

SOUTHWEST GAS CORP
Form 10-Q
November 05, 2015

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

Form 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2015
Commission File Number 1-7850

SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

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

5241 Spring Mountain Road
Post Office Box 98510
Las Vegas, Nevada **89193-8510**
(Address of principal executive offices) **(Zip Code)**
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (702) 876-7237

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, non-accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).
Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock, \$1 Par Value, 47,375,398 shares as of October 28, 2015.

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September 30, 2015**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Thousands of dollars, except par value)

(Unaudited)

| | SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 | DECEMBER 31, 2014 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Utility plant: | | |
| Gas plant | \$ 5,734,807 | \$ 5,556,599 |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | (2,060,402) | (1,973,098) |
| Acquisition adjustments, net | 415 | 550 |
| Construction work in progress | 118,554 | 74,332 |
| Net utility plant | 3,793,374 | 3,658,383 |
| Other property and investments | 319,243 | 326,743 |
| Restricted cash | | 821 |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 32,959 | 39,566 |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowances | 269,058 | 281,824 |
| Accrued utility revenue | 32,200 | 73,900 |
| Income taxes receivable, net | 37,810 | 21,853 |
| Deferred income taxes, net | 291 | 2,109 |
| Deferred purchased gas costs | 815 | 87,556 |
| Prepays and other current assets | 105,438 | 99,975 |
| Total current assets | 478,571 | 606,783 |
| Noncurrent assets: | | |
| Goodwill | 129,884 | 143,160 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,688 | |
| Deferred charges and other assets | 460,906 | 478,625 |
| Total noncurrent assets | 592,478 | 621,785 |

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| | | | | |
|---|----|-----------|----|-----------|
| Total assets | \$ | 5,183,666 | \$ | 5,214,515 |
| CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES | | | | |
| Capitalization: | | | | |
| Common stock, \$1 par (authorized 60,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 47,375,398 and 46,523,184 shares) | \$ | 49,005 | \$ | 48,153 |
| Additional paid-in capital | | 894,625 | | 851,381 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net | | (48,013) | | (50,175) |
| Retained earnings | | 654,492 | | 639,164 |
| Total Southwest Gas Corporation equity | | 1,550,109 | | 1,488,523 |
| Noncontrolling interest | | (2,177) | | (2,257) |
| Total equity | | 1,547,932 | | 1,486,266 |
| Redeemable noncontrolling interest | | 13,703 | | 20,042 |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities | | 1,540,364 | | 1,637,592 |
| Total capitalization | | 3,101,999 | | 3,143,900 |
| Current liabilities: | | | | |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | | 19,865 | | 19,192 |
| Short-term debt | | | | 5,000 |
| Accounts payable | | 129,258 | | 167,988 |
| Customer deposits | | 72,268 | | 71,546 |
| Income taxes payable | | 13,643 | | |
| Accrued general taxes | | 42,249 | | 44,339 |
| Accrued interest | | 21,730 | | 16,468 |
| Deferred income taxes | | 7,031 | | |
| Deferred purchased gas costs | | 44,754 | | |
| Other current liabilities | | 143,882 | | 145,584 |
| Total current liabilities | | 494,680 | | 470,117 |
| Deferred income taxes and other credits: | | | | |
| Deferred income taxes and investment tax credits | | 722,718 | | 723,688 |
| Accumulated removal costs | | 301,000 | | 304,000 |
| Other deferred credits and other long-term liabilities | | 563,269 | | 572,810 |
| Total deferred income taxes and other credits | | 1,586,987 | | 1,600,498 |
| Total capitalization and liabilities | \$ | 5,183,666 | \$ | 5,214,515 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

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SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Thousands of dollars, except par value)

(Unaudited)

| | THREE MONTHS ENDED | | NINE MONTHS ENDED | | TWELVE MONTHS ENDED | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 | 2014 | SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 | 2014 | SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 | 2014 |
| Operating revenues: | | | | | | |
| Gas operating revenues | \$ 219,420 | \$ 226,027 | \$ 1,059,178 | \$ 983,999 | \$ 1,457,266 | \$ 1,356,653 |
| Construction revenues | 285,976 | 206,448 | 719,042 | 510,025 | 948,637 | 675,728 |
| Total operating revenues | 505,396 | 432,475 | 1,778,220 | 1,494,024 | 2,405,903 | 2,032,381 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | |
| Net cost of gas sold | 64,268 | 72,987 | 427,045 | 362,349 | 570,052 | 480,608 |
| Operations and maintenance | 100,102 | 93,389 | 294,956 | 293,417 | 385,271 | 390,328 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 66,476 | 62,037 | 200,898 | 187,114 | 266,811 | 247,684 |
| Taxes other than income taxes | 11,652 | 11,835 | 37,063 | 34,256 | 50,059 | 45,786 |
| Construction expenses | 246,755 | 173,937 | 647,512 | 444,778 | 850,591 | 595,093 |
| Total operating expenses | 489,253 | 414,185 | 1,607,474 | 1,321,914 | 2,122,784 | 1,759,499 |
| Operating income | 16,143 | 18,290 | 170,746 | 172,110 | 283,119 | 272,882 |
| Other income and (expenses): | | | | | | |
| Net interest deductions | (18,401) | (17,421) | (54,095) | (52,245) | (73,919) | (69,680) |
| Other income (deductions) | (3,660) | 440 | (1,226) | 4,915 | 966 | 9,026 |
| Total other income and (expenses) | (22,061) | (16,981) | (55,321) | (47,330) | (72,953) | (60,654) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | (5,918) | 1,309 | 115,425 | 124,780 | 210,166 | 212,228 |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | (1,708) | (618) | 42,693 | 42,529 | 78,537 | 72,788 |
| Net income (loss) | (4,210) | 1,927 | 72,732 | 82,251 | 131,629 | 139,440 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | 524 | (43) | 534 | (129) | 685 | (243) |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Net income (loss) attributable to Southwest Gas Corporation | \$ (4,734) | \$ 1,970 | \$ 72,198 | \$ 82,380 | \$ 130,944 | \$ 139,683 |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share | \$ (0.10) | \$ 0.04 | \$ 1.54 | \$ 1.77 | \$ 2.80 | \$ 3.01 |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share | \$ (0.10) | \$ 0.04 | \$ 1.53 | \$ 1.76 | \$ 2.77 | \$ 2.98 |
| Dividends declared per share | \$ 0.405 | \$ 0.365 | \$ 1.215 | \$ 1.095 | \$ 1.580 | \$ 1.425 |
| Average number of common shares outstanding | 47,102 | 46,513 | 46,863 | 46,485 | 46,777 | 46,451 |
| Average shares outstanding (assuming dilution) | | 46,966 | 47,261 | 46,928 | 47,194 | 46,904 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

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SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Thousands of dollars, except par value)

(Unaudited)

| | THREE MONTHS ENDED | | NINE MONTHS ENDED | | TWELVE MONTHS ENDED | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | SEPTEMBER 30, | SEPTEMBER 30, | SEPTEMBER 30, | SEPTEMBER 30, | SEPTEMBER 30, | SEPTEMBER 30, |
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ (4,210) | \$ 1,927 | \$ 72,732 | \$ 82,251 | \$ 131,629 | \$ 139,440 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | | | | | | |
| Defined benefit pension plans: | | | | | | |
| Net actuarial gain (loss) | | | | | (107,661) | 62,214 |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 207 | 55 | 621 | 165 | 676 | 221 |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 5,329 | 3,667 | 15,987 | 11,000 | 19,654 | 16,297 |
| Prior service cost | | | | | (4,130) | |
| Regulatory adjustment | (4,828) | (3,210) | (14,484) | (9,630) | 82,137 | (72,176) |
| Net defined benefit pension plans | 708 | 512 | 2,124 | 1,535 | (9,324) | 6,556 |
| Forward-starting interest rate swaps: | | | | | | |
| Amounts reclassified into net income | 519 | 518 | 1,556 | 1,555 | 2,074 | 2,074 |
| Net forward-starting interest rate swaps | 519 | 518 | 1,556 | 1,555 | 2,074 | 2,074 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (510) | | (1,573) | | (2,232) | |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax | 717 | 1,030 | 2,107 | 3,090 | (9,482) | 8,630 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | (3,493) | 2,957 | 74,839 | 85,341 | 122,147 | 148,070 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | 504 | (43) | 479 | (129) | 608 | (243) |

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Southwest Gas Corporation | \$ (3,997) | \$ 3,000 | \$ 74,360 | \$ 85,470 | \$ 121,539 | \$ 148,313 |
|---|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

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SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Thousands of dollars)

(Unaudited)

| | NINE MONTHS ENDED | | TWELVE MONTHS ENDED | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| | SEPTEMBER 30 2015 | 2014 | SEPTEMBER 30 2015 | 2014 |
| CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 72,732 | \$ 82,251 | \$ 131,629 | \$ 139,440 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 200,898 | 187,114 | 266,811 | 247,684 |
| Deferred income taxes | 5,961 | 37,690 | 32,580 | 62,625 |
| Changes in current assets and liabilities: | | | | |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowances | 6,570 | 34,679 | (31,792) | (29,187) |
| Accrued utility revenue | 41,700 | 40,700 | (200) | (700) |
| Deferred purchased gas costs | 131,495 | (60,101) | 122,257 | (92,535) |
| Accounts payable | (38,878) | (85,514) | 5,137 | (3,029) |
| Accrued taxes | (4,427) | (16,869) | (1,131) | (14,704) |
| Other current assets and liabilities | 8,333 | 43,650 | (11,938) | 20,941 |
| Gains on sale | (3,019) | (5,661) | (3,529) | (6,783) |
| Changes in undistributed stock compensation | 2,119 | 4,612 | 5,480 | 6,126 |
| AFUDC | (2,011) | (1,571) | (2,435) | (2,187) |
| Changes in other assets and deferred charges | (14,423) | (17,420) | (18,735) | (16,685) |
| Changes in other liabilities and deferred credits | 5,348 | 18,344 | 2,783 | 28,569 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 412,398 | 261,904 | 496,917 | 339,575 |
| CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | | | |
| Construction expenditures and property additions | (336,569) | (293,276) | (440,191) | (403,115) |
| Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired | (9,261) | | (199,758) | |
| Restricted cash | 785 | | 2,018 | |
| Changes in customer advances | 14,300 | 13,124 | 21,539 | 15,694 |
| Miscellaneous inflows | 11,593 | 9,780 | 13,424 | 11,838 |
| Miscellaneous outflows | | | (1,400) | |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (319,152) | (270,372) | (604,368) | (375,583) |

CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Issuance of common stock, net | 35,419 | 419 | 35,405 | 608 |
| Dividends paid | (55,060) | (49,295) | (72,040) | (64,592) |
| Issuance of long-term debt, net | 123,816 | 37,719 | 355,325 | 285,336 |
| Retirement of long-term debt | (143,325) | (21,528) | (260,952) | (28,272) |
| Change in credit facility and commercial paper | (53,000) | 40,000 | 47,000 | (100,000) |
| Change in short-term debt | (5,000) | | | (33,000) |
| Principal payments on capital lease obligations | (1,096) | | (1,530) | |
| Other | (504) | (759) | (1,002) | 1,240 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | (98,750) | 6,556 | 102,206 | 61,320 |
| Effects of currency translation on cash and cash equivalents | (1,103) | | (961) | |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents | (6,607) | (1,912) | (6,206) | 25,312 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 39,566 | 41,077 | 39,165 | 13,853 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 32,959 | \$ 39,165 | \$ 32,959 | \$ 39,165 |
| Supplemental information: | | | | |
| Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized | \$ 45,312 | \$ 42,695 | \$ 68,169 | \$ 60,264 |
| Income taxes paid | 39,856 | 14,823 | 49,280 | 16,744 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

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September 30, 2015**Note 1 Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation**

Nature of Operations. Southwest Gas Corporation and its subsidiaries (the Company) consist of two segments: natural gas operations (Southwest or the natural gas operations segment) and construction services. Southwest is engaged in the business of purchasing, distributing, and transporting natural gas for customers in portions of Arizona, Nevada, and California. Public utility rates, practices, facilities, and service territories of Southwest are subject to regulatory oversight. The timing and amount of rate relief can materially impact results of operations. Natural gas purchases and the timing of related recoveries can materially impact liquidity. Results for the natural gas operations segment are lowest during late spring to early fall and improve during winter periods due to the seasonality incorporated in its regulatory rate structures. Centuri Construction Group, Inc. (Centuri or the construction services segment), a 96.6% owned subsidiary, is a full-service underground piping contractor that primarily provides utility companies with trenching and installation, replacement, and maintenance services for energy distribution systems, and industrial construction solutions. Centuri operations are generally conducted under the business names of NPL Construction Co. (NPL), Link-Line Contractors Ltd. (Link-Line), W.S. Nicholls Construction, Inc. and related companies (W.S. Nicholls), and Brigadier Pipelines Inc. (Brigadier). Typically, Centuri revenues are lowest during the first quarter of the year due to unfavorable winter weather conditions. Operating revenues typically improve as more favorable weather conditions occur during the summer and fall months.

