

SUMMARY

The Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities prepares quarterly reports showing natural gas import and export activity. Companies are required, as a condition of their authorizations, to file quarterly reports. This report is for the first quarter of 2001 (January through March).

Attachment A shows the percentage of takes to maximum firm contract levels and the weighted average per unit price for each of the long-term importers during the 5 most recent reporting quarters.

Attachment B shows volumes and prices of gas purchased by long-term importers and exporters during the past 12 months.

Attachment C shows volume and price data for gas imported on a short-term or spot market basis.

Attachment D shows the gas exported on a short-term or spot market basis to Canada and Mexico.

First Quarter Highlights: The table below illustrates the changes in activity compared to the first quarter of 2000.

Canadian Imports	988.9 Bcf	up 11%
LNG Imports	60.6 Bcf	up 60%
Mexican Imports	5.0 Bcf	up 25%
Total Imports	1054.5 Bcf	up 13%
Mexican Exports	22.9 Bcf	up 14%
Canadian Exports	47.3 Bcf	up 88%
Japanese Exports	14.9 Bcf	unchanged
Total Exports	85.1 Bcf	up 42%

See details below for more information.

Puerto Rican Imports	2.8 Bcf	New Project
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The Puerto Rican imports are shown in the table above, in the quarterly summary on the next page, and in Attachment B-1. However, these imports are not reflected in any of the summary totals found on this page, as the summaries are only for trade pertaining to the continental U.S.

Natural gas prices peaked in January when the average price was \$8.66 per MMBtu for long-term imports and \$9.72 for short-term imports. These prices declined steadily in the following two months and by March, they were down to \$4.97 and \$5.44, or by 42.6 percent and 44 percent, respectively.

During the first quarter, 6 importers of LNG (Distrigas Corp.; Duke Energy LNG; and CMS Marketing, Services and Trading Company; El Paso Merchant Energy, L.P.; Enron LNG Marketing LLC; and Fina Natural Gas Co.) brought in 23 cargoes from 5 different countries (Algeria, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, and Trinidad), totaling 60.6 Bcf.

First Quarter Data: Comparing first quarter 2001 to first quarter 2000 data, total imports under long-term contracts decreased. Long-term Canadian imports and long-term LNG imports all decreased. **Natural gas imports under all long-term contracts** totaled 264.5 Bcf, compared to 376.9 Bcf in the first quarter of 2000. Of this total, **long-term Canadian imports** were down 30 percent (241.8 v. 347.2 Bcf). The average price of this gas was \$6.53 per MMBtu, which is \$1.41 or 28 percent higher than the preceding quarter and \$3.96 or 154 percent higher than the first quarter of 2000. **Long-term LNG imports** decreased 23.8 percent (22.7 v. 29.8 Bcf). Under **LNG long-term**

imports, Distrigas imported 7.3 Bcf from Algeria at an average price of \$5.69 and 9.3 Bcf from Trinidad at \$6.76. Duke imported 6.1 Bcf from Algeria at \$2.89.

During the first quarter, 97 companies used **short-term authorizations to import** 790.0 Bcf, which is a 42 percent increase over the first quarter of 2000 (556.2 Bcf). Of this total, 747.1 Bcf was **imported from Canada** at an average price of \$7.31 per MMBtu, compared to 543.7 Bcf at \$2.43 in the first quarter of 2000, and 621.7 Bcf at \$6.25 in the previous quarter. **Imports from Mexico** totaled 5.0 Bcf at an average price of \$6.50, compared to 4.0 Bcf at \$2.36 in the first quarter of 2000 and 5.5 Bcf at \$7.26 last quarter. **Short-term LNG imports** totaled 37.9 Bcf for the quarter, compared to 34.7 Bcf last quarter. Under short-term LNG import contracts, CMS imported 7.5 Bcf from Nigeria at \$7.60 per MMBtu and 2.4 Bcf from Qatar at \$2.82. Enron imported 2.6 Bcf from Trinidad at \$5.79 and 2.7 Bcf from Oman at \$7.42. Distrigas imported 13.2 Bcf from Trinidad at \$3.89; Duke imported 1.5 Bcf from Algeria at \$2.90; El Paso imported 5.4 Bcf from Algeria at \$5.90; and Fina Natural Gas imported 2.6 Bcf from Nigeria at \$6.31.

The following is a breakdown of short-term imports from Canada by point of entry.

Point of Entry	% of Imports	Wt. Avg. \$
Eastport, Idaho	23	\$7.62
Port of Morgan, Montana	17	\$6.46
Sherwood, North Dakota	15	\$7.12
Noyes, Minnesota	13	\$7.04
Sumas, Washington	10	\$8.31
Niagara Falls, New York	9	\$7.36
Calais, Maine	5	\$7.22
Waddington, New York	4	\$8.39
Other	4	\$6.89

In addition, 22 **short-term export** authorizations were used, exporting a total of 70.2 Bcf of gas. Eleven companies exported 47.3 Bcf to Canada, at an average price of \$5.35 per MMBtu. Eleven companies exported 22.9 Bcf to Mexico at \$7.81. Finally, 14.9 Bcf of LNG was exported to Japan at \$4.65 (delivered).

Year to Date Data: Comparing the first 3 months of 2001 with the first 3 months of 2000, total gas imports increased 13 percent (1,054.5 v. 932.7 Bcf) and total gas exports increased 41.6 percent (85.1 v. 60.1 Bcf). Canadian imports increased 11 percent (988.9 v. 890.9 Bcf). Mexican imports increased 25 percent (5.0 v. 4.0 Bcf); and LNG imports increased 60.3 percent (60.6 v. 37.8 Bcf). Exports to Canada increased 88.4 percent (47.3 v. 25.1 Bcf) and exports to Mexico increased 14 percent (22.9 v. 20.1 Bcf). LNG exports to Japan remained steady at 14.9 Bcf.

This quarter's **focus report** is "2000 Natural Gas Import/Export Trade: A Second Look." The quarterly report and future revisions to the report will reside on our Electronic Bulletin Board at (202) 586-7853 and on the Fossil Energy Web Site at <http://www.fe.doe.gov> (click on Regulatory - Natural Gas). Any questions or comments about this report should be directed to Yvonne Caudillo at (202) 586-4587 or by E-mail at yvonne.caudillo@hq.doe.gov.