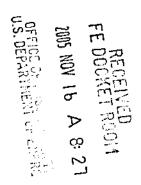
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY



AMERICAN CRYSTAL SUGAR COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 05-88-NG

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

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 2148

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On October 7, 2005, American Crystal Sugar Company (American) 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 10 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from and to Canada. The applicant requests the authorization be granted for a two-year term beginning on November 1, 2005. American is a Minnesota corporation with its principal place of business in Moorhead, Minnesota.

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 nations with which there are in effect free trade agreements requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas are deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by American to import and export natural gas from and to Canada, a nation with which free a 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 Redelegation Order No. 00.002.04A (April 13, 2005).

ORDER

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

- A. American Crystal Sugar Company (American) is authorized to import and export up to a combined total of 10 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas from and to Canada. The term of the authority began on November 1, 2005, and extends through October 31, 2007.
- B. This natural gas may be imported and exported at any point on the border between the United States and Canada.
- C. Monthly Reports: With respect to the natural gas imports and/or exports authorized by this Order, American shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, within 30 days following each calendar month, a report indicating whether natural gas imports and/or exports have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If neither natural gas imports nor exports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that month must be filed. If natural gas imports and/or exports have occurred, the report must give the following details: (1) for imports, country of origin; (2) point(s) of entry and exit; (3) total volume at each import point in Mcf for the month; and (4) country of destination. [OMB NO.: 1901-0294]
- D. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than December 30, 2005, and should cover the reporting period November 1, 2005, through November 30, 2005.
- E. Quarterly Reports: With respect to the natural gas imports and exports authorized by this Order, American shall file with the Office of Natural Gas Regulatory

Activities, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, reports indicating whether imports and/or exports of natural gas have been made. Quarterly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If neither imports nor exports of natural gas have 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 country of origin; (2) the total monthly volumes in thousand cubic feet (Mcf); (3) the average purchase price of gas per million British thermal units (MMBtu) at the international border; (4) the name of the seller(s); (5) the name of the purchaser(s); (6) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (7) the name of the United States transporter(s); (8) the point(s) of entry and exit; and (9) the geographic market(s) served (for imports, by State). [OMB No.: 1901-0294]

- F. The first quarterly report required by this Order is due not later than January 30, 2006, and should cover the period from November 1, 2005, until the end of the fourth calendar quarter, December 31, 2005.
- G. 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 November 10, 2005.

R. F. Corbin

Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply Office of Fossil Energy