans lower energy bills. We can do this through increased energy efficiency and through decoupling, which removes the utility incentive to waste.

I also support higher efficiency natural gas furnaces. Unlike efficiency standards for electricity, little has been done in the past decade to reduce energy consumption for heating homes and businesses. As a country we need to be moving to a 90% AFUE standard, as Canada did several years ago.

As a ratepayer, I want you to support both decoupling and energy conservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Don Steuter

  
Phoenix, AZ 85016

## Antonio Gill

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**From:** AARP [aarpaz@aarp.org] on behalf of Pamela Miller [holachickie@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 16, 2011 1:33 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Please Don't Raise our Southwest Gas Rates!

Sep 16, 2011

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

Southwest Gas is asking for a rate increase of more than \$65 a year for the average single family residence.

Sir:  
Raising rates on gas and electricity which everyone needs is like taxing food. It's wrong. Some people can't afford either right now.  
Please vote NO!

As an elected Commissioner, please don't grant the Southwest Gas request to raise our rates more than \$65 a year.

Please vote NO on the South West Gas rate increase request!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Pamela Miller

[REDACTED]  
Phoenix, AZ 85028-3036  
[REDACTED]

## Antonio Gill

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From: AARP [aarpaz@aarp.org] on behalf of Mike Turner [mike.r.turner@standardaero.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2011 9:50 AM  
To: Pierce-Web  
Subject: Please Don't Raise our Southwest Gas Rates!

Sep 14, 2011

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

Southwest Gas is asking for a rate increase of more than \$65 a year for the average single family residence.

Thousands of Arizonans are out of work.

There have been no Social Security COLA increases for two years.

The cost of food and gasoline are way up.

Many Arizonans are struggling to make ends meet.

As an elected Commissioner, please don't grant the Southwest Gas request to raise our rates more than \$65 a year.

Please vote NO on the South West Gas rate increase request!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mike Turner  
[REDACTED]  
Tucson, AZ 85748-3355  
[REDACTED]

## Antonio Gill

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**From:** AARP [aarpaz@aarp.org] on behalf of George Frazier [forgcf@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2011 11:21 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Please Don't Raise our Southwest Gas Rates!

Sep 14, 2011

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

Southwest Gas is asking for a rate increase of more than \$65 a year for the average single family residence.

Having lived in Arizona for 15 years, I still really don't understand the logic used to allow the power companies to set their rates.

Household's like mine do whatever we can to conserve energy and then the utility complains to you that their revenues are down because usage is down and you let them raise their rates to offset the lost revenues.

So basically the homeowner spends money on insulation, windows, sun screens and energy efficient appliances, lowering his or her energy usage, and gets no net reduction in their monthly electric bill because you allow the utility to merely charge more per kilowatt hour. This is insanity.

Why don't you hire a consultant to go in and cut out the fat that has resulted from decades of bloated staffing and salaries and make the utilities cut their costs instead of just passing them on to their customers? If SRP was a regular corporation facing normal competition, it would be forced to better control its costs, consolidate positions, reduce staffing and lower wages. You allow them to continue to ignore all cost containment measures because they know you will guarantee their revenues regardless of how inefficient they operate.

I am on the EZ 3 time of use plan and I don't run my AC from 3:00 to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. My house temperature regularly exceeds 85 degrees during this time but I bite the bullet to save money. This in turn allows SRP to better manage peak power usage, which has the most expensive cost per Kilowatt hour. I have also recently replaced my sun screens at cost of \$800. Yet I feel all of my efforts are gaining me nothing in the end because my bills continue to go up even though my usage is flat or down.

Why don't you folks start doing the job you were elected to do and begin by forcing SRP to justify any future rate increases by undergoing an efficiency audit (not unlike the energy audit I just paid for) to be sure it is doing as much to control costs as its customers are doing to control theirs?

Thank you.

George C. Frazier

As an elected Commissioner, please don't grant the Southwest Gas request to raise our rates more than \$65 a year.

## Antonio Gill

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**From:** AARP [aarpaz@aarp.org] on behalf of greg rOSE [gregvn68@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 24, 2011 4:59 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Please Don't Raise our Southwest Gas Rates!

Sep 24, 2011

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

Southwest Gas is asking for a rate increase of more than \$65 a year for the average single family residence.

Thousands of Arizonans are out of work.

There have been no Social Security COLA increases for two years.

The cost of food and gasoline are way up.

Many Arizonans are struggling to make ends meet.

As an elected Commissioner, please don't grant the Southwest Gas request to raise our rates more than \$65 a year.

Please vote NO on the South West Gas rate increase request!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. greg rOSE

  
Payson, AZ 85541-6220