

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

_____)
CENTRA GAS MANITOBA, INC.) FE DOCKET NO. 95-40-NG
_____)

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1052

MAY 23, 1995

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST _____

On May 16, 1995, Centra Gas Manitoba, Inc. (Centra Manitoba) 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, for blanket authorization to import up to 54 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada and to export up to 54 Bcf of natural gas to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of the first import or export after May 31, 1995.^{2/}

Centra Manitoba, a Canadian corporation with its principal place of business in Winnipeg, Manitoba, is a subsidiary of Westcoast Energy, Inc. also a Canadian corporation. Centra Manitoba will import and export the natural gas under spot and short-term purchase arrangements, either on its own behalf or as the agent for others. The proposed authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING _____

The application filed by Centra Manitoba has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import and 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.

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

2/ This is the date Centra Manitoba's blanket authorization to import natural gas from and export natural gas to Canada expires. See DOE/FE Opinion and Order Nos. 739 and 739-A issued _____

November 27, 1992 (1 FE 70,712) and March 15, 1993 (1 FE 70,774).

102-486). Under section 3(c), the import or export of natural gas from and to 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 Centra Manitoba 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. Centra Manitoba Gas, Inc. (Centra Manitoba) is authorized to import up to 54 Bcf of natural gas from Canada and to export up to 54 Bcf of natural gas to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of the first import or export after May 31, 1995. This natural gas may be imported or exported at any point on the border of the United States and Canada.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, Centra Manitoba 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 of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, Centra Manitoba 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 initial 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, Centra Manitoba 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 or 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 or 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 July 30, 1995, and should cover the period from June 1, 1995, until the end of the second calendar quarter, June 30, 1995.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 23, 1995.

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