

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

FORM DDE/FE  
MAY 21 11 P 5 16

PHILLIPS ALASKA NATURAL GAS )  
CORPORATION )  
AND )  
MARATHON OIL COMPANY )

FE DOCKET NO. 96-99-LNG

ORDER EXTENDING TIME TO ANSWER  
PROTESTS AND MOTIONS TO INTERVENE

April 11, 1997

I. BACKGROUND

On December 31, 1996, Phillips Alaska Natural Gas Corporation (PANGC) and Marathon Oil Company (Marathon) filed an application requesting that the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) approve a five-year extension of their longstanding authorization to export Alaskan liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Alaska to Japan. The extension period would commence April 1, 2004, and continue through March 31, 2009. The gas would be liquefied at the applicants' Kenai LNG plant in the Cook Inlet area of Alaska and would be transported by tanker to Japan for sale to Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. and Tokyo Gas Company, Ltd. PANGC and Marathon are currently authorized to export up to 64.4 trillion Btu (approximately 64.4 billion cubic feet). This volume would remain the same during the extension period.

Notice of the application filed by PANGC and Marathon was issued February 25, 1997,<sup>1</sup> and invited comments, protests and motions to intervene by April 3, 1997. FE received numerous filings in this proceeding, four of which are motions to intervene. Under 10 CFR 590.303(e) and 590.304(f) of DOE's procedural rules, an answer to a motion to intervene or a protest must be filed within 15 days after the motion to intervene or protest is filed, or by April 18 in this case, "unless a later date is permitted...for good cause shown."

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<sup>1</sup> 62 FR 9758, March 4, 1997.

On April 10, 1997, PANGC and Marathon submitted a motion, pursuant to §§ 590.105(b), 590.302, 590.303(e), and 590.304(f) of DOE's procedural rules, requesting an extension of time, from April 18, 1997, to May 9, 1997, to file answers to the motions, requests, and protests submitted in this proceeding. In support of the requested extension of time, PANGC and Marathon state the requested three-week extension will not disrupt this proceeding nor will it prejudice any existing party or intervenor in this proceeding.

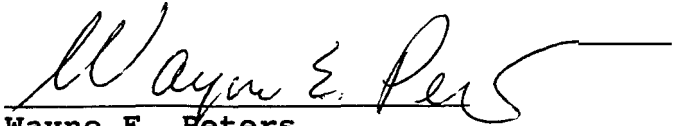
## II. DECISION

FE has determined that the request for a three-week extension of time to file answers to the protests and motions to intervene in this proceeding is warranted. FE notes that the extension granted here is brief, does not adversely affect any other participant in the proceeding, and should not delay the ultimate resolution of the application. Also, DOE grants this extension motion before the 15-day answer period permitted by §590.302(b) expires because an expeditious decision is necessary to allow the applicants to gauge the amount of time they have to file a response,

## ORDER

For the reasons set forth above, it is ordered that, pursuant to 10 CFR 590.303(e) and 590.304(f), the period to file an answer to protests and motions to intervene filed in this proceeding is extended from April 18, 1997, to May 9, 1997.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on April 11, 1997.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wayne E. Peters", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

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