

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

REC'D DOE/FE
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RELIANT ENERGY SERVICES, INC.)
_____)

FE DOCKET NO. 01-40-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO IMPORT
AND EXPORT NATURAL GAS FROM AND TO CANADA AND MEXICO

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1700

AUGUST 6, 2001

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On August 1, 2001, Reliant Energy Services, Inc. (Reliant) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act^{1/} (NGA) and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 0204-127, for blanket authorization to import up to a combined total of 292 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada and Mexico and to export up to a combined total of 292 Bcf of natural gas to Canada and Mexico over a two-year term. Reliant, a marketer of natural gas, is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Houston Texas. Reliant will market the gas either on its own behalf or as the agent for others. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING

The application filed by Reliant has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import/export arrangement meets the public interest requirement of section 3 of the NGA, as amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486). Under section 3(c), the import or export of natural gas from or to a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas is deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Reliant to import and export natural gas from and to Canada and Mexico, nations with which free trade agreements are in effect, meets the section 3(c) criterion and, therefore, is consistent with the public interest. This blanket order authorizes transactions under contracts with terms of no longer than two years.

^{1/} 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

ORDER

Pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that:

A. Reliant Energy Services, Inc. (Reliant) is authorized to import up to a combined total of 292 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada and Mexico and to export up to a combined total of 292 Bcf of natural gas to Canada and Mexico over a two-year term beginning on the date of first delivery after September 10, 2001. This natural gas may be imported and exported at any United States international border.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, Reliant shall provide written notification to the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities of the date that the first import or export of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, Reliant shall file with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities within 30 days following each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports or exports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports or exports of natural gas have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports or exports have occurred, Reliant must report the following: (1) total monthly volumes in Mcf; (2) the average monthly purchase price of gas per MMBtu at the international border; (3) the name of the seller(s); (4) the name of the purchaser(s); (5) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (6) the name of the United States transporter(s); (7) the point(s) of entry and exit; and (8) the geographic market(s) served (for imports, by State).

For import transactions only, the report shall also include: (1) whether sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis; and, if applicable, (2) the per unit (MMBtu) demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price. [OMB No.: 1901-0294]

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than October 30, 2001, and should cover the period from September 11, 2001, until the end of the third calendar quarter, September 30, 2001.

E. The notification and reports required by Ordering Paragraphs B and C of this Order shall be filed with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities, Fossil Energy, Room 3E-042, FE-34, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20585.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on August 6, 2001.



Clifford P. Tomaszewski
Manager, Natural Gas Regulation
Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum
Import & Export Activities
Office of Fossil Energy