Basis of Presentation. The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring items and estimates necessary for a fair presentation of results for the interim periods, have been made. It is suggested that these condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the 2014 Annual Report to Shareholders, which is incorporated by reference into the 2014 Form 10-K, and the first and second quarter 2015 reports on Form 10-Q.

Centuri, through its subsidiaries, holds a 50% interest in W.S. Nicholls Western Construction LTD. (Western), a Canadian construction services company that is a variable interest entity. Centuri determined that it is not the primary beneficiary of the entity due to a shared-power structure; therefore, Centuri does not consolidate the entity and has recorded its investment, and results related thereto, using the equity method. The Company's investment in Western is not significant in relation to its total assets included in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Prepays and other current assets. Prepays and other current assets includes gas pipe materials and supplies of \$25 million at September 30, 2015 and \$23 million at December 31, 2014.

Cash and Cash Equivalents. For purposes of reporting consolidated cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and financial instruments with a purchase-date maturity of three months or less. In general, cash and cash equivalents fall within Level 1 (quoted prices for identical financial instruments) of the three-level fair value hierarchy that ranks the inputs, used to measure fair value, by their reliability. However, cash and cash equivalents at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 also include two money market fund investments totaling approximately

\$250,000 which fall within Level 2 (significant other observable inputs) of the fair value hierarchy, due to the asset valuation methods used by money market funds.

Significant non-cash investing and financing activities for the natural gas operations segment included the following: Upon contract expiration, customer advances of approximately \$2.8 million and \$7 million, during the first nine months of 2015 and 2014, respectively, were applied as contributions toward utility construction activity and represent non-cash investing activity.

Goodwill. Goodwill is assessed for impairment annually, as required by U.S. GAAP, or otherwise, if circumstances indicate impairment to the carrying value of goodwill. No impairment was recorded in the first nine months of 2015. The acquisition date adjustment shown in the table below was recorded in the first quarter of 2015. No acquisition date adjustments occurred subsequently. The business of Brigadier was acquired via asset purchase.

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Therefore, goodwill assigned to Brigadier is expected to be deductible for tax purposes, resulting in an after-tax value of \$4.9 million. All other goodwill associated with the acquisition is not deductible for tax purposes.

| (In thousands of dollars) | Natural Gas Operations | Construction Services | Consolidated |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| December 31, 2014 | \$ 10,095 | \$ 133,065 | \$ 143,160 |
| Acquisition date adjustment | | 1,380 | 1,380 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | | (14,656) | (14,656) |
| September 30, 2015 | \$ 10,095 | \$ 119,789 | \$ 129,884 |

Intercompany Transactions. Centuri recognizes revenues generated from contracts with Southwest (see **Note 3 Segment Information** below). Centuri's accounts receivable for these services are presented in the table below (thousands of dollars):

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Centuri accounts receivable for services provided to Southwest | \$ 15,972 | \$ 9,169 |

The accounts receivable balance, revenues, and associated profits are included in the condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company and were not eliminated during consolidation in accordance with accounting treatment for rate-regulated entities.

Other Property and Investments. Other property and investments includes (millions of dollars):

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Centuri property and equipment | \$ 419 | \$ 405 |
| Centuri accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization | (209) | (187) |
| Net cash surrender value of COLI policies | 97 | 99 |
| Other property | 12 | 10 |
| Total | \$ 319 | \$ 327 |

Other Income (Deductions). The following table provides the composition of significant items included in Other income (deductions) in the condensed consolidated statements of income (thousands of dollars):

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | | Twelve Months Ended | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | September 30 | | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Change in COLI policies | \$ (3,900) | \$ (300) | \$ (2,600) | \$ 2,900 | \$ (200) | \$ 7,200 |
| Interest income | 624 | 772 | 1,375 | 1,881 | 2,096 | 1,920 |
| Foreign transaction gain (loss) | (302) | | (874) | | (1,052) | |
| Miscellaneous income and (expense) | (82) | (32) | 873 | 134 | 122 | (94) |
| Total other income (deductions) | \$ (3,660) | \$ 440 | \$ (1,226) | \$ 4,915 | \$ 966 | \$ 9,026 |

Included in the table above is the change in cash surrender values of company-owned life insurance (COLI) policies (including net death benefits recognized). These life insurance policies on members of management and other key employees are used by Southwest to indemnify itself against the loss of talent, expertise, and knowledge, as well as to provide indirect funding for certain nonqualified benefit plans. Current tax regulations provide for tax-free treatment of life insurance (death benefit) proceeds. Therefore, changes in the cash surrender values of COLI policies, as they progress towards the ultimate death benefits, are also recorded without tax consequences.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards Updates. In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued the update Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). The update replaces much of the current guidance regarding revenue recognition including most industry-specific guidance. In accordance with the update, an entity will be required to identify the contract with a customer, identify the performance obligations in the contract, determine the transaction price, allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract, and recognize revenue when (or as) the entity satisfies a performance obligation. In addition to the new revenue recognition requirements, entities will be required to disclose sufficient information to enable users of financial

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statements to understand the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. Entities may choose between two retrospective transition methods when applying the update. In April 2015, the FASB voted to propose, and in July 2015 it approved, a one-year deferral of the effective date (annual periods ending after December 15, 2017), but to permit entities to adopt one year earlier if they choose (i.e., the original effective date). The FASB decided, based on its outreach to various stakeholders and the forthcoming exposure drafts, which amend the update, that a deferral is necessary to provide adequate time to effectively implement the update. The Company plans to adopt the update at the required adoption date, which is for interim and annual reporting periods commencing January 1, 2018. The Company is evaluating what impact this update might have on its consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

In August 2014, the FASB issued the update *Disclosure of Uncertainties about an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern*, which requires management to assess a company's ability to continue as a going concern and to provide related footnote disclosures in certain circumstances. Under the update, disclosures are required when conditions give rise to substantial doubt about a company's ability to continue as a going concern within one year from the financial statement issuance date. The update is effective for the annual period ending after December 15, 2016, and all annual and interim periods thereafter. This update is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's disclosures.

In April 2015, the FASB issued the update *Interest Imputation of Interest (Subtopic 835-30) Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs*. To simplify presentation of debt issuance costs, the amendments in this update require that debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts. The recognition and measurement guidance for debt issuance costs are not affected by the amendments in this update. Retrospective application of the update is required. The amendments in this update are effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption of the amendments in this update is permitted for financial statements that have not been previously issued. This update is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

Note 2 Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost

Southwest has a noncontributory qualified retirement plan with defined benefits covering substantially all employees and a separate unfunded supplemental retirement plan (*SERP*) which is limited to officers. Southwest also provides postretirement benefits other than pensions (*PBOP*) to its qualified retirees for health care, dental, and life insurance.

Net periodic benefit costs included in the table below are components of an overhead loading process associated with the cost of labor. The overhead process ultimately results in allocation of net periodic benefit costs to the same accounts to which productive labor is charged. As a result, net periodic benefit costs become components of various accounts, primarily operations and maintenance expense, net utility plant, and deferred charges and other assets.

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September 30, 2015**Qualified Retirement Plan
Period Ended September 30,**

| | Three Months | | Nine Months | | Twelve Months | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| (Thousands of dollars) | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 6,281 | \$ 5,340 | \$ 18,842 | \$ 16,020 | \$ 24,182 | \$ 21,784 |
| Interest cost | 11,057 | 10,860 | 33,172 | 32,581 | 44,031 | 41,983 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (14,452) | (13,336) | (43,356) | (40,007) | (56,691) | (52,467) |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 8,186 | 5,718 | 24,557 | 17,154 | 30,276 | 25,219 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 11,072 | \$ 8,582 | \$ 33,215 | \$ 25,748 | \$ 41,798 | \$ 36,519 |

SERP**Period Ended September 30,**

| | Three Months | | Nine Months | | Twelve Months | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| (Thousands of dollars) | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 80 | \$ 73 | \$ 240 | \$ 219 | \$ 313 | \$ 312 |
| Interest cost | 424 | 436 | 1,271 | 1,308 | 1,708 | 1,692 |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 323 | 196 | 970 | 588 | 1,165 | 830 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 827 | \$ 705 | \$ 2,481 | \$ 2,115 | \$ 3,186 | \$ 2,834 |

PBOP**Period Ended September 30,**

| | Three Months | | Nine Months | | Twelve Months | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| (Thousands of dollars) | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 410 | \$ 275 | \$ 1,231 | \$ 826 | \$ 1,506 | \$ 1,131 |
| Interest cost | 750 | 707 | 2,249 | 2,122 | 2,956 | 2,743 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (866) | (816) | (2,598) | (2,448) | (3,414) | (3,154) |
| Amortization of prior service costs | 334 | 89 | 1,001 | 266 | 1,090 | 355 |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 86 | | 259 | | 259 | 236 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 714 | \$ 255 | \$ 2,142 | \$ 766 | \$ 2,397 | \$ 1,311 |

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September 30, 2015**Note 3 Segment Information**

The following tables present revenues from external customers, intersegment revenues, and segment net income (thousands of dollars):

| | Natural Gas Operations | Construction Services | Total |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Three months ended September 30, 2015 | | | |
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 219,420 | \$ 255,088 | \$ 474,508 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 30,888 | 30,888 |
| Total | \$ 219,420 | \$ 285,976 | \$ 505,396 |
| Segment net income (loss) | \$ (18,939) | \$ 14,205 | \$ (4,734) |

Three months ended September 30, 2014

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 226,027 | \$ 183,290 | \$ 409,317 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 23,158 | 23,158 |
| Total | \$ 226,027 | \$ 206,448 | \$ 432,475 |
| Segment net income (loss) | \$ (11,452) | \$ 13,422 | \$ 1,970 |

| | Natural Gas Operations | Construction Services | Total |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Nine months ended September 30, 2015 | | | |
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 1,059,178 | \$ 645,289 | \$ 1,704,467 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 73,753 | 73,753 |
| Total | \$ 1,059,178 | \$ 719,042 | \$ 1,778,220 |
| Segment net income | \$ 59,325 | \$ 12,873 | \$ 72,198 |

Nine months ended September 30, 2014

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 983,999 | \$ 438,409 | \$ 1,422,408 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 71,616 | 71,616 |
| Total | \$ 983,999 | \$ 510,025 | \$ 1,494,024 |

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| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Segment net income | \$ 62,945 | \$ 19,435 | \$ 82,380 |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

| | Natural Gas Operations | Construction Services | Total |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Twelve months ended September 30, 2015 | | | |
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 1,457,266 | \$ 854,312 | \$ 2,311,578 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 94,325 | 94,325 |
| Total | \$ 1,457,266 | \$ 948,637 | \$ 2,405,903 |
| Segment net income | \$ 113,252 | \$ 17,692 | \$ 130,944 |

| | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Twelve months ended September 30, 2014 | | | |
| Revenues from external customers | \$ 1,356,653 | \$ 577,384 | \$ 1,934,037 |
| Intersegment revenues | | 98,344 | 98,344 |
| Total | \$ 1,356,653 | \$ 675,728 | \$ 2,032,381 |
| Segment net income | \$ 117,797 | \$ 21,886 | \$ 139,683 |

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September 30, 2015**Note 4 Derivatives and Fair Value Measurements**

Derivatives. In managing its natural gas supply portfolios, Southwest has historically entered into fixed- and variable-price contracts, which qualify as derivatives. Additionally, Southwest utilizes fixed-for-floating swap contracts (Swaps) to supplement its fixed-price contracts. The fixed-price contracts, firm commitments to purchase a fixed amount of gas in the future at a fixed price, qualify for the normal purchases and normal sales exception that is allowed for contracts that are probable of delivery in the normal course of business, and are exempt from fair value reporting. The variable-price contracts have no significant market value. The Swaps are recorded at fair value.

