

SOUTHWEST GAS CORP
Form 8-K
February 18, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K
CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) February 18, 2003

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1-7850
(Commission
File Number)

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

5241 Spring Mountain Road
Post Office Box 98510
Las Vegas, Nevada
(Address of principal executive offices)

89193-8510
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including
area code: (702) 876-7237**

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On February 18, 2003, Southwest Gas Corporation (the Company) released summary financial information to the general public, including the investment community, regarding the Company's operating performance and financial position for the quarter and twelve months ended December 31, 2002. The financial information released is included herein. The following information is summary in nature and should not be considered complete financial statements.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(In thousands, except per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31,		TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Gas operating revenues	\$ 281,083	\$ 330,620	\$ 1,115,900	\$ 1,193,102
Net cost of gas sold	114,034	169,265	563,379	677,547
Operating margin	167,049	161,355	552,521	515,555
Operations and maintenance expenses	67,929	65,299	264,188	253,026
Depreciation, amortization, and general taxes	38,278	34,687	149,740	137,278
Operating income	60,842	61,369	138,593	125,251
Net interest deductions	19,958	19,493	78,505	78,746
Preferred securities distribution	1,369	1,369	5,475	5,475
Pretax utility income	39,515	40,507	54,613	41,030
Utility income taxes	12,211	12,923	17,151	13,011
Net utility income	27,304	27,584	37,462	28,019
Other income (expense), net	9,370	2,320	1,766	4,607
Contribution to net income - gas operations	36,674	29,904	39,228	32,626
Contribution to net income - construction services	1,141	1,071	4,737	4,530
Net income	\$ 37,815	\$ 30,975	\$ 43,965	\$ 37,156
Earnings per share - gas operations	\$ 1.11	\$ 0.93	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.02
Earnings per share - construction services	0.03	0.03	0.14	0.14
Basic earnings per share	\$ 1.14	\$ 0.96	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.16
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.13	\$ 0.95	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.15
Average outstanding common shares	33,223	32,427	32,953	32,122

	THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31,		TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31,	
Average shares outstanding (assuming dilution)	33,533	32,720	33,233	32,398

The summary statements of income have been prepared by Southwest Gas Corporation (the Company) using the equity method of accounting for its construction services subsidiary. This presentation is not in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). However, it produces the same net income as the consolidated financial statements and, in management's opinion, is a fair representation of the operations and contributions to net income of the Company's operating segments.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Gas operating revenues	\$ 1,115,900	\$ 1,193,102	\$ 870,711
Net cost of gas sold	563,379	677,547	394,711
Operating margin	552,521	515,555	476,000
Operations and maintenance expenses	264,188	253,026	231,175
Depreciation, amortization, and general taxes	149,740	137,278	124,508
Operating income	138,593	125,251	120,317
Net interest deductions	78,505	78,746	68,892
Preferred securities distribution	5,475	5,475	5,475
Pretax utility income	54,613	41,030	45,950
Utility income taxes	17,151	13,011	13,614
Net utility income	37,462	28,019	32,336
Other income (expense), net	1,766	4,607	1,572
Contribution to net income - gas operations	39,228	32,626	33,908
Contribution to net income - construction services	4,737	4,530	4,403
Net income	\$ 43,965	\$ 37,156	\$ 38,311
Earnings per share - gas operations	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.08
Earnings per share - construction services	0.14	0.14	0.14
Basic earnings per share	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.16	\$ 1.22
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.21
Average outstanding common shares	32,953	32,122	31,371
Average shares outstanding (assuming dilution)	33,233	32,398	31,575

See Notes to Summary Financial Statements.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 2002

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

ASSETS

UTILITY PLANT

Gas plant, net of accumulated depreciation		\$	1,912,766
Construction work in progress			66,693

			1,979,459
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OTHER PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS

Investment in construction services subsidiary			38,953
Other			42,240

			81,193
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CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents			15,538
Receivables - less reserve of \$1,825 for uncollectibles			104,757
Accrued utility revenue			65,073
Deferred taxes			224
Other			41,859

			227,451
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DEFERRED DEBITS

Unamortized debt expense			17,398
Other deferred debits			23,497

			40,895
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TOTAL ASSETS		\$	2,328,998
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CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES

CAPITALIZATION

Common stockholders' equity			
Common stock equity, \$1 par, 33,289 shares outstanding		\$	522,707
Retained earnings			73,460

			596,167
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Preferred securities of Southwest Gas Capital I, 9.125%			60,000
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Long-term debt including current maturities - NOTE 2			1,080,297
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34.3 %

