

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

NEW ENGLAND POWER COMPANY)	FE DOCKET NO. 91-98-NG
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)	

ORDER AMENDING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION
TO IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 585-A

On March 18, 1994, New England Power Company (NEP) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) 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, to amend its existing two-year blanket authorization to import up to 47.5 Bcf of natural gas from Canada. The import authority was granted by DOE/FE Opinion and Order No. 585 (Order 585), issued February 28, 1992.^{2/} The first delivery of gas occurred February 1, 1994, making the authorization effective through January 31, 1996. NEP originally intended to purchase gas in the Canadian spot market only to supplement other long-term firm imported gas supplies that would be used to generate electricity at its Brayton Point Unit 4 generating station in

1/ 15 U.S. C. 717b. —

2/ 1 FE 70,543. —

Somerset, Massachusetts, and at its Manchester Street generating station in Providence, Rhode Island. These oil-fired facilities are currently being modified and repowered to add natural gas-burning capability and are expected to be in service by late 1995. Because no imported gas will be used for NEP's power generation facilities until that time, NEP requests that Order 585 be amended to also authorize NEP to sell its blanket imports on the domestic spot market.

Under section 3 of the NGA, as amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486), the importation 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. Therefore, approving NEP's request to market natural gas imported from Canada, which would not be used for NEP's power generation requirements, is consistent with the public interest.

ORDER

Pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, DOE/FE Opinion and Order No. 585 (Order 585), issued to New England Power Company (NEP) on February 28, 1992, is amended to authorize NEP to sell the imported gas on the domestic spot market whenever it is not used by NEP to generate electricity at its Brayton Point and Manchester Street generating facilities.

In all other respects the earlier order shall remain in full force and effect.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 2, 1994.

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