

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

TRISTAR GAS MARKETING COMPANY

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FE DOCKET NO. 96-81-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1229

DECEMBER 23, 1996

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST _____

On November 5, 1996, as supplemented December 12, 1996, Tristar Gas Services Inc. (Tristar) 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 10 Bcf of natural gas from Canada and to import and export up to a combined total of 10 Bcf of natural gas from and to Mexico. The term of the proposed import and export authorization runs for two years beginning on April 1, 1996.

Tristar, a marketer of natural gas, is a Texas general partnership with its principal place of business in Dallas, Texas. This gas would be imported and exported by Tristar under spot and short-term sales arrangements, 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 Tristar 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 gas is deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must

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

be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Tristar to import and export natural gas from and to Canada and Mexico, nations with which free trade agreements are 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. Tristar Gas Marketing Company (Tristar) is authorized to import up to 10 Bcf of natural gas from Canada and to import and export up to a combined total of 10 Bcf of natural gas from and to Mexico over a two-year term beginning on April 1, 1996. This natural gas may be imported at any U.S. border point with Canada and Mexico, and exported at any U.S. border point with Mexico.

B. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, Tristar shall file with Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, 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, Tristar must report the following: (1) total monthly volumes in

Mcf; (2) the average monthly purchase price of gas per MMBtu at the international border; (3) the name of the seller(s); (4) the name of the purchaser(s); (5) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (6) the name of the United States transporter(s); (7) the point(s) of entry and exit; and (8) the geographic market(s) served (for imports, by State). For import transactions only, the report shall also include: (1) whether sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis; and, if applicable, (2) the per unit (MMBtu) demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price.

C. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph B of this Order is due not later than January 30, 1997, and should cover the period from October 1, 1996, until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 1996.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on December 23, 1996.

Wayne E. Peters
Manager, Natural Gas Regulation
Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum
Import and Export Activities
Office of Fossil Energy