

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

RWE TRADING AMERICAS, INC.)
_____)

FE DOCKET NO. 02-11-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1761

MARCH 14, 2002

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On March 11, 2002, RWE Trading Americas, Inc. (RWE Trading) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)^{1/} and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 0204-127, for authorization to import and export up to a combined total of 75 Bcf of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on April 1, 2002. RWE Trading, a corporation organized and existing under the State of Delaware with its principal place of business located in Houston, Texas, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of RWE Trading GmbH, whose principal place of business is in Essen, Germany. RWE Trading will import and export the gas under short-term and spot market purchase arrangements, either on its own behalf or as the agent for others. The proposed authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING

The application filed by RWE Trading has been evaluated to determine if the proposed import and 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 RWE Trading 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

^{1/} 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

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

A. RWE Trading Americas, Inc. (RWE Trading) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 75 Bcf of natural gas from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on April 1, 2002, and extending through March 31, 2004.

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

C. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, RWE Trading 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, RWE Trading 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 U. S. 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]

D. The reporting requirements described in Ordering Paragraph C 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.

E. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than July 31, 2002, and should cover the period from April 1, 2002, until the end of the second calendar quarter, June 30, 2002.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 14, 2002.

Yvonne Caudillo
Acting Manager, Natural Gas Regulation
Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum
Import & Export Activities
Office of Fossil Energy