DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 6, 2012. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to Jacqueline D. Rogers, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Health, Safety and Security, HS–11, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, by fax at 202–586–8548, or by email at jackie.rogers@hq.doe.gov, or information about the collection instruments may be obtained at: http://www.hss.doe.gov/prac.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Jacqueline D. Rogers, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Health, Safety and Security, HS–11, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, or by fax at 202–586–8548, or by email at jackie.rogers@hq.doe.gov.


Peter S. Winokur, Chairman.

[FR Doc. 2012–22187 Filed 9–5–12; 4:15 pm]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket No. 12–77–LNG]

LNG Development Company, LLC; Application for Long-Term Authorization To Export Liquefied Natural Gas Produced From Canadian and Domestic Natural Gas Resources to Non-Free Trade Agreement Countries for a 25-Year Period

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) gives notice of receipt of an application (Application) filed by LNG Development Company, LLC (d/b/a Oregon LNG), requesting long-term, multi-contract authorization to export up to 9.6 million tons per annum (mtpa) of liquefied natural gas (LNG), the equivalent of 456.25 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas per year or 1.3 Bcf per day (Bcf/d), over a 25-year period, commencing on the earlier of the date of first export or eight years from the date the requested authorization is granted.

The LNG would be exported from the proposed LNG terminal to be located in Warrenton, Oregon, to any country (1) With which the United States does not have a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, (2) which has developed or in the future develops the capacity to import LNG via ocean-going carrier, and (3) with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy. The LNG will be produced from natural gas imported from Canada into the United States, and to a lesser extent, domestically produced natural gas. Oregon LNG is requesting this authorization to export LNG both on its own behalf and as agent for other parties who hold title to the LNG at the point of export. The Application was filed under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA). Protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments are invited.

DATES: Protests, motions to intervene or notices of intervention, as applicable, requests for additional procedures, and written comments are to be filed using procedures detailed in the Public Comment Procedures section no later than 4:30 p.m., eastern time, November 6, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Electronic Filing by email fergas@hq.doe.gov.

Regular Mail

Hand Delivery or Private Delivery Services (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.)

produced natural gas, as LNG (the equivalent of 456.25 Bcf per year, or 1.3 Bcf/d of natural gas), for a period of 25 years beginning on the earlier of the date of first export or eight years from the date the authorization is granted by DOE/FE. Oregon LNG requests that such long-term authorization provide for export from its LNG terminal to be located in Warrenton, Oregon, in Clatsop County, to any country with which the United States does not have an FTA requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, which has developed or in the future develops the capacity to import LNG via ocean-going carrier, and with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy.

Oregon LNG requests authorization to export LNG acting on its own behalf or as agent for others. At present, Oregon LNG does not contemplate entering into any long-term gas supply or long-term export contracts in conjunction with the LNG export authorization requested herein. Rather, Oregon LNG will enter into capacity use arrangements with potential Project participants or third-party customers. Accordingly, Oregon LNG is not submitting transaction-specific information such as long-term supply agreements and long-term export agreements, as required by Section 590.202(b) of the DOE regulations, at this time. Instead, Oregon LNG requests that DOE/FE adhere to the precedent set forth in Sabine Pass Liquefaction, LLC, DOE/FE Order No. 2961, at 41, where DOE/FE found that given the state of development for the proposed export project, Sabine Pass would be permitted to submit transaction-specific information when the contracts reflecting such information were executed.

Public Interest Considerations

Oregon LNG states that the Project has been proposed due to the improved outlook for North American natural gas production, owing to drilling productivity gains that enabled rapid growth in supplies from unconventional, and particularly shale, gas-bearing formations in the United States and Canada. Oregon LNG states that improvements in drilling and extraction technologies have coincided with rapid diffusion in the natural gas industry’s understanding of the unconventional resource base and best practices in drilling and resource development. Oregon LNG states that these changes have rendered obsolete once prominent fears of declining future domestic natural gas production.

According to Oregon LNG, the Project offers various benefits to the public, including the much needed expansion of market scope and access for North American natural gas producers at times when neither U.S. nor Canadian gas prices support continued production. Oregon LNG states that the North American supply glut has depressed domestic natural gas prices to historic lows (below $2.00 per MMbtu) not experienced since 1999. Oregon LNG further states that analysts have expressed concern that the Canadian gas storage levels may reach capacity in June 2012, potentially affecting U.S. natural gas prices as Canadian producers attempt to move surplus gas across the border to the U.S.

Oregon LNG states that the influx of labor needed to complete the Project will have a major positive impact on the region’s economy. In its letter of support, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America points out that regional unemployment in the construction sector has hovered around 17 percent, which is twice the rate of general unemployment. Oregon LNG states that from 2014 until the anticipated completion date in 2018, the construction phase will create an average of 3,054 direct-employment, new construction jobs for the Project. Oregon LNG states that the economic impact of a construction project goes well beyond the direct costs of construction. If the Project requires sheet metal from a local producer, for example, an indirect impact will be felt by the hiring of new workers at the manufacturer. The regional indirect impact of the construction phase of the Project is estimated at $2.79 billion and the average, indirect employment impact spread over the anticipated 5-year period involving construction efforts is estimated at 2,579 jobs.

Oregon LNG states that its exports will result in a net improvement in the balance of trade for the U.S. even after deducting gas imports from Canada. If approved, the export authorization is projected to reduce the U.S. trade deficit by $4.5 billion per year over a 25-year period for an estimated total of $112.5 billion of net deficit reduction over the life of the Project.

Further details can be found in the Application, which has been posted at http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html.

Environmental Impact

Oregon LNG states that the potential environment impacts of the Project will be reviewed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under
A decisional record on the Application will be developed through responses to this notice by parties, including the parties’ written comments and replies thereto. Additional procedures will be used as necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the facts and issues. A party seeking intervention may request that additional procedures be provided, such as additional written comments, an oral presentation, a conference, or trial-type hearing. Any request to file additional written comments should explain why they are necessary. Any request for an oral presentation should identify the substantial question of fact, law, or policy at issue, show that it is material and relevant to a decision in the proceeding, and demonstrate why an oral presentation is needed. Any request for a conference should demonstrate why the conference would materially advance the proceeding. Any request for a trial-type hearing must show that there are factual issues genuinely in dispute that are relevant and material to a decision and that a trial-type hearing is necessary for a full and true disclosure of the facts.

If an additional procedure is scheduled, notice will be provided to all parties. If no party requests additional procedures, a final Opinion and Order may be issued based on the official record, including the Application and responses filed by parties pursuant to this notice, in accordance with 10 CFR 590.316.

The Application filed by Oregon LNG is available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities docket room, Room 3E–042, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585. The docket room is open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Application and any filed protests, motions to intervene or notice of interventions, and comments will also be available electronically by going to the following DOE/FE Web address: http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 31, 2012.

John A. Anderson, Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 2012–22088 Filed 9–6–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Radiation Detection Technologies, Inc.

AGENCY: Office of the General Counsel, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent to grant exclusive patent license.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given to an intent to grant to Radiation Detection Technologies, Inc. of Manhattan, Kansas, an exclusive license to practice the inventions described in U.S. Patent No. 6,545,281, entitled “Pocked Surface Neutron Detector”. The invention is owned by the United States of America, as represented by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

DATES: Written comments or nonexclusive license applications are to be received at the address listed below no later than October 9, 2012.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John T. Lucas, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 6F–