

ORIGINAL

Southwest Gas Corporation G-01551A-10-0458



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January 26, 2012

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

RECEIVED

To:

Mr. Gary Pierce, Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission  
Mr. Bob Stump, Commissioner  
Ms. Sandra D. Kennedy, Commissioner  
Mr. Paul Newman, Commissioner  
Ms. Brenda Burns, Commissioner  
1200 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2996

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Arizona Corporation Commission  
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FEB - 3 2012

From:

Mr. Larry D. Woods  
Sun City West, Arizona

DOCKETED BY

Subject: Decision 72723 (Docket # G-01551A-10-0458 – Southwest Gas)

Decision 72723, dated January 6, 2012, was based upon, and agreed with a previous Settlement that was proposed on July 11, 2011. In that settlement, Item 5.11 (pgs. 17-18) states:

“Southwest Gas shall achieve customer annual energy savings equivalent to the 2011 requirement of the gas energy savings goals within 12 months of Commission approval of the new and revised EE and RET Implementation Plan. Staff agrees to make its best efforts to review the Company’s new and revised EE and RET Implementation Plan and file recommendations for Commission approval on a schedule that contributes to timely implementation of the energy savings programs that are necessary to achieve the 2011 energy savings target. In 2012 and beyond, Southwest Gas will comply with the cumulative annual energy savings requirements set forth in A.A.C. R14-2-2501 et seq. At least 75 percent of the cumulative annual energy savings shall be achieved through EE programs. In this regard, Southwest Gas agrees to file its implementation plans consistent with the requirements of A.A.C. R14-2-2501 et seq, on schedule, at the energy savings targets identified therein, and **commits to work with SWEEP and Staff to avoid the need to file a request for waiver during any plan year from 2011-2015** in lieu of submitting an implementation plan designed to achieve the energy savings targets set forth in A.A.C. R14-2-2504. Staff agrees to make their best efforts to review the Company’s implementation plans and file recommendations for Commission votes on a schedule that contributes to timely implementation of the energy savings programs that are necessary to achieve the energy savings targets set forth in A.A.C. R14-2-2501 et seq.” (Bold and underlining added)

Why “SWEEP?” Why has a particular company been singled out to work with Southwest Gas (SWG) and the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) Staff in their execution of this decision? SWEEP is a Colorado-based company whose board of directors consists of executives from many energy companies, including Arizona Public Services. The no-bid selection of SWEEP to assist SWG and the ACC Staff has “locked out” any Arizona company from getting involved in this process---and I will not be convinced

that there aren't Arizona companies that can perform just as well as SWEEP. I would personally feel much more comfortable if we ratepayers had (1) an ARIZONA company working with SWG and ACC Staff, with the goal of (2) satisfying the interests of the *ratepayers* and SWG.

One has to ask whether or how well the ratepayers are being represented when there doesn't seem to be any ratepayer representation in these processes.