placed into service during the second quarter of 2009.

On January 29, 2007, FE granted CMI blanket authorization to import LNG from various international sources for a two-year term beginning on January 29, 2007.2

Current Application

In the instant application, CMI is seeking blanket authorization to export LNG that has been imported into the United States over a two-year period, on a short-term or spot market basis, in an amount up to the equivalent of 64 Bcf of natural gas.

Public Interest Considerations

In support of its application, CMI states that there is no domestic reliance on the LNG that it seeks to export. It indicates that the gas which it seeks to export is restricted to foreign sourced LNG. CMI adds that, due to global LNG market conditions, U.S. natural gas demand and prices do not currently support the importation of LNG into the U.S., and the export authorization sought herein would provide U.S. gas consumers two principal benefits: (1) It would foster the continuing operation of U.S. energy infrastructure by enabling the applicant to economically import LNG for the maintenance and continual operation of the Sabine Pass facilities during periods when market conditions may not otherwise favor deliveries of LNG into the U.S.; and (2) to the extent imported LNG may be needed to meet U.S. gas demand, the authorization would help to ensure that such supply is available and ready for delivery to U.S. markets. CMI, therefore, asserts in its application that a grant of the proposed authorization would not reduce U.S. natural gas supplies but would actually increase domestic supplies because it would encourage CMI to obtain and store spot-market LNG cargoes, making it available to supply domestic markets when conditions support it, thereby also serving to moderate U.S. natural gas prices.

DOE/FE Evaluation

This export application will be reviewed pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, as amended, and the authority contained in DOE Delegation Order No. 00–002.00G [Jan. 29, 2007] and DOE Redelegation Order No. 00–002.04G (Jan. 30, 2007). In reviewing this LNG export application, DOE will consider domestic need for the gas, as well as any other issues determined to be appropriate, including whether the arrangement is consistent with DOE’s policy of promoting competition in the marketplace by allowing commercial parties to freely negotiate their own trade arrangements. Parties that may oppose this application should comment in their responses on these issues.

CMI asserts the proposed authorization is in the public interest. Under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, as amended, an LNG export from the United States to a foreign country must be authorized unless “the proposed exportation will not be consistent with the public interest.” Section 3 thus creates a statutory presumption in favor of approval of this application, and parties opposing the authorization bear the burden of overcoming this presumption.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., requires DOE to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of its decisions. No final decision will be issued in this proceeding until DOE has met its NEPA responsibilities.

Public Comment Procedures

In response to this notice, any person may file a protest, motion to intervene or notice of intervention and written comments, as provided in DOE’s regulations at 10 CFR section 590.301, et seq. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding and to have their written comments considered as a basis for any decision on the application must file a motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable. The filing of a protest with respect to the application will not serve to make the protestant a party to the proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties will be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the application. All protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments must meet the requirements specified by the regulations in 10 CFR part 590. Protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, requests for additional procedures, and written comments should be filed with the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply at the address listed above.

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 Cheniere Marketing, Inc. is available for inspection and copying in the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply docket room, 3E–042, at the above address. 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 is also available electronically by going to the following Web address: http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 4, 2008.

Robert F. Corbin.
Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy.
[FR Doc. E8–21059 Filed 9–9–08; 8:45 am] BILING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket No. 08–70–LNG]

Freeport LNG Development, L.P.; Application for Blanket Authorization To Export Liquefied Natural Gas

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 filed on August 1, 2008 by Freeport LNG Development, L.P. (Freeport LNG), requesting blanket authorization to

export liquefied natural gas (LNG) that previously had been imported from foreign sources on their own behalf or as agent for others on a short-term or spot market basis from existing facilities on Quintana Island, Texas in an amount up to the equivalent of 24 Billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas to the United Kingdom, Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Japan, South Korea, India, China, and/or Taiwan over a two-year period commencing on the date of the authorization.


PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS:

In support of its application, Freeport LNG states that there is no domestic reliance on the LNG that it seeks to export. Due to global LNG market conditions, U.S. natural gas demand and prices do not currently support the importation of LNG into the U.S., and export authorization is needed in order to enable the applicant to economically import LNG for the maintenance and continual operation of the Freeport LNG facilities.

Freeport LNG also states in its application that local natural gas supplies will not be reduced. The applicant states that it intends to export only foreign sourced LNG, and does not intend to export domestically produced natural gas. Further, the applicant states that U.S. natural gas supplies would actually increase if the requested authorization were granted, since the boil-off gas from any LNG cargoes delivered to the Freeport LNG terminal would be sold into U.S. markets. Additionally, granting of the requested authorization would encourage Freeport LNG to obtain and store spot-market LNG cargoes, making it available to supply local markets when conditions support it, thereby serving to moderate U.S. natural gas price volatility.

