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## ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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### **Utilities to Present 2016-2017 Winter Preparedness Plans before Commission in Annual Workshop**

(Phoenix) Gas utilities and pipeline companies will take center stage at the Corporation Commission on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, as they discuss how they will ensure reliable services to customers during the winter months.

Southwest Gas Corporation, UNS GAS, Inc., Alliant Gas, Kinder Morgan-El Paso Natural Gas, Transwestern Pipeline Company, and Questar Southern Trails Pipeline will all present their preparedness plans before the Commission.

“The customers’ safety and services are a top priority for the Commission,” said Chairman Doug Little. “We set high expectations for the utilities to show they can handle demand and that they are prepared for an emergency outage. This workshop provides us and customers with the details that help ensure safety and reliability.”

Gas prices have been stable over the past several years. The Energy Department is expecting a colder winter for much of the U.S. and anticipates slightly higher prices since last year, but comparable to the 5 years prior. Here in the Southwest, a warmer drier winter is forecast.

Southwest Gas representatives say forecasts elsewhere won’t necessarily impact prices or supplies for their customers. They expect supplies and prices to remain relatively stable which will benefit the customer.

Southwest gas anticipates the average monthly bill this year will be \$51.07 compared to \$54.33 last winter.

The companies outline emergency plans that include social media campaigns and on-site emergency team deployments during outages.

Copies of each company’s plan will be available at the Commission’s website at [www.azcc.gov](http://www.azcc.gov).

The Winter Preparedness Workshop starts at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Commission’s Hearing Room 1 at 1200 W. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ. There will be an opportunity for public comment. The workshop will be live streamed at [www.azcc.gov](http://www.azcc.gov).