

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

2006-03-20

MAR 20 2006

DOE/OFE/NGR

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC. _____

FE DOCKET NO. 05-105-NG

ORDER GRANTING LONG-TERM AUTHORIZATION
TO IMPORT AND EXPORT NATURAL GAS
FROM AND TO CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 2180

MARCH 20, 2006

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On November 14, 2005, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) applied to the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA),^{1/} for authority to import and export up to a combined total of 10,000 MMBtu per day of natural gas from and to Canada, under a North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) base contract with ConocoPhillips Canada Limited (ConocoPhillips) for a term beginning on February 1, 2006, and extending through October 31, 2009. Current blanket authority for PSE to import and export natural gas expired January 31, 2006.^{2/} PSE is a Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Bellevue, WA.

PSE, a public service company, furnishes electric and natural gas service within a 6,000 square mile territory, principally in the Puget Sound region of western Washington. PSE transports firm supply natural gas for its distribution operations on Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest). PSE also receives significant quantities of firm storage service from Northwest. According to the gas sales agreement, the natural gas will be delivered by ConocoPhillips to the TransCanada Alberta System pipeline transmission system at the AECO-NIT in Alberta for delivery to the U.S./Canadian border, or other points as mutually agreed to by both parties. Under the North American Energy Standards Board base contract, the

^{1/} 15 U.S.C. § 717b. This authority is delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy pursuant to Redelegation Order No. 00.002.04A (April 13, 2005).

^{2/} DOE/FE Order No. 1936 (2 FE ¶70,926).

price of the gas delivered at any given time is the price published for that commodity at that period in Canadian Enerdata's "Canadian Gas Price Reports AECO-NIT" index price plus \$0.0075 US/MMbtu.

II. FINDING

The application filed by PSE 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 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 PSE 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.

ORDER

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

A. Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 10,000 MMBtu per day of natural gas from and to Canada. This authorization began on February 1, 2006 and extends through October 31, 2009. The natural gas will be delivered by ConocoPhillips to the AECO-NIT in Alberta for delivery at the U.S./Canadian border, or other points as mutually agreed to by both parties, under a North American Energy Standards Board base contract, dated August 1, 2004.

B. Monthly Reports: With respect to the imports and exports of natural gas authorized by this Order, PSE shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar month, a report indicating whether imports or exports of natural gas have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If neither imports or exports have been made, a report of “no activity” for that month must be filed. If imports or exports of natural gas have occurred, the report must give the following details: (1) for imports, the country of origin; (2) for exports, the country of destination; (3) point(s) of entry and exit; and (4) total volume in thousand cubic feet (Mcf) at each import or export point for the month. [OMB No.: 1901-0294]

C. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than April 30, 2006, and should cover the reporting period from March 1, 2006, through March 31, 2006.

D. Quarterly Reports: With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, PSE shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports or exports of natural gas have been made. If neither 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, the report must give the details of each transaction, including: (1) the total monthly volumes in Mcf; (2) the average purchase price of gas per million British thermal units (MMBtu) at the international border; (3) the name of the supplier; (4) the name of the purchaser; (5) the estimated or actual duration of the supply agreement; (6) the name of the United States transporter(s); (7) the point(s) of entry and exit; and (8) for imports, the geographic market(s) served, by State. In addition to the above details, for import transactions only, the report will also include:

(1) whether sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis; and (2) the per unit (MMBtu) demand/commodity/reservation charge breakdown of the contract price. [OMB NO.: 1901-0294]

E. The first quarterly report required by this Order is due not later than April 30, 2006, and should cover the period of the first calendar quarter, from February 1, 2006 through March 31, 2006.

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

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 20, 2006.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. F. Corbin', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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