

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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EMPIRE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

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FE DOCKET NO. 06-79-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO
IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 2265

OCTOBER 27, 2006

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On September 8, 2006, as supplemented on October 6, 2006, Empire Natural Gas Corporation (ENG), filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA),¹ for blanket authorization to import up to 4 billion cubic feet of natural gas from Canada. The applicant requests the authorization be granted for a two-year term beginning on July 15, 2006.² ENG is a New York corporation with its principal place of business in Greene, New York.

II. FINDING

The application has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import 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), of the NGA, the import and export of natural gas from and to a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas and the import of LNG are deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by ENG to import natural gas from Canada, a nation with which a free trade agreement is in effect, meets the section 3(c) criterion and, therefore, is consistent with the public interest. This Order authorizes transactions with terms of no longer than two years.

¹ 15 U.S.C. § 717b. This authority is delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy pursuant to Redefinition Order No. 00.002.04B (September 23, 2005).

² ENG's blanket authorization granted in DOE/FE Order No. 2005 on July 15, 2003, expired on July 14, 2006. 2 FE ¶ 71,003).

ORDER

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

A.. Empire Natural Gas Corporation (ENG) is authorized to import up to 4 billion cubic feet of natural gas from Canada pursuant to transactions that have terms of no longer than two years. This authorization shall be effective for a two-year term which began on July 15, 2006, and extends through July 14, 2008.

B. This natural gas may be imported at any point on the border between the United States and Canada.

C. **Monthly Reports:** With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, ENG shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar month, a report indicating whether imports of natural gas have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports have been made, a report of “no activity” for that month must be filed. If imports of natural gas have occurred, the report must give the following details:

(1) country of origin; (2) the point(s) of entry; and (3) the total volume in thousand cubic feet (Mcf) at each import point for the month. [OMB No. 1901-0294]

D. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than November 30, 2006, and should cover the retroactive reporting periods for the months of July, August, and September, 2006, as well as the current reporting period for October, 2006.

E. **Quarterly Reports:** With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, ENG shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have

begun. If no imports of natural gas have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports of natural gas have occurred, the report must give the details of each transaction, including: (1) the total monthly volumes in Mcf; (2) the average purchase price of gas per million British thermal units (MMBtu) at the international border; (3) the name of the supplier(s); (4) the name of the purchaser(s); (5) the estimated or actual duration of the supply agreement(s); (6) the name of the United States transporter(s); (7) the point(s) of entry; and (8) the geographic market(s) served, by State.

[OMB No. 1901-0294]

F. The first quarterly report required by this Order is due not later than January 30, 2007, and should cover the retroactive quarterly reporting period from July 15, 2006 through September 30, 2006, as well as the current reporting period from October 1, 2006, until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 2006.

G. Both the monthly and quarterly reports shall be filed with the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, FE-34, P.O. Box 44375, Washington, D.C. 20026-4375.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 27, 2006.



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