

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION	)	FE DOCKET NO. 94-25-NG
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ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION  
TO IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 936

MAY 3, 1994

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

On March 25, 1994, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC), 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 8 Bcf of natural gas from Canada over a two-year period beginning on the date of the first delivery. NMPC is a New York corporation with its principal offices in Syracuse, New York. NMPC supplies natural gas to nearly 500,000 customers in eastern, central, and northern New York. NMPC will import the gas under short-term and spot-market transactions and under competitive conditions, either on its own behalf or as the agent for others. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

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

The application filed by NMPC 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), 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. The authorization sought by NMPC to import natural gas from Canada, a nation with which a free trade

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1/ 15 U.S.C. 717b.

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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. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) is authorized to import from Canada, at any point on the international border, up to 8 Bcf of natural gas over a period of two years beginning on the date of the first delivery.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, NMPC 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, NMPC 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 initial deliveries have begun. If no imports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports occur, NMPC must report total monthly 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 U.S. transporter(s); (5) the point(s) of entry; (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 July 30, 1994, and should cover the period from the date of this Order until the end of the second calendar quarter, June 30, 1994.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 3, 1994.

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