

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

EQUINOR NATURAL GAS LLC

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FE DOCKET NO. 18-101-LNG

FE DOCKET NO. 17-96-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO
IMPORT LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FROM
VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL SOURCES BY VESSEL
AND VACATING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

DOE/FE ORDER NOS. 4236 AND 4075-A

SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On August 8, 2018, Equinor Natural Gas LLC (Equinor Natural Gas) 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 import liquefied natural gas (LNG) from various international sources by vessel, up to a total volume equivalent to 1,100 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas. The applicant requests the authorization be granted for a two-year term beginning on the date this Order is issued. Equinor Natural Gas is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business in Stamford, Connecticut.

Previously, on July 28, 2017, Statoil Natural Gas was granted authorization in DOE/FE Order No. 4075 to import natural gas from Canada for a two-year term beginning on July 28, 2017, and extending through July 27, 2019. On August 9, 2018, Equinor Natural Gas informed DOE/FE that as of June 25, 2018, Statoil Natural Gas had changed its name to Equinor Natural Gas.² In that email, Equinor Natural Gas requested that DOE/FE vacate its existing authorization in DOE/FE Order No. 4075, effective the date this Order is issued.³

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 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

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 See email from Barbara Hicks, Equinor US Holdings Inc., to DOE/FE (Aug. 8, 2018).

³See *id.*

applications for such imports or exports must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Equinor Natural Gas to import LNG from various international sources by vessel 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.

ORDER

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

A. Equinor Natural Gas is authorized to import LNG from various international sources by vessel, up to a total volume equivalent to 1,100 Bcf of natural gas, pursuant to transactions that have terms of no longer than two years. This authorization shall be effective for a two-year term beginning on September 5, 2018, and extending through September 4, 2020.

B. This LNG may be imported at any LNG receiving facility in the United States and its territories.

C. LNG imports that require increased security measures from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and/or other branches of the Department of Homeland Security in place now or added in the future shall comply with those measures on a shipment by shipment basis to the satisfaction of the USCG. Such measures may include periodic boarding or examination of the vessel by the USCG at the load port, while the vessel is underway, at any time during the voyage, and before and during discharge of the cargo while at the discharge port, as well as other enhanced security measures.

D. **Monthly Reports:** With respect to the imports of LNG authorized by this Order, Equinor Natural Gas 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 imports of LNG have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports have been made, a report of “no activity” for that month must be filed.

If imports of LNG by vessel have occurred, the report must give the following details of each LNG cargo: (1) the name of the U.S. receiving terminal; (2) the name of the LNG tanker; (3) the date of arrival at the U.S. receiving terminal; (4) the country of origin; (5) the name of the supplier/seller; (6) the volume in Mcf; (7) the landed price per MMBtu at the point of import; (8) the duration of the supply agreement (indicate spot purchases); (9) the name(s) of the purchaser(s); and (10) the geographic market served (list State(s), U.S. Census Region(s), or general U.S. geographic area(s)).

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

E. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than October 30, 2018, and should cover the reporting period from September 5, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

F. 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.

G. Statoil Natural Gas's blanket authorization to import natural gas from Canada, granted in DOE/FE Order No. 4075 on July 28, 2017, is hereby vacated effective September 5, 2018.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on September 5, 2018.

Amy R. Sweeney
Director, Division of Natural Gas Regulation