

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

\_\_\_\_\_  
TEXACO NATURAL GAS INC. )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

FE DOCKET NO. 00-51-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO  
IMPORT NATURAL GAS  
FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1616

JULY 31, 2000

## I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On July 17, 2000, Texaco Natural Gas Inc. (TNGI) 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 0204-127, for blanket authorization to import up to 120 billion cubic feet of natural gas from Canada over a two-year term beginning August 1, 2000, and extending through July 31, 2002.<sup>2/</sup> TNGI is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. TNGI requests authority to import this gas under spot and short-term sales arrangements, on its own behalf as well as on the behalf of others. The proposed authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

## II. FINDING

The application filed by TNGI 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 TNGI 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.

### ORDER

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

A. Texaco Natural Gas Inc. (TNGI) is authorized to import up to 120 billion cubic feet of natural gas from Canada over a two-year term beginning August 1, 2000, and extending through July 31, 2002. This natural gas may be imported at any point on the international border between the United States and Canada.

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<sup>1/</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

<sup>2/</sup> July 31, 2000 is the expiration date of TNGI's existing blanket import authorization granted by DOE/ERA Opinion and Order No. 209 dated December 11, 1987 (1 ERA ¶ 70,740).

B. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, TNGI 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, TNGI 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 markets(s) served (by state); (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 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 August 1, 2000, until the end of the third calendar quarter, September 30, 2000.

D. The quarterly 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, FE-34, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S. W., Washington, D.C., 20585.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on July 31, 2000.

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