UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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CONOCO PHILLIPS ALASKA)	
NATURAL GAS CORPORATION)	
AND)	FE DOCKET NO. 07-02-LNG
MARATHON OIL COMPANY)	

ORDER EXTENDING TIME TO ANSWER PROTESTS AND MOTIONS TO INTERVENE

BACKGROUND

On January 10, 2007, Conoco Phillips Alaska Natural Gas Corporation (CPANGC) and Marathon Oil Company (Marathon) (jointly, applicants) filed an application requesting that the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) grant them authority to export on their own behalf or as agents for others on a short-term or spot market basis from facilities near Kenai, Alaska up to 99 trillion British thermal units (Btu's) of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Under the application, the LNG would be exported to Japan and/or one or more countries on either side of the Pacific Rim over a two year period commencing April 1, 2009 and terminating March 31, 2011.

DOE issued a notice of application on March 2, 2007. Pursuant to the notice, FE received numerous timely filed comments, protests, and motions to intervene by April 9, 2007. Respectively, under 10 CFR 590.303(e) and 590.304(f) of DOE's procedural rules, answers to motions to intervene and to protests must be filed within 15 days after the motion to intervene or protest is filed (in this case, by April 24, 2007) "unless a later date is permitted... for good cause shown." *Also see*, 10 CFR 590.105(b).

On April 20, 2007, the applicants jointly submitted a motion requesting an extension of time to file an answer to the motions to intervene, comments, and protests filed in this proceeding from April 9 to and including May 8, 2007. In support of the motion, the applicants state that the 15 day response period in DOE's rules does not afford them sufficient time to prepare responses and to obtain management approval within each company. The applicants indicate that the additional time requested by their motion is consistent with extensions granted in other similar proceedings, the time period is brief, and the extension will not adversely affect other participants to the proceeding.

In their motion, the applicants also ask for a modification of the service list in order to replace one named individual with the name of a new individual.

DECISION

FE has determined that good cause exists to grant applicants' request for a four week extension of time to file answers to the protests and motions to intervene in this proceeding. FE notes that the extension granted is relatively brief, does not adversely affect any other participant to the proceeding, and should not delay the ultimate resolution of the application. DOE grants the applicants' motion before the May 7, 2007 due date for filing answers to that motion under section 590.302(b) of DOE's regulations has passed. Absent expeditious action by FE, the motion for an extension of time would be moot and the deadline for applicants' response to the motions to intervene and protests (April 24, 2007) would have passed before the due date for responses to applicants' motion for an extension of time (May 7, 2007).

FE will modify the service list, as requested by the applicants.

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¹ 72 FR 10507, March 8, 2007.

ORDER

For the reasons set forth above, it is ordered that, pursuant to 10 CFR 590.303(e) and 590.304(f) of DOE's procedural rules, the deadline for the applicants to submit an answer to motions to intervene and protests in this proceeding is extended from April 9, 2007 to May 8, 2007.

It is further ordered that the service list be modified, as requested by the applicants.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on April 24, 2007.

Robert F. Corbin

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

Office of Fossil Energy