

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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OFFICE OF
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

BAY STATE GAS COMPANY)
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DOCKET NO. 05-14-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 2078

MARCH 16, 2005

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On March 8, 2005, Bay State Gas Company (Bay State) 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 for blanket authorization to import and export up to a combined total of 60 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from and to Canada. Bay State requests the authorization be granted for a two-year term beginning on April 1, 2005. Bay State is a Massachusetts corporation with its principal place of business in Westborough, Massachusetts.

II. FINDING

The application 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 and export of natural gas from and 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 Bay State 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 Order authorizes transactions with terms of no longer than two years.

¹ 15 U.S.C. § 717b. This authority is delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy pursuant to Redefinition Order No. 00-002.04 (January 8, 2002).

ORDER

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

A. Bay State Gas Company (Bay State) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 60 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from and to Canada. The two-year term of authority will begin on April 1, 2005, and extends through March 31, 2007.

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

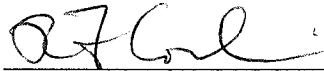
C. With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, Bay State shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports and exports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If imports and exports of natural gas have not been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports and/or exports have occurred, the report must give the details of each transaction, including: (1) the total monthly volumes in thousand cubic feet (Mcf); (2) the average purchase price of gas per million British thermal units (MMBtu) at the international border; (3) the name of the seller(s); (4) the name of the purchasers(s); (5) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (6) the name of the United States transporter(s); (7) the points(s) of entry and exit; (8) the geographic markets(s) served (for imports, by State); and, if applicable, (9) the per unit (MMBtu)

demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price. [OMB No.: 1901-0294]

D. The first quarterly report required by this Order is due not later than July 30, 2005, and should cover the period from April 1, 2005, until the end of the second calendar quarter, June 30, 2005.

E. The quarterly reports shall be filed with the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, FE-34, P.O. Box 44375, Washington, D.C. 20026-4375.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on March 16, 2005.



R.F. Corbin
Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities
Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply
Office of Fossil Energy