

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**[FE Docket No. 99-110-LNG]****Office of Fossil Energy; Phillips Alaska Natural Gas Corporation and Marathon Oil Company; Application for Blanket Authorization To Export Liquefied Natural Gas****AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.**ACTION:** Notice of application.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) gives notice of receipt of an application filed jointly on December 16, 1999, by Phillips Alaska Natural Gas Corporation (PANGC) and Marathon Oil Company (Marathon) requesting blanket authorization to export up to 10 trillion Btu's (approximately 10 billion cubic feet (Bcf)) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to various countries. The proposed exports would take place over a period of two years, beginning on the date of first export, from the existing PANGC/Marathon LNG facilities at Kenai, Alaska.

The application is filed under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 0204-127. Protests, motions to intervene or notices of intervention, and written comments are invited.

DATES: Protests, motions to intervene or notices of intervention, as applicable, requests for additional procedures and written comments are to be filed at the address listed below no later than 4:30 p.m., eastern time, February 11, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, FE-34, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Patrick J. Fleming, Allyson C. Reilly, Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4819, (202) 586-9394

Diane Stubbs, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 6E-042, GC-75, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-6667

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

PANGC, a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Phillips Petroleum Company, a Delaware corporation.

Marathon, an Ohio corporation with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas, is a wholly owned subsidiary of USX Corporation, also a Delaware corporation. PANGC and Marathon are not affiliated with each other. They own and operate natural gas liquefaction and marine terminal facilities at Kenai, Alaska.

On March 17, 1993, DOE granted a request by PANGC and Marathon for a two-year blanket authorization to export up to 10 Bcf of LNG from their Kenai facilities beginning on the date of the first delivery. See DOE/FE Order No. 786 (1 FE ¶ 70,777). That authorization was first used March 25, 1997, and expired March 24, 1999. PANGC and Marathon currently have long-term authority to export to Japan up to 64.4 trillion Btu's (approximately 64.4 Bcf) of LNG per year through March 31, 2009, pursuant to DOE/FE Opinion and Order Nos. 261, *et al.* (July 28, 1988-March 2, 1995) and 1473 (April 2, 1999). See 1 ERA ¶ 70,130, 1 FE ¶ 70,454, ¶ 70,506, 1 FE ¶ 70,607, 1 FE ¶ 71,087, and 2 FE ¶ 70,317. In granting Order 1473, DOE determined an extension of the LNG export would not be inconsistent with the public interest. In particular, DOE found there is a sufficient supply of natural gas in Alaska to satisfy local and export demand through the extension period.

PANGC and Marathon indicate the Kenai facilities at times can manufacture LNG in excess of the volume required by their currently authorized long-term sales arrangements with Japan. They would like to make this additional LNG available to international markets. PANGC and Marathon further indicate the short-term LNG export transactions for which they now request authorization will be subject to monthly price adjustments based on market conditions and the prices of comparable competing fuels. They also assert the proposed exports will benefit Alaskan producers and suppliers who otherwise may not have a market for their excess gas. In addition, they maintain the exports will benefit Alaskan citizens by generating tax and other revenues related to gas production that may not otherwise have a market.

The decision on the application of PANGC and Marathon for export authority will be made consistent with the DOE's gas export policy guidelines, under which DOE considers the domestic need for the gas to be exported and any other issues determined to be appropriate, including whether the arrangement is consistent with the DOE policy of promoting competition in the natural gas marketplace by allowing

commercial parties to freely negotiate their own trade arrangements. Parties that may oppose this application should comment in their responses on these issues as they relate to the requested export authority. PANGC and Marathon assert the proposed export arrangement will be in the public interest. Parties opposing the arrangement bear the burden of overcoming this assertion.

NEPA Compliance

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, requires DOE to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of its proposed decisions. No final decision will be issued in this proceeding until DOE has met its NEPA responsibilities.