3.5

62.2

Total capitalization	1,736,464	100.0 %
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CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES		
Notes payable	53,000	
Accounts payable	82,870	
Customer deposits	34,313	
Taxes accrued (including income taxes)	39,372	
Deferred purchased gas costs	26,718	
Other	50,004	
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Total current and accrued liabilities	286,277	
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DEFERRED CREDITS		
Deferred investment tax credits	13,801	
Deferred income taxes	208,868	
Other	83,588	
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Total deferred credits	306,257	
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TOTAL CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES	\$ 2,328,998	
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See Notes to Summary Financial Statements.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATIONS:		
Net income	\$	43,965
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization		115,175
Change in receivables and payables		11,260
Change in gas cost related balancing items		110,219
Change in accrued taxes		34,213
Change in deferred taxes		(17,406)
Allowance for funds used during construction		(3,125)
Other		(13,154)
		<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities		281,147
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CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Construction expenditures		(263,576)
Other		22,087
		<hr/>
Net cash used in investing activities		(241,489)

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Net proceeds from stock issuances		18,174
Dividends paid		(27,009)
Change in notes payable		(40,000)
Retirement of long-term debt		(200,000)
Long-term debt issuances, net		197,948
Net cash used in financing activities		(50,887)
Change in cash and cash equivalents		(11,229)
Cash at beginning of period		26,767
Cash at end of period	\$	15,538

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$	75,514
Income taxes, net of refunds	\$	383

See Notes to Summary Financial Statements.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION NOTES TO SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION:

The summary financial statements have been prepared by Southwest Gas Corporation (the Company) using the equity method of accounting for its construction services subsidiary. This presentation is not in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance

with GAAP have been omitted. The summary financial statement presentation in this report produces the same net income as the consolidated financial statements and, in management's opinion, is a fair representation of the operations and contributions to net income of the Company's operating segments.

NOTE 2 - LONG-TERM DEBT:

Revolving credit facility, variable rate	\$	100,000
Debentures:		
7.5% due 2006		75,000
8% due 2026		75,000
8.375% due 2011		200,000
7.625% due 2012		200,000
Medium-term notes:		
7.59% due 2017		25,000
7.75% due 2005		25,000
7.78% due 2022		25,000

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7.92% due 2027		25,000
6.89% due 2007		17,500
6.76% due 2027		7,500
6.27% due 2008		25,000
Industrial development revenue bonds:		
Variable-rate bonds, Series A, due 2028		50,000
7.3% 1992 Series A, due 2027		30,000
7.5% 1992 Series B, due 2032		100,000
6.5% 1993 Series A, due 2033		75,000
6.1% 1999 Series A, due 2038		12,410
5.55% 1999 Series D, due 2038		8,270
5.95% 1999 Series C, due 2038		14,320
Unamortized discount on long-term debt		(9,703)
TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT	\$	1,080,297
ESTIMATED CURRENT MATURITIES	\$	--

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SELECTED STATISTICAL DATA DECEMBER 31, 2002

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Market value to book value per share at year end	131%
Twelve months to date return on equity -- total company	7.5%
-- gas segment	7.1%
Common stock dividend yield at year end	3.5%

GAS OPERATIONS SEGMENT

Rate Jurisdiction	Authorized Rate Base (In thousands)	Authorized Rate of Return	Authorized Return on Common Equity
Arizona (1)	\$ 688,202	9.20 %	11.00 %
Southern Nevada (1)	457,314	8.78	10.64
Northern Nevada (1)	91,936	9.02	10.21
Southern California	69,486	9.94	11.35
Northern California	28,849	10.02	11.35
Paiute Pipeline Company (1)	75,059	9.69	11.60

(1) Estimated amounts based on rate case settlements.

SYSTEM THROUGHPUT BY CUSTOMER CLASS

(In dekatherms)	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Residential	58,821,449	58,994,278	57,137,754
Small commercial	28,027,082	27,996,473	27,267,289
Large commercial	12,149,989	10,758,310	6,390,838
Industrial / Other	22,405,541	28,377,223	19,971,471
Transportation	132,514,914	126,820,293	148,270,056
Total system throughput	253,918,975	252,946,577	259,037,408

HEATING DEGREE DAY COMPARISON

Actual	1,912	1,958	1,925
Ten-year average	1,963	1,965	1,979

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Date: February 18,
2003

/s/ ROY R. CENTRELLA

Roy R. Centrella
Vice President/Controller/Chief Accounting Officer