

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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WASHINGTON ENERGY EXPLORATION, INC

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FE DOCKET NO. 93-103-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION  
TO IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 863

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OCTOBER 18, 1993

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I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST \_\_\_\_\_

On September 27, 1993, Washington Energy Exploration, Inc. (Washington Exploration) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>1/</sup> and DOE Delegation Order Nos.

0204-111 and 0204-127, requesting blanket authorization to import natural gas from Canada. The authorization would allow Washington Exploration to import up to 74 Bcf of gas over a period of two years beginning on the date of the first delivery. Washington Exploration, a State of Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Seattle, Washington, is a natural gas production and exploration company. The imported gas would either be produced from Washington Exploration's Canadian properties and interests or purchased from other Canadian suppliers. It would be sold in the United States to a broad range of customers under short-term and spot market transactions. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING \_\_\_\_\_

The application filed by Washington Exploration 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), an 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

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1/ 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

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to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Washington Exploration 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 blanket order authorizes transactions under contracts with terms of no longer than two years.

ORDER

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

A. Washington Energy Exploration, Inc. (Washington Exploration) is authorized to import from Canada, at any point on the international border, up to 74 Bcf of natural gas over a two-year period beginning on the date of the first delivery.

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

C. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, Washington Exploration 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. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not deliveries have begun. If no imports have been made, a report of

"no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports have occurred, Washington Exploration must report monthly total 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 United States transporter(s); (5) the point(s) of entry; (6) the geographic market(s) served; (7) whether the sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis; and, if applicable, (8) the per unit (MMBtu) demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price.

D. The first quarterly report required by Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than January 30, 1994, and should cover the period from the date of this Order until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 1993.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 18, 1993.

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Anthony J. Como  
Director  
Office of Coal and Electricity  
Office of Fuels Programs  
Office of Fossil Energy