

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

PASO NORTE GAS EXPORT, LLC

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FE DOCKET NO. 17-160-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION
TO EXPORT NATURAL GAS TO MEXICO

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 4138

JANUARY 11, 2018

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On December 20, 2017, Paso Norte Gas Export, LLC (Paso Norte Gas Export) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)¹ for blanket authorization to export up to 4 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas to Mexico via pipeline. On January 2, 2018, Paso Norte Gas Export amended the application by increasing the volumes requested for export to up to 40 Bcf of natural gas and making other clarifications to the application.² The applicant requests the authorization be granted for a two-year term beginning on the date that DOE/FE issues an order granting the requested authorization. Paso Norte Gas Export is a New Mexico limited liability company with its principal place of business in Bayard, New Mexico.

II. FINDING

The application has been evaluated 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 section 3(c), the import and export of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), from and to a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement 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, and applications for such imports or exports must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Paso Norte Gas Export to export natural gas to Mexico, a nation with which a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas 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 The 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 FE in Redesignation Order No. 00-006.02 issued on November 17, 2014.

² Email from Peter Momsen, President, Paso Norte Natural Gas Export, to DOE/FE (Jan. 2, 2018).

ORDER

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

A. Paso Norte Gas Export is authorized to export up to 40 Bcf of natural gas to Mexico, pursuant to transactions that have terms of no longer than two years. This authorization shall be effective for a two-year term beginning on January 11, 2018, and extending through January 10, 2020.

B. This natural gas may be exported by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico.

C. **Monthly Reports:** With respect to the natural gas exports authorized by this Order, Paso Norte Gas Export shall file with the Office of Regulation and International Engagement, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar month, a report indicating whether exports of natural gas have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no exports have been made, a report of “no activity” for that month must be filed. If exports of natural gas have occurred, the report must give the following details: (1) the country of destination; (2) the point(s) of exit; (3) the volume in thousand cubic feet (Mcf); (4) the average purchase price of gas per million British thermal units (MMBtu) at the international border; (5) the name of the supplier(s); (6) the name of the U.S. transporter(s); and (7) the estimated or actual duration of the supply agreement(s).

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

D. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than February 28, 2018, and should cover the reporting period from January 11, 2018, through January 31, 2018.

E. All monthly report filings shall be made to U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34), Division of Natural Gas Regulation, Office of Regulation and International Engagement, Office of Fossil Energy, P.O. Box 44375, Washington, D.C. 20026-4375, Attention: Natural Gas

Reports. Alternatively, reports may be e-mailed to ngreports@hq.doe.gov, or may be faxed to Natural Gas Reports at (202) 586-6050.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on January 11, 2018.

Robert J. Smith
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oil and Natural Gas (Acting)