UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

PASO NORTE GAS EXPORT, LLC   DOCKET NO. 21-126-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION
TO EXPORT NATURAL GAS TO MEXICO

DOE/FECM ORDER NO. 4774

DECEMBER 21, 2021

I. **DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST**

On November 9, 2021, Paso Norte Gas Export, LLC (Paso Norte Gas Export) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) of the Department of Energy (DOE) requesting blanket authorization under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)[1] for the authority summarized in the list below. The applicant requests the authorization for a two-year term beginning on January 11, 2022.[2] Paso Norte Gas Export is a New Mexico limited liability company with its principal place of business in Bayard, New Mexico.

1. Export up to 40 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas to Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico.

II. **FINDING**

DOE has evaluated the application to determine if the proposed import and/or 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 NGA section 3(c), imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), from or to any country with which the United States has entered into a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas and the import of LNG from other international sources are deemed to be consistent with the public interest.[3] DOE must grant such applications without modification or delay.[4] The authorization sought by Paso Norte Gas Export meets the NGA section 3(c) criteria, and, therefore, is deemed to be consistent with the public interest.

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1. Authority to regulate the imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, under section 3 of the NGA (15 U.S.C. § 717b) has been delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy in Redelegation Order No. S4-DEL-FE1-2021, issued on March 25, 2021. On July 4, 2021, the Office of Fossil Energy changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management.

2. Paso Norte Gas Export's blanket authorization, granted in DOE/FE Order No. 4474, extends through January 10, 2022.

3. 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

4. *Id.*

ORDER

Pursuant to section 3(c) of the NGA, it is ordered that:

A. Paso Norte Gas Export is authorized for the activity described below. This authorization shall be effective for a two-year term beginning on January 11, 2022, and extending through January 10, 2024.

1. Export up to 40 Bcf of natural gas to Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico.

B. **Monthly Reports:** With respect to the imports and/or exports authorized by this Order, Paso Norte Gas Export shall file with the Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar month, a report on Form FE-746R indicating whether imports and/or exports have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports and/or exports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that month must be filed. If imports and/or exports have occurred, the report must provide the information specified for each applicable activity and mode of transportation, as set forth in the Guidelines for Filing Monthly Reports. These Guidelines are available at: https://www.energy.gov/fe/services/natural-gas-regulation/guidelines-filing-monthly-reports.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control No. 1901-0294)

C. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than February 28, 2022, and should cover the reporting period from January 11, 2022 through January 31, 2022.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on December 21, 2021.

Amy R. Sweeney

Amy R. Sweeney

Director, Office of Regulation, Analysis, & Engagement

Office of Resource Sustainability

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Digitally signed by Amy R. Sweeney. Date: 2021.12.21 11:56:16 -05:00