

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ECONOMIC REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION

COLUMBIA LNG CORPORATION)	
CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM LNG)	ERA DOCKET NO. 79-14-LNG
COMPANY)	
SOUTHERN ENERGY COMPANY)	

ORDER DISMISSING APPLICATION FOR
REHEARING OF CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA AND
CONSUMER ENERGY COUNCIL OF AMERICA

On September 21, 1979, Consumer Federation of America (CFA) and Consumer Energy Council of America (CECA) requested rehearing of the Administrator's Order of August 22, 1979, which approved an interim price of \$1.15 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), F.O.B. Arzew, Algeria, effective from July 1, 1979, to December 31, 1979.

The Order approved in part an application filed with the Economic Regulatory Administration (ERA) on May 18, 1979, seeking amendments to existing authorizations to import liquefied natural gas from Algeria. ^{1/} The ERA issued notice of receipt of the application on June 13, 1979 (44 FR 36094, June 20, 1979). Nearly thirty petitions to intervene were received prior to August 22, 1979, and all were granted in ERA's August 22 Order. None of the parties granted intervention as of that date requested a hearing on the issue of the interim price increase, nor did any oppose such interim relief.

The August 22, 1979 Order also stated that a pre-hearing conference would be appropriate to delineate issues and procedures in connection with other matters to be decided in this proceeding, principally the request for approval of an import price increase subsequent to December 31, 1979.

^{1/} The original authorizations were granted by the Federal Power Commission in 1972 in Order Nos. 622 and 622A.

The August 22, 1979 Order established a pre-hearing conference for September 14, 1979. CFA and CECA, though not yet granted the status of intervener, were allowed to participate in the conference. On the same date (September 14, 1979), CFA and CECA first applied for intervener status. In the petition for intervention, neither CFA nor CECA stated any intention to seek rehearing of the August 22 Order.

On September 21, 1979, the thirtieth day after the issuance of the Order approving an interim F.O.B. price of \$1.15 per MMBtu, CFA and CECA filed the subject request for rehearing. At that time, neither had been granted intervention.

On September 24, 1979, ERA issued a Pre-Hearing Order, in which five additional parties, including CFA and CECA, were granted intervention.

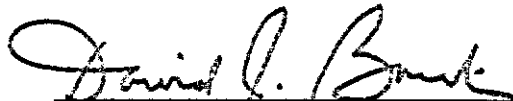
CFA and CECA were not parties to the proceeding at the time the August 22, 1979, Order was issued; were not in fact parties when the time for filing requests for rehearing expired; and were, therefore, not a "person aggrieved by an order issued . . . in a proceeding . . . to which such person is a party . . ." within the meaning of Section 19(a) of the Natural Gas Act.

Even if CFA and CECA did not lack standing under Section 19(a) ERA would not have granted their request for rehearing, which raises only issues previously considered in reaching the conclusions expressed in the August 22, 1979 Order.

ORDER

For the reasons stated above, the application for rehearing of CFA and CECA is hereby dismissed.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 25, 1979.



David J. Bardin
Administrator
Economic Regulatory Administration