

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

WASHINGTON NATURAL GAS COMPANY)

FE DOCKET NO. 93-122-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION
TO IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 882

NOVEMBER 26, 1993

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I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST _____

On November 9, 1993, Washington Natural Gas Company (Washington Natural) 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 0204-127, requesting blanket authorization to import natural gas from Canada. The authorization would allow Washington Natural to import up to 50 Bcf of gas over a period of two years beginning on the date of first delivery after November 30, 1993.^{2/} Washington Natural, a State of Washington

corporation with its principal place of business in Seattle, Washington, is a local distribution company. The imported gas would be purchased from a variety of Canadian suppliers under short-term and spot market transactions and imported for Washington Natural's system supply. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING _____

The application filed by Washington Natural 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), an 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

1/ 15 U.S.C. § 717b. _____

2/ Washington Natural's existing two-year blanket natural gas
import authorization granted by DOE/ERA Opinion and Order No. 535
on October 8, 1991, expires November 30, 1993.

to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Washington Natural 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. Washington Natural Gas Company (Washington Natural) is authorized to import from Canada, at any point on the international border, up to 50 Bcf of natural gas over a two-year period beginning on the date of the first delivery after November 30, 1993.

B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, Washington Natural shall provide written notification to the Office of Fuels Programs, Fossil Energy, Room 3F-056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, of the date that the first import of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.

C. With respect to the natural gas imports authorized by this Order, Washington Natural shall file with the Office of Fuels Programs, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, quarterly 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 have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If imports have occurred, Washington Natural must report monthly total volumes in Mcf and the average purchase price 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 the 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.

D. The first quarterly report required by Ordering Paragraph C of this Order is due not later than January 30, 1994, and should cover the period from December 1, 1993, until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 1993.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on November 26, 1993.

Anthony J. Como
Director
Office of Coal and Electricity
Office of Fuels Programs
Office of Fossil Energy