

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

ST. LAWRENCE GAS COMPANY, INC. ) FE DOCKET NO. 00-43-NG  
)

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO  
IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1606

JUNE 23, 2000

## I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On June 19, 2000, St. Lawrence Gas Company, Inc. (St. Lawrence) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>1/</sup> and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 204-127, for blanket authorization to import up to 16.3 Bcf of natural gas from Canada beginning on July 26, 2000, and extending through July 25, 2002.<sup>2/</sup> St. Lawrence is a natural gas distribution company serving customers in St. Lawrence County in northern New York State. Its principal place of business is in Massena, New York.

St. Lawrence intends to purchase the natural gas to be imported from a variety of Canadian suppliers on a short-term or spot basis at competitive prices for resales to customers on its system. The natural gas may also be used as compression fuel associated with transportation arrangements involving St. Lawrence's long-term supply needs. The requested authorization does not require the construction of new or additional pipeline facilities.

## II. FINDING

The application filed by St. Lawrence has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import 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 of natural gas from 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. Lawrence to import natural gas from 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.

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<sup>1/</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

<sup>2/</sup> St. Lawrence's current blanket, import authorization which was granted by DOE/FE Order No. 1449 on December 28, 1998, expires July 25, 2000 (2 FE ¶ 70,283) .

ORDER

Pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that:

A. St. Lawrence Gas Company, Inc. (St. Lawrence) is authorized to import up to 16.3 Bcf of natural gas from Canada beginning on July 26, 2000, and extending through July 25, 2002. This natural gas may be imported at any point on the border of the United States and Canada.

B. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, St. Lawrence shall file with the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports of natural gas have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports have occurred, St. Lawrence 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 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; (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. [OMB NO.: 1901-0294]

C. The reports 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, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph B of this Order is due not later than October 30, 2000, and should cover the period from July 26, 2000, until the end of the third calendar quarter, September 30, 2000.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on June 23, 2000.

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