

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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GREAT FALLS GAS COMPANY)	FE DOCKET NO. 92-104-NG
_____)	

ORDER GRANTING LONG-TERM AUTHORIZATION TO
IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 704

NOVEMBER 10, 1992

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On August 10, 1992, as supplemented August 24, 1992, Great Falls Gas Company (GFGC) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), requesting authorization to import from Canada up to 5,000 Mcf per day on a firm basis and an additional 5,000 Mcf per day on an interruptible basis, from November 1, 1992, through October 31, 2007, for its system supply.

GFGC is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Montana with its principal place of business in Great Falls, Montana. GFGC operates a natural gas distribution system in Montana that supplies residential, commercial and industrial customers, including a United States Air Force Base.

The natural gas to be imported would be purchased by GFGC under an agreement with Shell Canada Limited for a term of 15 years. This gas would be imported into the United States at an existing interconnection of the pipeline systems of NOVA Corporation of Alberta and Montana Power Company near Carway, Alberta/Babb, Montana.

A notice of the application was published in the Federal Register on October 5, 1992, inviting protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention and comments to be filed by November 4, 1992.^{1/} No comments or motions to intervene were received.

1/ 57 FR 45780.

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II. FINDING

The application filed by GFGC has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import arrangement meets the public interest requirements 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 of natural gas from 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 GFGC to import natural gas from Canada, a nation with which a free trade agreement is in effect, meets the section 3(c) criterion and is therefore consistent with the public interest.

ORDER

For the reasons set forth above, under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that:

A. Great Fall Gas Company (GFGC) is authorized to import from Canada, at any point on the international border, 5,000 Mcf of natural gas per day on a firm basis and an additional 5,000 Mcf natural gas per day on an interruptible basis from the date of first delivery to October 31, 2007.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, GFGC shall notify the Office of Fuels Programs, Fossil Energy, Room 3F-056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, in writing of the date that the first import delivery of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, GFGC shall file with the Office of Fuels Programs, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, quarterly reports indicating whether imports of natural gas have been made. If no imports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports have occurred, GFGC must report total monthly volumes in Mcf and the average purchase price per MMBtu at the international border. The reports shall also provide the details of each import transaction, including (1) the name of the seller(s); (2) the name of the purchaser(s); (3) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (4) the name of the U.S. transporter(s); (5) the point(s) of entry; (6) the geographic market(s) served; (7) whether sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis; and if applicable, (8) the contract pricing provisions, including the per unit (MMBtu) demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price.

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than January 30, 1993, and should cover the period from the date of this order until the end of the current calendar quarter December 31, 1992.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on November 10, 1992.

Charles F. Vacek
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fuels Programs
Office of Fossil Energy