

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

_____)
AEC MARKETING (USA) INC.) FE DOCKET NO. 01-30-NG
_____)

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO
IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1691

JUNE 21, 2001

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On June 13, 2001, AEC Marketing (USA) Inc. (AMUS) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)^{1/} and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 204-127, for blanket authorization to import up to 200 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from Canada, over a two-year term beginning on June 30, 2001.^{2/} AMUS, a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Calgary, Alberta, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Alberta Energy Company Ltd. AMUS is a marketer of natural gas and will import the gas under short-term and spot market arrangements, on its own behalf as well as on behalf of others. The proposed authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING

The application filed by AMUS 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 AMUS 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. AEC Marketing (USA) Inc. (AMUS) is authorized to import up to 200 Bcf of natural gas from Canada over a two-year term beginning on June 30, 2001, and extending through June 29, 2003.

^{1/} 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

^{2/} AMUS's current blanket authorization to import natural gas granted by DOE/FE Order No. 1483 dated May 20, 1999, (2 FE ¶ 70,334) expires on June 29, 2001.

B. This natural gas may be imported at any point on the border of the United States and Canada.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, AMUS 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, AMUS 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]

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than October 30, 2001, and should cover the period from June 30, 2001, until the end of the third calendar quarter, September 30, 2001.

E. The quarterly reports 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.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on June 21, 2001.

Clifford P. Tomaszewski
Manager, Natural Gas Regulation
Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum
Import & Export Activities
Office of Fossil Energy