

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

_____)
ST. CLAIR PIPELINES (1996) LTD.) FE DOCKET NO. 00-21-NG
_____)

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1584

APRIL 17, 2000

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On April 5, 2000, St. Clair Pipelines (1996) Ltd. (St. Clair) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) 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 200 billion cubic feet of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of issuance of this Order. St. Clair has an existing authorization which expires on April 22, 2000.^{2/} St. Clair, a marketer of natural gas, is a Canadian corporation with its principal place of business in Southfield, Michigan. St. Clair is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Engage Energy Canada, L.P. The applicant intends to import and export the gas under short-term transactions. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING

The application filed by St. Clair 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 St. Clair to import and export natural gas from and to Canada, a nation with which a free trade

^{1/} 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

^{2/} DOE/FE Opinion and Order No. 1377 issued April 23, 1998 (1 FE ¶ 71,553).

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. St. Clair Pipelines (1996) Ltd. (St. Clair) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 200 billion cubic feet of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of issuance of this Order, April 17, 2000, and extending through April 16, 2002. This natural gas may be imported and exported at any United States/Canada border point.

B. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, St. Clair shall file with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities within 30 days following each calendar quarter, 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, St. Clair 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. [OMB No.: 1901-0294]

C. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph B of this Order is due not later than July 30, 2000, and should cover the period from the date of this Order until the end of the second calendar quarter, June 30, 2000.

D. The quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph B of this Order shall be filed with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & 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 April 17, 2000.

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