

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

IDAHO POWER CO.

FE DOCKET NO. 98-91-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1438

NOVEMBER 19, 1998

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On November 16, 1998, Idaho Power Co. (Idaho Power) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act⁽¹⁾ (NGA) and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 0204-127, for blanket authorization to import and export up to a combined total of 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term. Idaho Power is an Idaho corporation with its principal place of business in Boise, Idaho. Idaho Power, an electric utility company, serves retail customers in Idaho and provides wholesale electric power and transmission services subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Idaho Power intends to engage in the marketing of natural gas, including importing and exporting natural gas from and to Canada. Idaho Power intends to import and export the gas 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 Idaho Power 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 be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Idaho Power 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. Idaho Power Co. (Idaho Power) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of first import or export delivery, whichever occurs first. This natural gas may be imported and exported at any United States/Canada border point.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, Idaho Power shall provide written notification to the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities 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, Idaho Power shall file with the 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. 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, Idaho Power 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.

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than January 30, 1999, and should cover the period from the date of this Order until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 1998.

E. The notification and reports required by Ordering Paragraphs B and C of this Order shall be filed with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Fossil Energy, Room 3E-042, FE-34, Forrestal Building, 1000

Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20585.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on November 19, 1998.

John W. Glynn
Manager, Natural Gas Regulation
Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum
Import and Export Activities
Office of Fossil Energy

1. 1/ 15 U.S.C. § 717b.