The fixed-price contracts and Swaps are utilized by Southwest under its volatility mitigation programs to effectively fix the price on a portion (up to 25% in the Arizona and California jurisdictions) of its natural gas supply portfolios. The maturities of the Swaps highly correlate to forecasted purchases of natural gas, during time frames ranging from October 2015 through March 2017. Under such contracts, Southwest pays the counterparty at a fixed rate and receives from the counterparty a floating rate per MMBtu (dekatherm) of natural gas. Only the net differential is actually paid or received. The differential is calculated based on the notional amounts under the contracts, which are detailed in the table below (thousands of dekatherms):

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Contract notional amounts | 8,192 | 5,105 |

In late 2013, the Company suspended further Swaps and fixed-price purchases pursuant to the Volatility Mitigation Program (VMP) for its Nevada service territories. The decision did not impact previously executed purchase arrangements. Agreements, under the Nevada VMP, made prior to the suspension, terminated following the March 2015 delivery month. The Company, along with its regulators, will continue to evaluate this strategy in light of prevailing or anticipated changing market conditions.

Southwest does not utilize derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes, nor does it have trading operations.

The following table sets forth the gains and (losses) recognized on the Company's Swaps (derivatives) for the three-, nine-, and twelve-month periods ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 and their location in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income:

Gains (losses) recognized in income for derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:

(Thousands of dollars)

| Instrument | Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | | Twelve Months Ended | |
|------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | September 30 2015 | September 30 2014 | September 30 2015 | September 30 2014 | September 30 2015 | September 30 2014 |

| Derivative | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Swaps | Net cost of gas sold | \$ (3,282) | \$ (2,277) | \$ (4,689) | \$ 3,630 | \$ (10,682) | \$ 7,552 |
| Swaps | Net cost of gas sold | 3,282* | 2,277* | 4,689* | (3,630)* | 10,682* | (7,552)* |
| Total | | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |

* Represents the impact of regulatory deferral accounting treatment under U.S. GAAP for rate-regulated entities. No gains (losses) were recognized in income or other comprehensive income during the periods presented for derivatives designated as cash flow hedging instruments. Previously, Southwest entered into two forward-starting interest rate swaps (FSIRS), both of which were designated cash flow hedges, to partially hedge the risk of interest rate variability during the period leading up to the issuance of debt. The first FSIRS terminated in December 2010. The second FSIRS terminated in March 2012. Losses on both FSIRS are being amortized over ten-year periods from Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and into interest expense.

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The following table sets forth the fair values of the Company's Swaps and their location in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (thousands of dollars):

Fair values of derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:**September 30, 2015**

| Instrument | Balance Sheet Location | Asset Derivatives | Liability Derivatives | Net Total |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Swaps | Other current liabilities | \$ | \$ (3,425) | \$ (3,425) |
| Swaps | Other deferred credits | | (1,462) | (1,462) |
| Total | | \$ | \$ (4,887) | \$ (4,887) |

December 31, 2014

| Instrument | Balance Sheet Location | Asset Derivatives | Liability Derivatives | Net Total |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Swaps | Other current liabilities | \$ | \$ (5,062) | \$ (5,062) |
| Swaps | Other deferred credits | | (363) | (363) |
| Total | | \$ | \$ (5,425) | \$ (5,425) |

The estimated fair values of the natural gas derivatives were determined using future natural gas index prices (as more fully described below). The Company has master netting arrangements with each counterparty that provide for the net settlement of all contracts through a single payment. As applicable, the Company has elected to reflect the net amounts in its balance sheets. The Company had no outstanding collateral associated with the Swaps during either period shown in the above table.

Pursuant to regulatory deferral accounting treatment for rate-regulated entities, Southwest records the unrealized gains and losses in fair value of the Swaps as a regulatory asset and/or liability. When the Swaps mature, Southwest reverses any prior positions held and records the settled position as an increase or decrease in purchased gas under the related purchased gas adjustment (PGA) mechanism in determining its deferred PGA balances. Neither changes in fair value, nor settled amounts, of Swaps have a direct effect on earnings or other comprehensive income.

The following table shows the amounts Southwest paid to and received from counterparties for settlements of matured Swaps.

| (Thousands of dollars) | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2015 |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Paid to counterparties | \$ 568 | \$ 5,228 | \$ 5,971 |
| Received from counterparties | \$ | \$ | \$ 120 |

The following table details the regulatory assets/(liabilities) offsetting the derivatives at fair value in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (thousands of dollars).

September 30, 2015

| Instrument | Balance Sheet Location | Net Total |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Swaps | Prepays and other current assets | \$ 3,425 |
| Swaps | Deferred charges and other assets | 1,462 |

December 31, 2014

| Instrument | Balance Sheet Location | Net Total |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Swaps | Prepays and other current assets | \$ 5,062 |
| Swaps | Deferred charges and other assets | 363 |

Fair Value Measurements. The estimated fair values of Southwest's Swaps were determined at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 using New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) futures settlement prices for delivery of natural gas at Henry Hub adjusted by the price of NYMEX ClearPort basis Swaps, which reflect the difference between the price of natural gas at a given delivery basin and the Henry Hub pricing points. These Level 2 inputs (inputs, other than quoted prices, for similar assets or liabilities) are observable in the marketplace throughout the full term of the Swaps, but have been credit-risk adjusted with no significant impact to the overall fair value measurement.

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The following table sets forth by level within the three-level fair value hierarchy that ranks the inputs used to measure fair value by their reliability, the Company's financial assets and liabilities that were accounted for at fair value:

Level 2 Significant other observable inputs

| (Thousands of dollars) | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Liabilities at fair value: | | |
| Other current liabilities - Swaps | \$ (3,425) | \$ (5,062) |
| Other deferred credits - Swaps | (1,462) | (363) |
| Net Assets (Liabilities) | \$ (4,887) | \$ (5,425) |

No financial assets or liabilities accounted for at fair value fell within Level 1 (quoted prices in active markets for identical financial assets) or Level 3 (significant unobservable inputs) of the fair value hierarchy.

With regard to the fair values of assets associated with the Company's pension and postretirement benefit plans, asset values were last updated as required as of December 2014. Refer to Note 9 - Pension and Other Post Retirement Benefits in the 2014 Annual Report to Shareholders on Form 10-K.

Note 5 Common Stock

On March 10, 2015, the Company filed with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) an automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-202633), which became effective upon filing, for the offer and sale of up to \$100,000,000 of the Company's common stock from time to time in at-the-market offerings under the prospectus included therein and in accordance with the Sales Agency Agreement, dated March 10, 2015, between the Company and BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC (the Equity Shelf Program). During the three months ending September 30, 2015, the Company sold, through the continuous equity offering program with BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC as agent, an aggregate of 272,716 shares of the Company's common stock in the open market at a weighted average price of \$54.12 per share, resulting in proceeds to the Company of \$14,610,439, net of \$147,579 in agent commissions. For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, the Company sold an aggregate of 645,225 shares of common stock under this program resulting in proceeds to the Company of \$35,167,584, net of \$355,228 in agent commissions. As of September 30, 2015, the Company had up to \$64,477,188 of common stock available for sale under the program. Net proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock under the Equity Shelf Program are intended for general corporate purposes, including the acquisition of property for the construction, completion, extension or improvement of pipeline systems and facilities located in and around the communities Southwest serves.

In addition, during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, the Company issued approximately 207,000 shares of common stock through the Stock Incentive Plan, Restricted Stock/Unit Plan, and Management Incentive Plan.

Note 6 Long-Term Debt

Carrying amounts of the Company's long-term debt and their related estimated fair values as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 are disclosed in the following table. The fair values of the revolving credit facility (including

commercial paper) and the variable-rate Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (IDRBs) approximate their carrying values, as they are repaid quickly (in the case of credit facility borrowings) and have interest rates that reset frequently. They are categorized as Level 1 (quoted prices for identical financial instruments) within the three-level fair value hierarchy that ranks the inputs, used to measure fair value, by their reliability, due to the Company's ability to access similar debt arrangements at measurement dates with comparable terms, including variable rates. The fair values of debentures and fixed-rate IDRBs were determined utilizing a market-based valuation approach, where fair market values are determined based on evaluated pricing data, such as broker quotes and yields for similar securities adjusted for observable differences. Significant inputs used in the valuation generally include benchmark yield curves, credit ratings and issuer spreads. The external credit rating, coupon rate, and maturity of each security are considered in the valuation, as applicable. The market values of debentures and fixed-rate IDRBs are categorized as Level 2 (observable market inputs based on market prices of similar securities). The Centuri secured revolving credit and term loan facility and Centuri other debt obligations (not

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actively traded) are categorized as Level 3, based on significant unobservable inputs to their fair values. Since Centuri's debt is not publicly traded, fair values for the secured revolving credit and term loan facility and other debt obligations were based on a conventional discounted cash flow methodology and utilized current market pricing yield curves, across Centuri's debt maturity spectrum, of other industrial bonds with an assumed credit rating comparable to the Company's.

| | September 30, 2015 | | December 31, 2014 | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Carrying Amount | Market Value | Carrying Amount | Market Value |
| (Thousands of dollars) | | | | |
| Debentures: | | | | |
| Notes, 4.45%, due 2020 | \$ 125,000 | \$ 132,769 | \$ 125,000 | \$ 133,403 |
| Notes, 6.1%, due 2041 | 125,000 | 147,451 | 125,000 | 157,290 |
| Notes, 3.875%, due 2022 | 250,000 | 263,023 | 250,000 | 262,030 |
| Notes, 4.875%, due 2043 | 250,000 | 266,370 | 250,000 | 280,903 |
| 8% Series, due 2026 | 75,000 | 99,380 | 75,000 | 102,296 |
| Medium-term notes, 7.59% series, due 2017 | 25,000 | 26,662 | 25,000 | 27,573 |
| Medium-term notes, 7.78% series, due 2022 | 25,000 | 30,621 | 25,000 | 31,144 |
| Medium-term notes, 7.92% series, due 2027 | 25,000 | 32,726 | 25,000 | 33,695 |
| Medium-term notes, 6.76% series, due 2027 | 7,500 | 8,917 | 7,500 | 9,156 |
| Unamortized discount | (4,957) | | (5,223) | |
| | 902,543 | | 902,277 | |
| Revolving credit facility and commercial paper | 97,000 | 97,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| Industrial development revenue bonds: | | | | |
| Variable-rate bonds: | | | | |
| Tax-exempt Series A, due 2028 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| 2003 Series A, due 2038 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| 2008 Series A, due 2038 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| 2009 Series A, due 2039 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Fixed-rate bonds: | | | | |
| 5.25% 2003 Series D, due 2038 | | | 20,000 | 20,277 |
| 5.00% 2004 Series B, due 2033 | | | 31,200 | 31,223 |
| 4.85% 2005 Series A, due 2035 | 100,000 | 100,415 | 100,000 | 100,071 |
| 4.75% 2006 Series A, due 2036 | 24,855 | 25,089 | 24,855 | 25,399 |
| Unamortized discount | (1,539) | | (1,943) | |
| | 323,316 | | 374,112 | |
| Centuri secured revolving credit and term loan facility | 208,787 | 209,213 | 199,267 | 200,341 |
| Centuri other debt obligations | 28,583 | 28,868 | 31,128 | 31,127 |

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| | 1,560,229 | 1,656,784 |
| Less: current maturities | (19,865) | (19,192) |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities | \$ 1,540,364 | \$ 1,637,592 |

In March 2015, the Company amended its \$300 million credit facility. The facility was previously scheduled to expire in March 2019 and was extended to March 2020. The Company will continue to use \$150 million of the facility as long-term debt and the remaining \$150 million for working capital purposes. Interest rates for the credit facility are calculated at either the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) or an alternate base rate, plus in each case an applicable margin that is determined based on the Company's senior unsecured debt rating. At September 30, 2015, the applicable margin is 1% for loans bearing interest with reference to LIBOR and 0% for loans bearing interest with reference to the alternative base rate. At September 30, 2015, \$47 million was outstanding on the credit facility and \$50 million was outstanding on the commercial paper program.

In May 2015, the Company redeemed at par the \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B IDRBS originally due in 2033. The Company facilitated the redemption primarily from cash on hand and borrowings under its \$300 million credit facility.

In September 2015, the Company redeemed at par the \$20 million 5.25% 2003 Series D IDRBS originally due in 2038. The Company facilitated the redemption primarily from cash on hand and borrowings under its \$300 million credit facility.

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Centuri has a \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility that is scheduled to expire in October 2019. At September 30, 2015, \$209 million in borrowings were outstanding on the Centuri facility. Centuri assets securing the facility at September 30, 2015 totaled \$557 million.

Note 7 Equity, Other Comprehensive Income, and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

The table below provides details of activity in equity and the redeemable noncontrolling interest during the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

| | Southwest Gas Corporation Equity | | | | | | Total | Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest (Temporary Equity) |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---|------------|----------------------|--------------|---|
| | Common Stock | | Additional Paid-in Capital | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | | Retained Earnings | | |
| (In thousands except per share amounts) | Shares | Amount | | | | | | |
| DECEMBER 31, 2014 | 46,523 | \$ 48,153 | \$ 851,381 | \$ (50,175) | \$ 639,164 | \$ (2,257) | \$ 1,486,266 | \$ 20,042 |
| Common stock issuances | 852 | 852 | 37,467 | | | | 38,319 | |
| Net income (loss) | | | | | 72,198 | 80 | 72,278 | 454 |
| Redemption value adjustments | | | 5,777 | | 961 | | 6,738 | (6,738) |
| Foreign currency exchange translation adj. | | | | (1,518) | | | (1,518) | (55) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | | | | | | |
| Net actuarial gain (loss) arising during period, less amortization of unamortized benefit plan cost, net of tax | | | | 2,124 | | | 2,124 | |
| Amounts reclassified to net income, net of tax (FSIRS) | | | | 1,556 | | | 1,556 | |
| Dividends declared | | | | | | | | |

Common: \$1.215
per share

(57,831)

(57,831)

SEPTEMBER

30, 2015 47,375 \$ 49,005 \$ 894,625 \$ (48,013) \$ 654,492 \$ (2,177) \$ 1,547,932 \$ 13,703

The following information provides insight into amounts impacting Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), both before and after-tax, within the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, which also impact Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and the associated column in the equity table above. See **Note 4 Derivatives and Fair Value Measurements** for additional information on the FSIRS.

Related Tax Effects Allocated to Each Component of Other Comprehensive Income**(Loss)**

(Thousands of dollars)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | | Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount |
| Defined benefit pension plans: | | | | | | |
| Amortization of prior service cost | \$ 334 | \$ (127) | \$ 207 | \$ 89 | \$ (34) | \$ 55 |
| Amortization of net actuarial (gain)/loss | 8,595 | (3,266) | 5,329 | 5,914 | (2,247) | 3,667 |
| Regulatory adjustment | (7,787) | 2,959 | (4,828) | (5,178) | 1,968 | (3,210) |
| Pension plans other comprehensive income (loss) | 1,142 | (434) | 708 | 825 | (313) | 512 |
| FSIRS (designated hedging activities): | | | | | | |
| Amounts reclassified into net income | 836 | (317) | 519 | 836 | (318) | 518 |
| FSIRS other comprehensive income | 836 | (317) | 519 | 836 | (318) | 518 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments: | | | | | | |
| Translation adjustments | (510) | | (510) | | | |
| Foreign currency other comprehensive income (loss) | (510) | | (510) | | | |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss) | \$ 1,468 | \$ (751) | \$ 717 | \$ 1,661 | \$ (631) | \$ 1,030 |

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| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount |
| Defined benefit pension plans: | | | | | | |
| Amortization of prior service cost | \$ 1,001 | \$ (380) | \$ 621 | \$ 266 | \$ (101) | \$ 165 |
| Amortization of net actuarial (gain)/loss | 25,786 | (9,799) | 15,987 | 17,742 | (6,742) | \$ 11,000 |
| Regulatory adjustment | (23,361) | 8,877 | (14,484) | (15,533) | 5,903 | (9,630) |
| Pension plans other comprehensive income (loss) | 3,426 | (1,302) | 2,124 | 2,475 | (940) | 1,535 |
| FSIRS (designated hedging activities): | | | | | | |
| Amounts reclassified into net income | 2,508 | (952) | 1,556 | 2,509 | (954) | 1,555 |
| FSIRS other comprehensive income | 2,508 | (952) | 1,556 | 2,509 | (954) | 1,555 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments: | | | | | | |
| Translation adjustments | (1,573) | | (1,573) | | | |
| Foreign currency other comprehensive income (loss) | (1,573) | | (1,573) | | | |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss) | \$ 4,361 | \$ (2,254) | \$ 2,107 | \$ 4,984 | \$ (1,894) | \$ 3,090 |

| | Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2015 | | | Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2014 | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount | Before- Tax Amount | Tax (Expense) or Benefit (1) | Net-of- Tax Amount |
| Defined benefit pension plans: | | | | | | |
| Net actuarial gain (loss) | \$ (173,646) | \$ 65,985 | \$ (107,661) | \$ 100,345 | \$ (38,131) | \$ 62,214 |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 1,090 | (414) | 676 | 355 | (134) | 221 |
| Amortization of net actuarial (gain)/loss | 31,700 | (12,046) | 19,654 | 26,285 | (9,988) | 16,297 |
| Prior service cost | (6,661) | 2,531 | (4,130) | | | |
| Regulatory adjustment | 132,480 | (50,343) | 82,137 | (116,412) | 44,236 | (72,176) |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Pension plans other comprehensive income (loss) | (15,037) | 5,713 | (9,324) | 10,573 | (4,017) | 6,556 |
| FSIRS (designated hedging activities): | | | | | | |
| Amounts reclassified into net income | 3,344 | (1,270) | 2,074 | 3,345 | (1,271) | 2,074 |
| FSIRS other comprehensive income (loss) | 3,344 | (1,270) | 2,074 | 3,345 | (1,271) | 2,074 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments: | | | | | | |
| Translation adjustments | (2,232) | | (2,232) | | | |
| Foreign currency other comprehensive income (loss) | (2,232) | | (2,232) | | | |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss) | \$ (13,925) | \$ 4,443 | \$ (9,482) | \$ 13,918 | \$ (5,288) | \$ 8,630 |

- (1) Tax amounts are calculated using a 38% rate. The Company has elected to indefinitely reinvest the earnings of Centuri's Canadian subsidiaries in Canada, thus preventing deferred taxes on such earnings. As a result of this assertion, the Company is not recognizing any tax effect or presenting a tax expense or benefit for the currency translation adjustment amount reported in Other Comprehensive Income, as repatriation of earnings is not anticipated.

Approximately \$2.1 million of realized losses (net of tax) related to the FSIRS, reported in Accumulated other comprehensive income (AOCI) at September 30, 2015, will be reclassified into interest expense within the next 12 months, as the related interest payments on long-term debt occur.

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The following table represents a rollforward of AOCI, presented on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets:

AOCI Rollforward

(Thousands of dollars)

| | Defined Benefit Plans | | | FSIRS | | | Foreign Currency Items | | | AOCI |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------|
| | Before-Tax | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax | Before-Tax | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax | Before-Tax | Tax (Expense) Benefit | After-Tax | |
| Beginning Balance AOCI December 31, 2014 | \$ (57,211) | \$ 21,740 | \$ (35,471) | \$ (22,688) | \$ 8,621 | \$ (14,067) | \$ (637) | \$ (637) | \$ (50,175) | |
| Translation adjustments | | | | | | | (1,573) | (1,573) | (1,573) | |
| Other comprehensive income before reclassifications | | | | | | | (1,573) | (1,573) | (1,573) | |
| FSIRS amounts reclassified from AOCI (1) | | | | 2,508 | (952) | 1,556 | | | 1,556 | |
| Amortization of prior service cost (2) | 1,001 | (380) | 621 | | | | | | 621 | |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss (2) | 25,786 | (9,799) | 15,987 | | | | | | 15,987 | |
| Regulatory adjustment (3) | (23,361) | 8,877 | (14,484) | | | | | | (14,484) | |
| Net current period other comprehensive income (loss) | 3,426 | (1,302) | 2,124 | 2,508 | (952) | 1,556 | (1,573) | (1,573) | 2,107 | |
| Less: | | | | | | | (55) | (55) | (55) | |
| Translation adjustment attributable to redeemable noncontrolling | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| interest | | | | | | | | | |
| Net current period other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Southwest Gas Corporation | 3,426 | (1,302) | 2,124 | 2,508 | (952) | 1,556 | (1,518) | (1,518) | 2,162 |
| Ending Balance AOCI September 30, 2015 | \$ (53,785) | \$ 20,438 | \$ (33,347) | \$ (20,180) | \$ 7,669 | \$ (12,511) | \$ (2,155) | \$ (2,155) | \$ (48,013) |

- (1) The FSIRS reclassification amounts are included in the Net interest deductions line item on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income.
- (2) These AOCI components are included in the computation of net periodic benefit cost (see **Note 2 Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost** for additional details).
- (3) The regulatory adjustment represents the portion of the activity above that is expected to be recovered through rates in the future (the related regulatory asset is included in the Deferred charges and other assets line item on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets).

The following table represents amounts (before income tax impacts) associated with defined benefit plans, and included in AOCI (in the table above), that have not yet been recognized in net periodic benefit cost:

Amounts Recognized in AOCI (Before Tax)

(Thousands of dollars)

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Net actuarial (loss) gain | \$ (413,345) | \$ (439,131) |
| Prior service cost | (7,372) | (8,373) |
| Less: amount recognized in regulatory assets | 366,932 | 390,293 |
| Recognized in AOCI | \$ (53,785) | \$ (57,211) |

Note 8 Acquisition of Construction Services Businesses

In October 2014, the Company, through its subsidiaries, completed the acquisition of three privately held, affiliated construction businesses. See the Company's 2014 Form 10-K and the first quarter 2015 Form 10-Q for additional information about this acquisition. While refinements were made to the estimated fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed during the first quarter of 2015, no subsequent adjustments were made to acquisition-date values. The final purchase accounting has been completed.

Note 9 Construction Services Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest

At the close of the acquisition discussed above, previous owners of the acquired companies retained an approximate 10% equity interest in the Canadian-specific businesses. The agreement, associated with that approximate 10% equity

interest, provided special dividend rights which entitled the sellers, as holders, to dividends equal to 3.4% of dividends paid at the level of Centuri, and subject to certain conditions, such interests could become exchangeable for a 3.4% equity interest in Centuri. In consideration of the underlying exchange rights of the original agreement, earnings attribution by Centuri to the previous owners has also occurred in an amount equivalent to 3.4% of Centuri earnings since October 2014. During the third quarter of 2015, the sellers formally exercised their exchange rights under the terms of that original agreement. No new rights were conveyed to the noncontrolling parties as a result of the exchange and no new consideration was involved. The ability of the sellers to redeem their holdings for cash at specified dates remains intact. The previous owners may exit their investment retained by requiring the purchase of a portion of their interest commencing July 2017 and in incremental amounts each anniversary date thereafter. The shares subject to the election cumulate (if earlier elections are not made) such that 100% of their interest retained is subject to the election beginning in July 2022. Due to the continued ability of the noncontrolling parties to redeem their interest for cash, their interest continues to be presented on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at September 30, 2015 as a Redeemable noncontrolling interest, a category of mezzanine equity (temporary equity), in accordance with SEC guidance. However, that interest, previously associated with the Canadian businesses, is now formally an interest in Centuri.

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Significant changes in the value of the redeemable noncontrolling interest are recognized as they occur, and the carrying value is adjusted as necessary at each reporting date. Guidance by the SEC indicates that downward adjustments in the value of redeemable noncontrolling interests are only permitted to the extent that upward adjustments in value were previously recognized. A floor for the noncontrolling interest was originally set at the acquisition date (in October 2014). However, U.S. GAAP generally views changes in ownership interest, where the parent retains its controlling interest, as an equity transaction, whereby the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest is adjusted to reflect the change in ownership interest in the subsidiary. In connection with the exchange rights being exercised during the third quarter, an updated valuation was conducted. A significant decrease in the value of the redeemable noncontrolling interest was recognized, due in part to the exchange option no longer being subject to probability estimates. In light of the U.S. GAAP requirement to adjust the carrying amount, a new floor has been set for the redeemable noncontrolling interest at the exchange date, with a corresponding adjustment (approximately \$6 million) made to additional paid in capital of the Company. Future adjustments to the redemption value are not permitted below the new floor. The following depicts impacts to the balance of the redeemable noncontrolling interest between the indicated periods.

| | Redeemable Noncontrolling Interest |
|---|---|
| (Thousands of dollars): | |
| Balance, December 31, 2014 | \$ 20,042 |
| Net income attributable to redeemable noncontrolling interest | 454 |
| Foreign currency exchange translation adjustment | (55) |
| Adjustment to redemption value | (6,738) |
| Balance, September 30, 2015 | \$ 13,703 |

The redemption value of the redeemable noncontrolling interest utilizes a market approach to determine a construction services enterprise value. Potential guideline publicly traded companies have been identified by using a selection criteria, including actively traded equities, their financial solvency, and other factors. Once the guideline companies are determined, enterprise value is calculated using a weighted approach of projected earnings before interest expense and taxes (EBIT) and earnings before interest expense, taxes, and depreciation and amortization expense (EBITDA). After an estimated fair value is determined, it is multiplied by 3.4%. A discount is then applied due to limitations of the nonpublic noncontrolling interest being valued. Prior to the exchange rights being exercised in the third quarter of 2015, a Monte Carlo simulation methodology was used to assign a value to the redeemable noncontrolling interest. Each quarter, market changes in the guideline companies are considered and the weighted approach to projected EBIT and EBITDA, in relation to the guideline companies, is re-evaluated to determine if value changes are necessary at each quarterly reporting date.

September 30, 2015**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Southwest Gas Corporation and its subsidiaries (the Company) consist of two business segments: natural gas operations (Southwest or the natural gas operations segment) and construction services.

Southwest is engaged in the business of purchasing, distributing, and transporting natural gas for customers in portions of Arizona, Nevada, and California. Southwest is the largest distributor of natural gas in Arizona, selling and transporting natural gas in most of central and southern Arizona, including the Phoenix and Tucson metropolitan areas. Southwest is also the largest distributor of natural gas in Nevada, serving the Las Vegas metropolitan area and northern Nevada. In addition, Southwest distributes and transports natural gas for customers in portions of California, including the Lake Tahoe area and the high desert and mountain areas in San Bernardino County.

As of September 30, 2015, Southwest had 1,938,000 residential, commercial, industrial, and other natural gas customers, of which 1,035,000 customers were located in Arizona, 713,000 in Nevada, and 190,000 in California. Residential and commercial customers represented over 99% of the total customer base. During the twelve months ended September 30, 2015, 55% of operating margin was earned in Arizona, 34% in Nevada, and 11% in California. During this same period, Southwest earned 85% of its operating margin from residential and small commercial customers, 4% from other sales customers, and 11% from transportation customers. These general patterns are expected to remain materially consistent for the foreseeable future.

Southwest recognizes operating revenues from the distribution and transportation of natural gas (and related services) to customers. Operating margin is the measure of gas operating revenues less the net cost of gas sold. Management uses operating margin as a main benchmark in comparing operating results from period to period. The principal factors affecting changes in operating margin are general rate relief (including impacts of infrastructure trackers) and customer growth. All of Southwest's service territories have decoupled rate structures, which are designed to eliminate the direct link between volumetric sales and revenue, thereby mitigating the impacts of weather variability and conservation on margin, allowing the Company to aggressively pursue energy efficiency initiatives.

Centuri Construction Group, Inc. (Centuri or the construction services segment) is a full-service underground piping contractor that primarily provides utility companies with trenching and installation, replacement, and maintenance services for energy distribution systems, and develops industrial construction solutions. Centuri operates in 20 major markets in the United States (primarily under the NPL name) and in 2 major markets in Canada (under the Link-Line and W.S. Nicholls names). Construction activity is cyclical and can be significantly impacted by changes in weather, general and local economic conditions (including the housing market), interest rates, employment levels, job growth, the equipment resale market, pipe replacement programs of utilities, and local and federal regulation (including tax rates and incentives). During the past few years, utilities have implemented or modified pipeline integrity management programs to enhance safety pursuant to federal and state mandates. These programs, coupled with recent bonus depreciation tax deduction incentives, have resulted in a significant increase in multi-year pipeline replacement projects throughout the U.S. Generally, revenues are lowest during the first quarter of the year due to less favorable winter weather conditions. Revenues typically improve as more favorable weather conditions occur during the summer and fall months. This is expected in both the U.S. and Canadian markets. In certain circumstances, such as with large bid contracts (especially those of a longer duration), or unit-price contracts with revenue caps, results may be impacted by differences between costs incurred and those anticipated when the work was originally bid.

This Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto, as well as MD&A included in the 2014 Annual Report to Shareholders, which is incorporated by reference into the 2014 Form 10-K, and the first and second quarter 2015 reports on Form 10-Q.

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September 30, 2015**Executive Summary**

The items discussed in this Executive Summary are intended to provide an overview of the results of the Company's operations. As needed, certain items are covered in greater detail in later sections of management's discussion and analysis. As reflected in the table below, the natural gas operations segment accounted for an average of 85% of twelve-month-to-date consolidated net income over the past two years. As such, management's discussion and analysis is primarily focused on that segment. Natural gas sales are seasonal, peaking during the winter months; therefore, results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

Summary Operating Results

| | Period Ended September 30, | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Three Months | | Nine Months | | Twelve Months | |
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (In thousands, except per share amounts) | | | | | |
| <u>Contribution to net income (loss)</u> | | | | | | |
| Natural gas operations | \$ (18,939) | \$ (11,452) | \$ 59,325 | \$ 62,945 | \$ 113,252 | \$ 117,797 |
| Construction services | 14,205 | 13,422 | 12,873 | 19,435 | 17,692 | 21,886 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ (4,734) | \$ 1,970 | \$ 72,198 | \$ 82,380 | \$ 130,944 | \$ 139,683 |
| <u>Average number of common shares outstanding</u> | | | | | | |
| | 47,102 | 46,513 | 46,863 | 46,485 | 46,777 | 46,451 |
| <u>Basic earnings (loss) per share</u> | | | | | | |
| Consolidated | \$ (0.10) | \$ 0.04 | \$ 1.54 | \$ 1.77 | \$ 2.80 | \$ 3.01 |
| <u>Natural Gas Operations</u> | | | | | | |
| Operating margin | \$ 155,152 | \$ 153,040 | \$ 632,133 | \$ 621,650 | \$ 887,214 | \$ 876,045 |

3rd Quarter 2015 Overview

Natural gas operations highlights include the following:

- Operating margin increased \$2 million compared to the prior-year quarter
- Operating expenses increased \$8.7 million compared to the prior-year quarter
- Net financing costs decreased \$900,000 compared to the prior-year quarter
- Other income decreased \$4 million between quarters
- Redemption of the \$20 million 5.25% 2003 Series D IDRBs (originally due in 2038)

Construction services highlights include the following:

- Revenues increased \$79.5 million, or 39%, compared to the prior-year quarter
- Construction expenses increased \$72.8 million, or 42%, compared to the prior-year quarter

Net interest deductions increased \$1.9 million due to acquisition-related debt

Customer Growth. Southwest completed 22,000 first-time meter sets, but realized 26,000 net new customers over the last twelve months, an increase of 1.4%. The incremental additions reflect a return to service of customer meters on previously vacant homes. Southwest projects customer growth of about 1.5% for the full year 2015.

Company-Owned Life Insurance (COLI). Southwest has life insurance policies on members of management and other key employees to indemnify itself against the loss of talent, expertise, and knowledge, as well as to provide indirect funding for certain nonqualified benefit plans. The COLI policies have a combined net death benefit value of approximately \$235 million at September 30, 2015. The net cash surrender value of these policies (which is the cash amount that would be received if Southwest voluntarily terminated the policies) is approximately \$97.3 million at September 30, 2015 and is included in the caption *Other property and investments* on the balance sheet. The Company currently intends to hold the COLI policies for their duration. Current tax regulations provide for tax-free treatment of life insurance (death benefit) proceeds. Therefore, changes in the cash surrender value components of

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COLI policies as they progress toward the ultimate death benefits are also recorded without tax consequences. Cash surrender values are directly influenced by the investment portfolio underlying the insurance policies. This portfolio includes both equity and fixed income (mutual fund) investments. As a result, generally the cash surrender value (but not the net death benefit) moves up and down consistent with the movements in the broader stock and bond markets. As indicated in Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, cash surrender values of COLI policies (including incremental death benefits) decreased \$3.9 million in the third quarter of 2015 and decreased \$200,000 in the twelve months ended September 30, 2015. These decreases are due to declines in the equity markets during the third quarter and during the last twelve months. Management generally expects average returns of \$3 million to \$5 million annually on the COLI policies, excluding any net death benefits recognized.

Liquidity. Southwest believes its liquidity position is sufficient. Southwest has a \$300 million credit facility maturing in March 2020. The facility is provided through a consortium of eight major banking institutions. The maximum amount outstanding on the credit facility (including a commercial paper program) during the third quarter of 2015 was \$97 million, which was also the amount outstanding on the long-term portion of the credit facility (including \$50 million under the commercial paper program) at September 30, 2015. No borrowings were outstanding on the short-term portion of the credit facility. Southwest has no significant debt maturities prior to 2017. In September 2015, the Company redeemed the \$20 million 5.25% 2003 Series D IDRBS primarily using cash on hand and borrowings under its \$300 million credit facility.

Centuri has a \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility maturing in October 2019. The facility is provided through a consortium of six banking institutions and consists of a \$150 million term loan and a revolving line of credit of \$150 million. The maximum amount outstanding on the credit facility during the third quarter of 2015 was \$225 million. At September 30, 2015, there was approximately \$47 million, net of letters of credit, available under the line of credit.

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September 30, 2015**Results of Natural Gas Operations**Quarterly Analysis

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (Thousands of dollars) | |
| Gas operating revenues | \$ 219,420 | \$ 226,027 |
| Net cost of gas sold | 64,268 | 72,987 |
| Operating margin | 155,152 | 153,040 |
| Operations and maintenance expense | 100,102 | 93,389 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 52,672 | 50,533 |
| Taxes other than income taxes | 11,652 | 11,835 |
| Operating income (loss) | (9,274) | (2,717) |
| Other income (deductions) | (3,525) | 442 |
| Net interest deductions | 16,259 | 17,159 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | (29,058) | (19,434) |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | (10,119) | (7,982) |
| Contribution to consolidated net income (loss) | \$ (18,939) | \$ (11,452) |

Operating margin increased \$2 million between quarters. New customers contributed \$1 million in operating margin during the third quarter of 2015, as approximately 26,000 net new customers were added during the last twelve months. A combined \$1 million of rate relief in the California jurisdiction and Paiute Pipeline Company (see **Rates and Regulatory Proceedings**) provided the remainder of the increase.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$6.7 million, or 7%, between quarters and included the impacts of a \$3.2 million increase in employee pension and medical costs. Higher employee counts to effectively provide service to the Company's growing customer base and rising general costs also contributed to the increase.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$2.1 million, or 4%, between quarters. Average gas plant in service for the current quarter increased \$264 million, or 5%, compared to the corresponding quarter a year ago. This was attributable to pipeline capacity reinforcement work, franchise requirements, scheduled and accelerated pipe replacement activities, and new business.

Other income, which principally includes returns on COLI policies and non-utility expenses, decreased \$4 million between quarters. The current quarter reflects a \$3.9 million decline in COLI-related income, while the prior-year quarter reflected COLI policy cash surrender value decreases of \$300,000 (net of death benefits recognized).

Net interest deductions decreased \$900,000 between quarters. The decrease primarily resulted from the redemptions of \$65 million 5.25% 2004 Series A IDRBS in November 2014 and \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B IDRBS in May 2015 and lower interest expense on variable rate IDRBS, partially offset by increased interest expense on PGA balances.

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September 30, 2015Nine-Month Analysis

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (Thousands of dollars) | |
| Gas operating revenues | \$ 1,059,178 | \$ 983,999 |
| Net cost of gas sold | 427,045 | 362,349 |
| Operating margin | 632,133 | 621,650 |
| Operations and maintenance expense | 294,956 | 293,417 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 159,259 | 152,540 |
| Taxes other than income taxes | 37,063 | 34,256 |
| Operating income | 140,855 | 141,437 |
| Other income (deductions) | (611) | 4,902 |
| Net interest deductions | 48,104 | 51,445 |
| Income before income taxes | 92,140 | 94,894 |
| Income tax expense | 32,815 | 31,949 |
| Contribution to consolidated net income | \$ 59,325 | \$ 62,945 |

The contribution to consolidated net income from natural gas operations decreased \$3.6 million in the first nine months of 2015 compared to the first nine months of 2014. The decline was primarily due to an increase in operating expenses and a decrease in other income, partially offset by improved operating margin and a decline in net interest deductions.

Operating margin increased \$10 million between the nine-month periods. New customers contributed \$6 million in operating margin during the first nine months of 2015. A combined \$4 million of rate relief in the California jurisdiction and Paiute Pipeline Company (see **Rates and Regulatory Proceedings**) provided the remainder of the increase.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$1.5 million between periods, due primarily to general cost increases and higher pension expense during the current nine-month period. These increases were partially offset by certain expenses that were higher in the prior-year period, including a \$5 million legal accrual in the first quarter of 2014 and \$1.1 million in rent expense associated with a portion of the corporate headquarters complex that the Company subsequently purchased in July 2014.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$6.7 million, or 4%, between periods. Average gas plant in service for the current period increased \$275 million, or 5%, compared to the corresponding period a year ago. This was attributable to pipeline capacity reinforcement work, franchise requirements, scheduled and accelerated pipe replacement activities, and new business. Increases in depreciation from these plant additions were partially offset by

lower depreciation rates in California.

Taxes other than income taxes increased \$2.8 million between periods primarily due to higher property taxes in Arizona.

Other income decreased \$5.5 million between periods. The current period reflects COLI policy cash surrender value decreases of \$2.6 million, while the prior-year period included \$2.9 million in COLI-related income.

Net interest deductions decreased \$3.3 million between periods. The decrease primarily resulted from the redemptions of \$65 million 5.25% 2004 Series A IDRBS in November 2014 and \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B IDRBS in May 2015 and lower interest expense on variable rate IDRBS, partially offset by increased interest expense on PGA balances.

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September 30, 2015Twelve-Month Analysis

| | Twelve Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (Thousands of dollars) | |
| Gas operating revenues | \$ 1,457,266 | \$ 1,356,653 |
| Net cost of gas sold | 570,052 | 480,608 |
| Operating margin | 887,214 | 876,045 |
| Operations and maintenance expense | 385,271 | 390,328 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 210,863 | 201,896 |
| Taxes other than income taxes | 50,059 | 45,786 |
| Operating income | 241,021 | 238,035 |
| Other income (deductions) | 1,652 | 8,989 |
| Net interest deductions | 64,958 | 68,656 |
| Income before income taxes | 177,715 | 178,368 |
| Income tax expense | 64,463 | 60,571 |
| Contribution to consolidated net income | \$ 113,252 | \$ 117,797 |

Contribution to consolidated net income from natural gas operations decreased by \$4.5 million between the twelve-month periods of 2015 and 2014. The decline was primarily due to an increase in operating expenses and a decrease in other income, partially offset by improved operating margin and lower net interest deductions.

Operating margin increased \$11 million between periods including a combined \$5 million of rate relief in the California jurisdiction and Paiute Pipeline Company (see **Rates and Regulatory Proceedings**). Customer growth provided \$8 million of the increase. Operating margin associated with customers outside the decoupling mechanisms and other miscellaneous revenues declined by \$2 million.

Operations and maintenance expense decreased \$5.1 million between periods. Legal expenses in the prior-year period were higher than the current-year period primarily due to a \$5 million legal accrual in the first quarter of 2014. Rent expense associated with the corporate headquarters complex declined \$1.6 million between periods. Partially offsetting these decreases were general cost increases and higher employee-related expenses.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$9 million, or 4%. Average gas plant in service for the current period increased \$288 million, or 5%, as compared to the prior period. This was attributable to pipeline capacity reinforcement work, franchise requirements, scheduled and accelerated pipe replacement activities, and new business. Increases in depreciation from these plant additions were partially offset by depreciation rate decreases in California.

Taxes other than income taxes increased \$4.3 million between periods primarily due to higher property taxes in Arizona, principally related to net plant additions.

Other income decreased \$7.3 million between the twelve-month periods of 2015 and 2014. The current period reflects a \$200,000 decline in COLI policy cash surrender values, while the prior-year period included \$7.2 million of COLI-related income including net death benefits recognized.

Net interest deductions decreased \$3.7 million between periods. The decrease primarily resulted from the redemptions of \$65 million 5.25% 2004 Series A IDRBS in November 2014 and \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B IDRBS in May 2015 and lower interest expense on variable rate IDRBS, partially offset by increased interest expense on PGA balances.

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September 30, 2015**Results of Construction Services**Results of Construction Services

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | | Twelve Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|---|------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| (Thousands of dollars) | | | | | | |
| Construction revenues | \$ 285,976 | \$ 206,448 | \$ 719,042 | \$ 510,025 | \$ 948,637 | \$ 675,728 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | |
| Construction expenses | 246,755 | 173,937 | 647,512 | 444,778 | 850,591 | 595,093 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 13,804 | 11,504 | 41,639 | 34,574 | 55,948 | 45,788 |
| Operating income | 25,417 | 21,007 | 29,891 | 30,673 | 42,098 | 34,847 |
| Other income (deductions) | (135) | (2) | (615) | 13 | (686) | 37 |
| Net interest deductions | 2,142 | 262 | 5,991 | 800 | 8,961 | 1,024 |
| Income before income taxes | 23,140 | 20,743 | 23,285 | 29,886 | 32,451 | 33,860 |
| Income tax expense | 8,411 | 7,364 | 9,878 | 10,580 | 14,074 | 12,217 |
| Net income | 14,729 | 13,379 | 13,407 | 19,306 | 18,377 | 21,643 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests | 524 | (43) | 534 | (129) | 685 | (243) |
| Contribution to consolidated net income attributable to Centuri | \$ 14,205 | \$ 13,422 | \$ 12,873 | \$ 19,435 | \$ 17,692 | \$ 21,886 |

In October 2014, construction services operations were expanded by the acquisition of the Link-Line group of companies. Line items in the tables above reflect the results of the acquired companies only since the acquisition date.

Quarterly Analysis. Net income contribution for the current quarter increased \$783,000 compared to the same period of 2014. The improvement was primarily due to additional pipe replacement work, partially offset by increases in depreciation and amortization and higher interest expense.

Revenues increased \$79.5 million, or 39%, in the third quarter of 2015 when compared to the prior year period, due to the inclusion of revenues of the recently acquired companies (\$41.4 million) and additional pipe replacement work. Governmental-mandated pipeline safety-related programs have resulted in many utilities undertaking multi-year distribution pipe replacement projects. NPL successfully bid on pipe replacement projects with its utility customers throughout the United States.

Construction expenses increased \$72.8 million, or 42%, between quarters, due to costs associated with operations of the acquired companies (\$39.2 million) and the additional pipe replacement work. Gains on sale of equipment

(reflected as an offset to construction expenses) were approximately \$450,000 and \$1.5 million for the third quarters of 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$2.3 million between quarters due to amortization of finite-lived intangible assets recognized from the acquisition (\$740,000) and incremental depreciation from the acquired companies (\$1.3 million).

Net interest deductions were \$2.1 million in the third quarter of 2015 compared to \$262,000 in the third quarter of 2014. The increase was due primarily to interest expense and amortization of debt issuance costs associated with the \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility entered into coincident with the acquisition of the Link-Line group of companies.

Nine-Month Analysis. Contribution to consolidated net income for the current nine-month period decreased \$6.6 million compared to the same period of 2014. The decline was primarily due to increases in depreciation and amortization, higher interest expense, and a \$7.7 million loss reserve recorded on a construction project, partially offset by an increase in pipe replacement work.

Revenues increased \$209 million, or 41%, in the current nine-month period when compared to the same period of 2014, due in large part to revenues of the recently acquired companies (\$121.6 million) and additional pipe replacement work. Construction expenses increased \$202.7 million, or 46%, between periods, primarily due to the operations associated with the acquired companies (\$126.4 million) and the additional pipe replacement work noted above.

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During the first half of 2015, construction expenses were impacted by a loss reserve of \$7.6 million recorded on an industrial construction project in Canada. In the third quarter of 2015, the loss reserve was increased by \$100,000 for a total of \$7.7 million. Delays in delivery of critical equipment to the job site resulted in production inefficiencies and an increase in total project costs. Work commenced on this project in March 2015 and was completed in the third quarter. In situations where losses on a project are possible, accounting rules and adopted policies require that future costs to complete the project be estimated and recognized currently, but potential incremental revenue to cover such costs is recognized only if and when change orders are formally approved. Additional change orders previously submitted are being negotiated which may reduce the estimated loss reserve. In October, Centuri and the general contractor agreed to mediation to attempt to resolve open change orders. Mediation is scheduled to occur in mid-November. Management cannot estimate the amount or likelihood of a favorable resolution in mediation. If unsuccessful, Centuri will consider other options to resolve the open change orders.

Gains on sale of equipment (reflected as an offset to construction expenses) were \$3 million and \$5.7 million for the first nine months of 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$7.1 million between periods due to amortization of finite-lived intangible assets (\$3.5 million) and incremental depreciation from the acquired companies (\$3.6 million).

Net interest deductions were \$6 million in the first nine months of 2015 compared to \$800,000 in the first nine months of 2014. The increase was due primarily to interest expense and amortization of debt issuance costs associated with the \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility entered into coincident with the acquisition.

Twelve-Month Analysis. Contribution to consolidated net income from construction services for the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2015 declined \$4.2 million compared to the same period of 2014. The decrease was primarily due to increases in depreciation and amortization and higher interest expense. An increase in pipe replacement work partially offset the decrease.

Revenues increased \$272.9 million, or 40%, in the current twelve-month period compared to the same period of 2014 primarily due to additional pipe replacement work in the current period and the inclusion of revenues of the acquired companies (\$175.9 million) beginning in the fourth quarter of 2014. During the past several years, the construction services segment has focused its efforts on obtaining pipe replacement work under both blanket contracts and incremental bid projects. For the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, revenues from replacement work were 68% and 70%, respectively, of total revenues.

Construction expenses increased \$255.5 million, or 43%, due to additional pipe replacement work during the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 and construction costs associated with the acquired companies (\$175.8 million). During the current period, construction expenses included the loss reserve of \$7.7 million recorded on the construction project discussed in the *Nine-Month Analysis* above. General and administrative expense (included in construction expenses) increased \$15.6 million including \$14.2 million from the recently acquired companies and acquisition costs (\$5 million). Offsetting these increases was approximately \$4 million in the prior period associated with a legal settlement. Gains on sale of equipment (reflected as an offset to construction expenses) were \$3.5 million and \$6.8 million for the twelve-month periods of 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$10.2 million between the current and prior-year periods due to the amortization on finite-lived intangible assets recognized from the acquisition (\$5 million) and incremental depreciation from the acquired companies (\$4.8 million).

Net interest deductions were \$9 million for the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2015 compared to \$1 million for the corresponding period in 2014. The increase was due in large part to interest expense and amortization of debt issuance costs associated with the \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility entered into coincident with the acquisition.

September 30, 2015**Rates and Regulatory Proceedings**

Customer-Owned Yardline (COYL) Program. The Company received approval, in connection with its most recent Arizona general rate case, to implement a program to conduct leak surveys, and if leaks were present, to offer to replace and relocate service lines and meters for approximately 100,000 Arizona customers whose meters are set off from the customer's home, which is not a traditional configuration. Customers with this configuration are responsible for the cost of maintaining these lines and are subject to the immediate cessation of natural gas service if low-pressure leaks occur. To facilitate this program, the Company was authorized to collect estimated leak survey costs in rates commencing in 2012. As a result of the leak survey and replacement efforts to date, the Company has determined that there are approximately 84,500 remaining active COYL customers in Southwest's Arizona service territory. Effective June 2013, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) authorized a surcharge to recover the costs of depreciation and pre-tax return the Company would have received if the additional pipe replacement costs themselves had been included in rate base concurrent with the most recent Arizona general rate case. The surcharge is revised annually as the program progresses, with the undepreciated plant balance to be incorporated in rate base at the time of the next Arizona general rate case. In January 2014, the Company received approval to add a Phase II component to the COYL program to include the replacement of non-leaking COYLs, which was subsequently revised effective June 2014. Resources continue to be focused on contacting customers within replacement project areas to participate in the Phase II meter relocation. In February 2015, the Company filed to increase the surcharge revenue from \$1.5 million to \$2.5 million to reflect additional costs incurred for both Phase I and Phase II. This request was based on total capital expenditures of \$16 million, \$6.3 million of which was incurred during 2014. In May 2015, the ACC issued a decision approving the surcharge application, effective in June 2015.

LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) Facility. In January 2014, Southwest filed an application with the ACC seeking preapproval to construct, operate and maintain a 233,000 dekatherm LNG facility in southern Arizona and to recover the actual costs, including the establishment of a regulatory asset. This facility is intended to enhance service reliability and flexibility in natural gas deliveries in the southern Arizona area by providing a local storage option, operated by Southwest and connected directly to its distribution system. Southwest requested approval of the actual cost of the project (including those facilities necessary to connect the proposed storage tank to Southwest's existing distribution system). In December 2014, Southwest received an order from the ACC (Order) granting pre-approval of Southwest's application to construct the LNG facility and the deferral of costs, up to \$50 million. The authorization to defer costs expires November 1, 2017 (from which point, expenditures incurred would not be eligible for deferral) and also requires any unquantified cost savings to be deferred. Any gas costs incurred that are not related to the initial construction and placement of the facility are to be recovered through the PGA mechanism. The Company purchased the site for the facility in October 2015 and is preparing the construction requirements bid package for potential contractors. The contract to construct the facility is currently expected to be in place near the end of the first quarter of 2016 and construction is expected to take approximately two to three years to complete. The Company anticipates including a proposal for the ratemaking treatment of facility costs as part of its next Arizona rate case filing.

Infrastructure Replacement Mechanisms. In January 2014, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) approved final rules for a mechanism to defer and recover certain costs associated with accelerated replacement of non-revenue producing infrastructure. The regulations provide for the establishment of regulatory assets that recover the depreciation expense and authorized pre-tax rate of return of infrastructure replacement investments between rate cases, which also allows Southwest to develop rates to recover the associated amounts in a future general rate case proceeding, at which time the plant will be rolled into rate base. Southwest made a filing in May 2014, referred to as a Gas Infrastructure Replacement (GIR) Advance Application, identifying early vintage plastic pipe (EVPP) and

vintage steel pipe (VSP) projects for replacement beginning in January 2015. In October 2014, the PUCN approved EVPP replacement expenditures of \$14.4 million for 2015. In June 2015, Southwest filed its GIR Advance Application with the PUCN proposing \$43.5 million of accelerated pipe replacements (subject to the GIR mechanism). Once completed, the annualized revenue requirement associated with the accelerated replacement is estimated at \$4.6 million. In October 2015, the PUCN approved the GIR Advance Application, granting Southwest the authority to replace the \$43.5 million of infrastructure under the GIR mechanism. In October 2015, management filed a rate application to reset the GIR surcharge to reflect annualized revenues of \$4.5 million. The rate filing was based upon projects placed in service by August 2015, with rates anticipated to be made effective in January 2016.

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Expansion and Economic Development Legislation. In February 2015, legislation (SB 151) was introduced in Nevada to require the PUCN to adopt regulations authorizing natural gas utilities to expand their infrastructure consistent with a program of economic development. This includes providing natural gas service to unserved and underserved areas in Nevada, as well as attracting and retaining utility customers and accommodating the expansion of existing business customers. SB 151 was signed into law in May 2015. Draft regulations are being reviewed by the Legislative Council Bureau and final regulations are expected to be approved by the PUCN by the end of the year.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Jurisdiction.

General Rate Case. Paiute Pipeline Company (Paiute), a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest, filed a general rate case with the FERC in February 2014. The filing fulfilled an obligation from the settlement agreement reached in the 2009 Paiute general rate case. In September 2014, Paiute reached an agreement in principle with the FERC Staff and intervenors to settle the case. In October 2014, Paiute requested, and was granted, the authority to place the settlement rates into effect on an interim basis effective September 2014. In February 2015, the FERC issued a letter order approving the settlement as filed. Tariff charges in compliance with the settlement were filed in March 2015. In addition to agreeing to rate design changes to encourage longer-term contracts with its shippers, the settlement resulted in an annual revenue increase of \$2.4 million, plus a \$1.3 million depreciation reduction. The settlement implies an 11.5% pre-tax rate of return. Also, as part of this agreement, Paiute agreed not to file a rate case prior to May 2016, but no later than May 2019.

Elko County Expansion Project. During the second and third quarters of 2013, Paiute notified present and potential shippers of its plans to expand its existing transmission system to provide additional firm transportation-service capacity in the Elko County, Nevada area. This additional capacity is required to meet growing natural gas demands caused by increased residential and business load and the greater energy needs of mining operations in the area. Through the open season process, shippers responded with substantial interest. In October 2013, Paiute submitted a filing with the FERC requesting that its Staff initiate a pre-filing review of the proposed expansion project; a certificate application for the project was filed in June 2014. In October 2014, the FERC issued a notice of schedule for environmental review for this project. A preliminarily favorable environmental assessment of the proposed project was issued by the FERC in January 2015. In May 2015, the FERC issued an order authorizing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Paiute to construct and operate the Elko County Expansion Project, and subsequently provided a formal Notice to Proceed. Construction began in the second quarter of 2015 and is progressing. The cost to complete this project has been estimated at approximately \$35 million and is targeted to be in service by the end of 2015.

PGA Filings

The rate schedules in all of Southwest's service territories contain provisions that permit adjustments to rates as the cost of purchased gas changes. These deferred energy provisions and purchased gas adjustment clauses are collectively referred to as PGA clauses. Differences between gas costs recovered from customers and amounts paid for gas by Southwest result in over- or under-collections. At September 30, 2015, under-collections in California resulted in an asset of \$815,000 and over-collections in Arizona and northern and southern Nevada collectively resulted in a liability of \$44.7 million on the Company's consolidated balance sheet. Gas cost rates paid to suppliers have been lower than amounts recovered from customers during the first nine months of 2015. Tariff rates have been adjusted in all jurisdictions during this period. The gas cost rates for southern Nevada were further reduced in October to reduce the over-collected balance. Filings to change rates in accordance with PGA clauses are subject to audit by

state regulatory commission staffs. PGA changes impact cash flows but have no direct impact on profit margin. However, gas cost deferrals and recoveries can impact comparisons between periods of individual consolidated income statement components. These include Gas operating revenues, Net cost of gas sold, Net interest deductions, and Other income (deductions).

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The following table presents Southwest's outstanding PGA balances receivable/(payable) (millions of dollars):

| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 | September 30, 2014 |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Arizona | \$ (6.0) | \$ 48.4 | \$ 44.3 |
| Northern Nevada | (4.3) | 10.2 | 6.7 |
| Southern Nevada | (34.4) | 20.4 | 21.7 |
| California | 0.8 | 8.6 | 5.6 |
| | \$ (43.9) | \$ 87.6 | \$ 78.3 |

Capital Resources and Liquidity

Cash on hand and cash flows from operations in the past twelve months provided the majority of cash used in investing activities (primarily for construction expenditures and property additions). During the past three years, the Company was able to achieve cost savings from debt refinancing and strategic debt redemptions. The Company's capitalization strategy is to maintain an appropriate balance of equity and debt to maintain strong investment-grade credit ratings, which should minimize interest costs.

Cash Flows

Operating Cash Flows. Cash flows provided by consolidated operating activities increased \$150.5 million in the first nine months of 2015 as compared to the same period of 2014. The improvement in operating cash flows was primarily attributable to temporary increases in cash flows from working capital components overall (notably the collection of deferred purchased gas costs).

Investing Cash Flows. Cash used in consolidated investing activities increased \$48.8 million in the first nine months of 2015 as compared to the same period of 2014. The increase was primarily due to additional construction expenditures, including scheduled and accelerated pipe replacement, and equipment purchases by Centuri due to the increased replacement construction work of its customers. In association with the acquisition of construction services businesses, a \$9 million working capital adjustment related to a contractual true-up period was made in the first quarter of 2015.

Financing Cash Flows. Net cash used in consolidated financing activities increased \$105.3 million in the first nine months of 2015 as compared to 2014. Repayments of long-term amounts outstanding on Southwest's revolving credit and commercial paper facility were \$53 million in the current period, and borrowings under the facility were \$40 million in the prior-year period. An additional \$5 million was repaid on the short-term portion of Southwest's revolving credit facility in the current period. Repayment of long-term debt in the first nine months of 2015 included the repayment of the \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B and \$20 million 5.25% 2003 Series D IDRBS. The long-term debt issuance amounts and the remaining retirements of long-term debt primarily relate to borrowings and repayments under Centuri's secured credit facility. The majority of Centuri's borrowings during the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 are associated with the acquisition of construction services businesses noted previously. Southwest also issued approximately \$35 million in stock under its Equity Shelf Program. See also **Note 5 - Common Stock**, and the discussion below. Dividends paid increased in the first nine months of 2015 as compared to the first

nine months of 2014 as a result of an increase in the quarterly dividend rate and an increase in the number of shares outstanding.

The capital requirements and resources of the Company generally are determined independently for the natural gas operations and construction services segments. Each business activity is generally responsible for securing its own financing sources.

Gas Segment Construction Expenditures, Debt Maturities, and Financing

During the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2015, construction expenditures for the natural gas operations segment were \$384 million. The majority of these expenditures represented costs associated with scheduled and accelerated replacement of existing transmission, distribution, and general plant. Cash flows from operating activities of Southwest were \$458 million during this time, which provided sufficient funding for construction expenditures and dividend requirements of the natural gas operations segment.

Southwest estimates natural gas segment construction expenditures during the three-year period ending December 31, 2017 will be approximately \$1.3 billion. Of this amount, approximately \$445 million are expected to

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be incurred in calendar year 2015. Southwest plans to accelerate projects that improve system flexibility and reliability (including replacement of early vintage plastic and steel pipe). Significant replacement activities are expected to continue during the next several years. During the three-year period, cash flows from operating activities of Southwest are expected to provide approximately 75% of the funding for the gas operations total construction expenditures and dividend requirements. Any additional cash requirements are expected to be provided by existing credit facilities and/or other external financing sources. The timing, types, and amounts of any additional external financings will be dependent on a number of factors, including the cost of gas purchases, conditions in the capital markets, timing and amounts of rate relief, growth levels in Southwest's service areas, and earnings. External financings could include the issuance of both debt and equity securities, bank and other short-term borrowings, and other forms of financing.

In May 2015, the Company redeemed at par the \$31.2 million 5.00% 2004 Series B IDRBs originally due in 2033. The Company facilitated the redemption primarily from cash on hand and borrowings under its \$300 million credit facility. In September 2015, the Company redeemed at par the \$20 million 5.25% 2003 Series D IDRBs originally due in 2038. The Company facilitated the redemption primarily from cash on hand and borrowings under its \$300 million credit facility.

In March 2015, the Company filed with the SEC a shelf registration statement which includes a prospectus detailing the Company's plans to sell up to \$100 million of the Company's common stock over a period of time. In March 2015, the Company entered into a Sales Agency Agreement with BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC relating to this issuance and sale of shares of the Company's common stock (Equity Shelf Program). Sales of the shares will continue to be made at market prices prevailing at the time of sale. Net proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock under the Equity Shelf Program are intended for general corporate purposes, including the acquisition of property for the construction, completion, extension or improvement of pipeline systems and facilities located in and around the communities Southwest serves.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2015, 645,225 shares were issued in at-the-market offerings at an average price of \$55.05 per share with gross proceeds of \$35.5 million, agent commissions of \$355,000, and net proceeds of \$35.2 million. See **Note 5 Common Stock** for more information.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2015, the Company issued approximately 207,000 additional shares of common stock collectively through the Restricted Stock/Unit Plan, the Management Incentive Plan, and the Stock Incentive Plan. The Company raised approximately \$741,000 from the issuance of shares of common stock through the Stock Incentive Plan.

Dividend Policy

In reviewing dividend policy, the Board of Directors (Board) considers the adequacy and sustainability of earnings and cash flows of the Company and its subsidiaries; the strength of the Company's capital structure; the sustainability of the dividend through all business cycles; and whether the dividend is within a normal payout range for its respective businesses. As a result of its ongoing review of dividend policy, in February 2015, the Board increased the quarterly dividend from 36.5 cents to 40.5 cents per share, effective with the June 2015 payment. Over time, the Board intends to increase the dividend such that the payout ratio approaches a local distribution company peer group average (approximately 55% to 65%), while maintaining the Company's stable and strong credit ratings and the ability to effectively fund future rate base growth. The timing and amount of any future increases will be based upon the Board's continued review of the Company's dividend rate in the context of the performance of the Company's two

operating segments and their future growth prospects.

Liquidity

Liquidity refers to the ability of an enterprise to generate sufficient amounts of cash through its operating activities and external financing to meet its cash requirements. Several general factors (some of which are out of the control of the Company) that could significantly affect liquidity in future years include: variability of natural gas prices, changes in the ratemaking policies of regulatory commissions, regulatory lag, customer growth in the natural gas segment's service territories, Southwest's ability to access and obtain capital from external sources, interest rates, changes in income tax laws, pension funding requirements, inflation, and the level of Company earnings. Natural gas prices and related gas cost recovery rates have historically had the most significant impact on Company liquidity.

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On an interim basis, Southwest defers over- or under-collections of gas costs to PGA balancing accounts. In addition, Southwest uses this mechanism to either refund amounts over-collected or recoup amounts under-collected as compared to the price paid for natural gas during the period since the last PGA rate change went into effect. At September 30, 2015, the combined balance in the PGA accounts totaled an over-collection of \$43.9 million. See **PGA Filings** for more information.

The Company has a \$300 million revolving credit facility that is scheduled to expire in March 2020. Southwest has designated \$150 million of the \$300 million facility for long-term borrowing needs and the remaining \$150 million for working capital purposes. At September 30, 2015, \$97 million was outstanding on the long-term portion of the credit facility (including \$50 million under the commercial paper program); there were no borrowings outstanding on the short-term portion. The credit facility can be used as necessary to meet liquidity requirements, including temporarily financing under-collected PGA balances, if any, or meeting the refund needs of over-collected balances. This credit facility has been adequate for Southwest's working capital needs outside of funds raised through operations and other types of external financing.

The Company has a \$50 million commercial paper program. Any issuance under the commercial paper program is supported by the Company's current revolving credit facility and, therefore, does not represent additional borrowing capacity. Any borrowing under the commercial paper program will be designated as long-term debt. Interest rates for the commercial paper program are calculated at the current commercial paper rate during the borrowing term. At September 30, 2015, \$50 million was outstanding under this program.

Centuri has a \$300 million secured revolving credit and term loan facility that is scheduled to expire in October 2019. At September 30, 2015, \$209 million was outstanding on the Centuri secured credit facility.

The following table sets forth the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the Company. Due to the seasonal nature of the Company's business, these ratios are computed on a twelve-month basis:

| | For the Twelve Months Ended | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| | September 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | 3.32 | 3.58 |

Earnings are defined as the sum of pretax income plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of all interest expense including capitalized interest, one-third of rent expense (which approximates the interest component of such expense), and net amortized debt costs.

Forward-Looking Statements

This quarterly report contains statements which constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (Reform Act). All statements other than statements of historical fact included or incorporated by reference in this quarterly report are forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding the Company's plans, objectives, goals, intentions, projections, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions. The words may, if, will, should, could, expect, plan,

believe, estimate, predict, project, continue, forecast, intend, promote, seek, and similar words are generally used and intended to identify forward-looking statements. For example, statements regarding operating margin patterns, customer growth, the composition of our customer base, price volatility, seasonal patterns, payment of debt, interest savings, the Company's COLI strategy, annual COLI returns, replacement market and new construction market, amount and timing for completion of estimated future construction expenditures, including the LNG facility in southern Arizona and the Paiute expansion in Elko County, Nevada, forecasted operating cash flows and results of operations, net earnings impacts from gas infrastructure replacement surcharges, funding sources of cash requirements, sufficiency of working capital and current credit facilities, bank lending practices, the Company's views regarding its liquidity position, ability to raise funds and receive external financing capacity and the intent and ability to issue the remaining capacity under the Equity Shelf Program, future dividend increases, earnings trends, the effect of any rate changes or regulatory proceedings, infrastructure replacement mechanisms and the COYL program, statements regarding future gas prices, gas purchase contracts and derivative financial instruments, recoverability of regulatory assets, the impact of certain legal proceedings, decisions to consider other options to resolve open construction change orders, the expectation that

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goodwill assigned to Brigadier will be deductible for tax purposes, expected timing of draft regulations associated with SB 151 legislation, the timing and impact of the proposed holding company reorganization, and the timing and results of future rate hearings and approvals are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are intended to be subject to the safe harbor protection provided by the Reform Act.

A number of important factors affecting the business and financial results of the Company could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, customer growth rates, conditions in the housing market, the ability to recover costs through the PGA mechanisms or other regulatory assets, the effects of regulation/deregulation, the timing and amount of rate relief, changes in rate design, changes in gas procurement practices, changes in capital requirements and funding, the impact of conditions in the capital markets on financing costs, changes in construction expenditures and financing, changes in operations and maintenance expenses, accounting changes, future liability claims, changes in pipeline capacity for the transportation of gas and related costs, results of Centuri bid work, impacts of structural and management changes at Centuri, Centuri construction expenses, differences between actual and originally expected outcomes of Centuri bid or other fixed-price construction agreements and ability to successfully procure new work, the outcome of Centuri construction change orders, acquisitions and management's plans related thereto, competition, our ability to raise capital in external financings, and the true-up of amounts acquired in connection with the acquisition of construction services businesses, including income taxes and ongoing evaluations in regard to goodwill and other intangible assets. In addition, the Company can provide no assurance that its discussions regarding certain trends relating to its financing and operating expenses will continue in future periods. For additional information on the risks associated with the Company's business, see **Item 1A. Risk Factors** and **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk** in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

All forward-looking statements in this quarterly report are made as of the date hereof, based on information available to the Company as of the date hereof, and the Company assumes no obligation to update or revise any of its forward-looking statements even if experience or future changes show that the indicated results or events will not be realized. **We caution you not to unduly rely on any forward-looking statement(s).**

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

See **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk** in the Company's 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC. No material changes have occurred related to the Company's disclosures about market risk.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company has established disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)) that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and to provide reasonable assurance that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Additionally,

controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or management override of the control. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and may not be detected.

Based on the most recent evaluation, as of September 30, 2015, management of the Company, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, believe the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective at attaining the level of reasonable assurance noted above.

There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) during the third quarter of 2015 that have materially affected, or are likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

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September 30, 2015**PART II OTHER INFORMATION****ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is named as a defendant in various legal proceedings. The ultimate dispositions of these proceedings are not presently determinable; however, it is the opinion of management that none of this litigation individually or in the aggregate will have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

ITEMS 1A through 3. None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES Not applicable.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

The Board of Directors (Board) of the Company authorized management to evaluate and pursue a holding company reorganization. Regulatory applications for preapproval of the reorganization were filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in October 2015. Following the reorganization, the Company would be a wholly owned subsidiary of the new parent holding company (HoldCo), and the Company's 96.6% interest in Centuri would be held by HoldCo.

Upon consummation of the reorganization, each outstanding share of Southwest Gas Corporation common stock would automatically convert into a share of common stock of HoldCo on a one-for-one basis. Shareholders of Southwest Gas Corporation immediately prior to consummation of the reorganization would own the same relative percentages of HoldCo upon the consummation of the reorganization. Shareholder approval is not required to consummate the reorganization under the provisions of the California Corporations Code. The reorganization would not result in any new tax liabilities for the Company or its stakeholders, including shareholders.

The reorganization is subject to approval by the aforementioned state regulatory commissions, consents from various third parties, and final Board approval. Subject to such conditions, the reorganization could become effective in the second half of 2016.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

The following documents are filed, or furnished, as applicable, as part of this report on Form 10-Q:

E x h i b i t - Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.

12.01

E x h i b i t - Section 302 Certifications.

31.01

E x h i b i t - Section 906 Certifications.

32.01

Exhibit 101 - The following materials from the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2015, formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) the

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, (iv) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (v) the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

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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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: November 5, 2015

Southwest Gas Corporation
(Registrant)

/s/ GREGORY J. PETERSON
Gregory J. Peterson
Vice President/Controller and Chief
Accounting Officer