



OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

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May 22, 2012

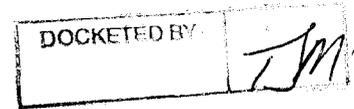
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Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED

MAY 22 2012

Chairman and Commissioners  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL



**RE: Consumer comments in support of SW Gas energy efficiency programs, G-01551A-10-0458**

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

I am submitting written public comments on the Southwest Gas on behalf of the Sierra Club's Grand Canyon (Arizona) Chapter and our 12,000 members, many of whom are Southwest Gas customers.

The Sierra Club's mission is "to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; and to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environments." The Sierra Club and our members have a significant interest in promoting energy efficiency as it is critical to our goals to reduce pollution, water consumption, and limit global climate change.

We support energy efficiency programs included in the Southwest Gas Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Technology Portfolio Implementation Plans (modified and new revised) as they are cost effective and will help keep energy costs lower for everyone, better insulate customers from the volatility of natural gas prices, plus reduce pollution and water use, and create more jobs in our communities. If we don't invest in energy efficiency, we guarantee ourselves higher energy bills in the future as Southwest Gas will build unnecessary infrastructure and buy more fuel from and send jobs out of state.

The programs included in the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Technology Portfolio Implementation Plan, including the new measures in the New Revised Plan will achieve significant savings for Southwest Gas customers and will result in an annual energy savings of 3,294,517 therms or therm equivalents, according to staff, which will meet Southwest Gas' twelve-month energy savings goal.

Existing and new programs such as the Residential High-Efficiency Equipment Rebate Program can help promote tankless water heaters, low-flow showerheads, and efficient clothes washers, plus we appreciate that there are also programs to provide low income assistance for energy conservation. We are also supportive of the programs for businesses including rebates for energy efficient convection ovens, dishwashers, and more.



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We encourage you to protect the interests of today and tomorrow's Southwest Gas ratepayers by supporting these important programs and investments.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandy Bahr', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Sandy Bahr

Director

Sierra Club – Grand Canyon Chapter