DOE/FE Evaluation

This export application will be reviewed pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, as amended, and the authority contained in DOE Delegation Order No. 00–002.00G (Jan. 29, 2007) and DOE Redelegation Order No. 00–002.04C (Jan. 30, 2007). 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 at the address listed below no later than 4:30 p.m., eastern time, October 10, 2008.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Freeport LNG is a Delaware limited partnership with one general partner, Freeport LNG–GP, Inc., a Delaware corporation, which is owned 50% by an individual, Michael S. Smith, and 50% by ConocoPhillips Company. Freeport LNG’s limited partners are: (1) Freeport LNG Investments, LLLP, a Delaware limited liability limited partnership, which owns a 45% limited partnership interest in Freeport LNG; (2) Cheniere FLNG, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, which owns a 30% limited partnership interest in Freeport LNG; (3) Texas LNG Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company, which owns a 15% limited partnership interest in Freeport LNG; and (4) Turbo LNG LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Osaka Gas Co., Ltd., which owns a 10% limited partnership interest in Freeport LNG.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has authorized Freeport LNG to site, construct and operate a new LNG import, storage, and vaporization terminal on Quintana Island, Texas and an associated 9.6-mile long send-out pipeline which will be utilized to import up to 1.55 Bcf per day of LNG. On July 1, 2008, FERC issued a letter Order granting Freeport LNG’s request to commence service at its Quintana Island import terminal.

On January 15, 2008, FE granted Freeport LNG blanket authorization to import up to 30 Bcf of LNG from various international sources for a two-year term beginning March 1, 2008.

Current Application

In the instant application, Freeport LNG is seeking blanket authorization to export LNG over a two-year period, on a short-term or spot market basis, in an amount up to the equivalent of 24 Bcf of natural gas, that has been imported into the United States. Freeport LNG is seeking this authorization so that it may sell in non-U.S. markets any imported LNG that is not required for the operation of its facilities should U.S. market prices not support the sale of such imported LNG domestically.

Public Interest Considerations

In support of its application, Freeport LNG states that there is no domestic reliance on the LNG that it seeks to export. Due to global LNG market conditions, U.S. natural gas demand and prices do not currently support the importation of LNG into the U.S., and export authorization is needed in order to enable the applicant to economically import LNG for the maintenance and continual operation of the Freeport LNG facilities.

Freeport LNG also states in its application that local natural gas supplies will not be reduced. The applicant states that it intends to export only foreign sourced LNG, and does not intend to export domestically produced natural gas. Further, the applicant states that U.S. natural gas supplies would actually increase if the requested authorization were granted, since the boil-off gas from any LNG cargoes delivered to the Freeport LNG terminal would be sold into U.S. markets. Additionally, granting of the requested authorization would encourage Freeport LNG to obtain and store spot-market LNG cargoes, making it available to supply local markets when conditions support it, thereby serving to moderate U.S. natural gas price volatility.
a protest with respect to the application will not serve to make the protestant a party to the proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties will be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the application. All protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments must meet the requirements specified by the regulations in 10 CFR part 590. Protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, requests for additional procedures, and written comments should be filed with the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply at the address listed above.

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 Freeport LNG Development, L.P. is available for inspection and copying in the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply docket room, 3E–042, at the above address. 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 is also available electronically by going to the following Web address: http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 4, 2008.

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

[FR Doc. E8–20991 Filed 9–9–08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit a request to reinstate two previously approved Information Collection Requests (ICR) and four new ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 10, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier service. Follow the detailed instructions as provided under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION, section A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The contact individuals for each ICR are listed under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION, section II.C.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Docket and Comment Information/Instructions

A. How Can I Access the Docket and/or Submit Comments?

1. Docket Access Instructions

EPA has established a public docket for the ICR listed in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION, section II.B. The docket is available for online viewing at http://www.regulations.gov, or in-person viewing at the Environmental and Compliance Docket and Information Center (ECDIC), in the EPA Docket Center, EPA West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the ECDIC docket is (202) 566–1752.

Use www.regulations.gov to obtain a copy of the draft collection of information, submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. When in the system, select “search,”” then key in the docket ID number identified in this document.

2. Instructions for submitting comments

Submit your comments by one of the following methods:
(a) Electronic Submission: Access www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
(b) E-mail: a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov.
(c) Fax: (202) 566–9744.
(e) Hand Delivery: EPA Docket Center, Public Reading Room, EPA West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20004. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket’s normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information. Direct your comments to the specific docket listed in SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION, section II.B, and reference the OMB Control Number for the ICR. It is EPA’s policy that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be confidential business