Public Comment Procedures

In response to this notice, any person may file a protest, motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable, and written comments. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding and to have the written comments considered as the basis for any decision on the application must, however, file a motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable. The filing of a protest with respect to this application will not serve to make the protestant a party to the proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties will be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the application. All protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments must meet the requirements that are specified by the regulations in 10 CFR Part 590. Protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, requests for additional procedures, and written comments should be filed with the Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities at the address listed above.

It is intended that a decisional record on this application will be developed through responses to this notice by parties, including the parties' written comments and replies thereto. Additional procedures will be used as necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the facts and issues. A party seeking intervention may request that additional procedures be provided, such as additional written comments, an oral presentation, a conference, or trial-type hearing. Any request to file additional written comments should explain why they are necessary. Any request for an oral presentation should identify the substantial question of fact, law, or policy at issue, show that it is

material and relevant to a decision in the proceeding, and demonstrate why an oral presentation is needed. Any request for a conference should demonstrate why the conference would materially advance the proceeding. Any request for a trial-type hearing must show that there are factual issues genuinely in dispute that are relevant and material to a decision and that a trial-type hearing is necessary for a full and true disclosure of the facts.

If an additional procedure is scheduled, notice will provide notice to all parties. If no party requests additional procedures, a final opinion and order may be issued based on the official record, including the application and responses filed by parties pursuant to this notice, in accordance with 10 CFR 590.316.

Phillips and Marathon's application is available for inspection and copying in the Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities Docket Room, 3E-042, at the above address. The docket room is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on January 6, 2000.

John W. Glynn,

Manager, Natural Gas Regulation, Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum, Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 00-747 Filed 1-11-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket No. 99-93-LNG]

Office of Fossil Energy; Sonat Energy Services Company, Order Granting Long-Term Authorization To Import Liquefied Natural Gas From Trinidad and Tobago

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of order.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy gives notice that it has issued an order granting Sonat Energy Services Company (Sonat) long-term authorization to import up to 82 billion cubic feet of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year from Trinidad and Tobago over a period of 22 years beginning on the date of the first delivery, in accordance with Sonat's final supply agreement with British Gas Trinidad and Tobago Limited, AGIP Trinidad and Tobago Limited, Veba Oil & Gas Trinidad GmbH, and Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited and authorizations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

This order is available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities docket room, 3E-042, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-9478. The docket room is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Order may also be found on the FE website at <http://www.fe.doe.gov>, or on the electronic bulletin board at (202) 586-7853.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 17, 1999.

John W. Glynn,

Manager, Natural Gas Regulation, Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 00-746 Filed 1-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-404-008]

Mississippi River Transmission Corporation; Notice of Tariff Filing

January 6, 2000.

Take notice that on December 30, 1999, Mississippi River Transmission Corporation (MRT) tendered for filing as part of the General Terms and Conditions to FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheet:

5th Substitute Original Sheet No. 99-D

MRT states that the purpose of this filing is to comply with Commission order of December 16, 1999, to include required language that MRT will disclose the identity of successful bidders of available capacity via its electronic bulletin board and designated internet site.

MRT states that a copy of this filing is being mailed to each of MRT's customers and to the state commissions of Arkansas, Illinois and Missouri.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings.

Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-666 Filed 1-11-00 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP99-176-011]

Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

January 6, 2000.

Take notice that on January 4, 2000, Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (Natural) tendered for filing to be a part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Sixth Revised Volume No. 1, Original Sheet No. 26C, to be effective January 1, 2000.

Natural states that the purpose of this filing is to implement Negotiated Rate transactions with North Shore Gas Company and The Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company under Rate Schedule FTS pursuant to Section 49 of the General Terms and Conditions (GT&C) of Natural's Tariff.

Natural requested waiver of Section 49.1(e) of the GT&C of Natural's Tariff and of the Commission's Regulations, including the 30-day notice requirement of Section 154.207, to the extent necessary to permit Original Sheet No. 26C to become effective January 1, 2000.

Natural states that copies of the filing are being mailed to its customers, interested state commissions and all parties set out on the Commission's official service list in Docket No. RP99-176.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference