

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL	
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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Armstrong Thomas J</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 5241 SPRING MOUNTAIN ROAD (Street) LAS VEGAS NV 891500002 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 05/06/2004	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>SOUTHWEST GAS CORP [SWX]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>SR VICE PRES/GAS RESOURCES</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common stock	16,140	D	
Common stock - IRA	1,100	I	By IRA
Common stock 401k	2,600	I	By 401(k)

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date				
Stock Option (right to buy) 1998	07/21/1999	07/20/2008	Common stock	5,000	23.06	D
Stock Option (right to buy) 1999	07/20/2000	07/19/2009	Common stock	5,000	28.94	D
Stock Option (right to buy) 2001	07/17/2002	07/16/2011	Common stock	10,000	23.36	D
Stock Option (right to buy) 2002	07/16/2003	07/15/2012	Common stock	10,000	21.74	D
Stock Option (right to buy) 2003	07/15/2004	07/14/2013	Common stock	10,000	21.09	D

Explanation of Responses:

By: Kathy M. Bailey, Attorney 05/21/2004
in Fact

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.