

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

UMC PETROLEUM CORPORATION)
_____)

FE DOCKET NO. 93-124-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 891

DECEMBER 14, 1993

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I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST _____

On November 10, 1993, UMC Petroleum Corporation (UMC) 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/ and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 0204-127, requesting blanket authorization to import up to 44 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada and to export up to 44 Bcf of natural gas to Canada. The authorization would be for a two-year term beginning on the date of the first import or export. UMC, a Delaware corporation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Meridian Corporation (United Meridian). UMC and United Meridian are engaged in major exploration and production operations in the Midcontinent, Gulf Coast, and Appalachian regions of the United States as well as Canada. UMC will import and export the gas under spot and short-term purchase arrangements, either on its own behalf or as an agent for others. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING _____

The application filed by UMC 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

1/ 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

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gas is deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by UMC to import and export natural gas from and to 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

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

A. UMC Petroleum Corporation (UMC) is authorized to import up to 44 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada and export up to 44 Bcf of natural gas to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of the first import or export. This natural gas may be imported and exported at any point on the border of the United States and Canada.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, UMC shall provide written notification to the Office of Fuels Programs (OFP), Fossil Energy, Room 3F-056, FE-50, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, of the date that the first import or export delivery of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, UMC shall file with OFP, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, quarterly reports indicating

whether imports or exports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not 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, UMC must report total monthly volumes in Mcf and the average purchase price of gas per MMBtu at the international border. The reports shall also provide the details of each import and export 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 and exit; (6) the geographic market(s) served; (7) whether 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 Ordering 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 December 14, 1993.

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

