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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Copy for:
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.....to Executive Director

RESOLUTION NO. G-2247

.....Director
.....Numerical File
.....Alphabetical File
.....Accounting Officer

R E S O L U T I O N

UTILITIES DIVISION
BRANCH/SECTION: Gas
DATE: September 19, 1978

SUBJECT: Order Authorizing PGA Rate Increase

OFFICE COPY
GAS BRANCH

WHEREAS: SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION, by Advice Letters Nos. 203, filed August 28, 1978, and 203-Supplement, filed September 7, 1978, has requested authority to file revised tariff schedules, applicable to its Placer County Rate Area, in order to track increased cost of gas, as set forth on Cal. P.U.C. Sheets Nos. 1673-G to 1678-G, inclusive, under the following conditions:

1. The proposed rate revisions include a rate increase of 0.965 cents per therm, applicable to all sales to offset the cost of gas from the utility's supplier, Northwest Pipeline Corporation, in its semi-annual PGAC filing in Docket No. RP72-154 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and a rate decrease of 1.860 cents per therm for all non-lifeline sales to reflect reduced Ad Valorem taxes as per Article XIII-A of the Constitution of the State of California, thus resulting in a rate decrease for non-lifeline sales.
2. The result of these rate revisions is a rate increase of \$66,790 and an Ad Valorem tax rate decrease of \$55,171 for a net annual revenue increase of \$11,619.
3. The utility is applying the rate increase to all sales, including lifeline, because the system average rate has increased more than 29% over the January 1, 1976 level, and, with this increase the Non-Lifeline rates will be at the alternate fuel price levels.
4. The current balance in the utility's Northern California Balancing Account is \$2,425, and the utility proposes to delay clearing this small amount out of its Balancing Account until its next PGA filing.
5. For a typical residential customer under lifeline rate schedules, using 70 therms in the summer months and 200 therms in the winter months, the bill will be decreased by \$0.14 from \$36.22 to \$36.08 in the summer and will be increased by \$1.29 from \$69.82 to \$71.11 in the winter.
6. For a commercial customer under non-lifeline rate schedules, using the same volumes, the bill will be decreased by \$0.63 from \$40.63 to \$40.00 in the summer and by \$1.79 from \$108.20 to \$106.41 in the winter.
7. In the event that FERC rejects or amends Northwest's filing in Docket No. RP72-154, Southwest will file substitute tariff sheets to reflect approved rate levels, and,

WHEREAS: This requested rate increase is found to be reasonable; therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Authority is hereby granted under Sections 454, 491 and 701 of the Public Utilities Code, and under the Provisions of the Utilities PGA procedure in its filed tariff schedules to Southwest Gas Corporation to place the above tariff sheets or subsequent substitute tariff sheets into effect on October 1, 1978, or on any other date that the FERC might require Northwest's filing to become effective, whichever date is later.

2. The above advice letter and tariff sheets or any subsequent substitute tariff sheets shall be marked to show that they were issued under Resolution No. G-2247 of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California. The effective date of this resolution is the date hereof.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California, held on the 19th day of September, 1978, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

Executive Director