

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Southwest Gas Corporation Becomes a Member of Gold Shovel Standard**

### ***Southwest Gas Corporation Joins Gold Shovel Standard to Improve Workforce and Public Safety Through Continuous Improvements in Damage Prevention Efforts***

LAS VEGAS - Southwest Gas Corporation is proud to announce its membership in the Gold Shovel Standard (GSS), a nonprofit organization committed to improving workforce and public safety while maintaining the integrity of buried infrastructure. GSS focuses on metrics; creating GSS Communities; and increasing the use of innovative technology and safety management systems.

“Delivering natural gas safely and reliably is our priority. Southwest Gas is dedicated to ensuring safe excavation around buried infrastructure through a shared partnership with our pipeline contractors. We look forward to collaborating with operators, locators and excavators to drive damage prevention performance,” said Eric DeBonis, Southwest Gas’ Senior Vice President/Operations.

Gold Shovel Standard has rapidly become a permanent fixture in much of North America as the industry has embraced this ambitious program. The rate of adoption has dramatically increased since its implementation, and numbers of new members and participants are expanding at a healthy rate. Notably, GSS has been embraced by some of the largest telecom companies, gas and electric utilities, pipeline operators and a variety of municipalities.

“A Gold Shovel Standard Community is one where owners of water, sewer, telecommunications, gas and electric infrastructure, together with a single voice, demand that permission to excavate be reserved for companies demonstrating excellence in caution around buried infrastructure,” said Dave Mauerman, Executive Operations at Gold Shovel Standard.

#### **About Southwest Gas**

Southwest Gas Corporation provides natural gas service to 2 million customers in Arizona, California and Nevada. For more information about Southwest Gas, please visit [www.swgas.com](http://www.swgas.com)

#### **About Gold Shovel Standard**

Gold Shovel Standard (GSS) is a nonprofit organization committed to improving workforce and public safety and the integrity of vital buried infrastructure. GSS believes that greater transparency in all aspects of damage prevention among buried-asset operators, locators and excavators is essential to drive continuous improvement, and vital to increasingly safe working conditions and communities. The Web site is: [www.GoldShovelStandard.org](http://www.GoldShovelStandard.org).

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