

APT facility. To focus this design effort DOE has made the following selections for the different sets of alternatives and design variations described and analyzed above and in the engineering and environmental documents.

1. Radiofrequency Power

The preferred alternative of klystron power tubes would be used as the basis for the preliminary design because the inductive output tube design is still in development. The DOE would, however, continue with development of the inductive output tube. If at a future date, the development of the inductive output tube advances and the APT design is activated as a source of tritium, the inductive output tube may be substituted for the klystron power tubes.

The klystron power tube uses additional electricity, but otherwise, the environmental impacts are similar for the two alternatives. From a technology and cost perspective, the inductive output tubes have a lower cost because they are smaller, more efficient and operate at lower voltage.

2. Operating Temperature

The alternative of using superconducting components is selected as the preferred alternative for specific higher power sections of the accelerator. The use of superconducting components would have:

- Reduced electricity demands resulting in lower environmental impacts.
- Greater safety margin due to less chance for activation of the accelerating structures and cooling system that reduces the number of pipe penetrations into the accelerator.
- Only two cavity sizes allowing for simpler design and maintenance.

3. Feedstock Material

The alternative using helium-3 as a feedstock material is selected as the preferred alternative for production of tritium. The use of helium-3 as a feedstock material would have:

- The least environmental impact.
- Greater flexibility in extracting the tritium on a semi-continuous basis.
- Greater safety margin because the inventory of tritium in the target blanket and separations facilities is less.

4. Cooling Water System

The alternative of mechanical-draft cooling towers with makeup water from the Savannah River is selected as the preferred alternative for the cooling system. The design variation of

discharging to the head of Pond C, but downstream from the pre-cooler ponds, is also selected. This alternative is selected because it:

- Has the least environmental impacts.
- Avoids additional costs to upgrade the pre-cooler ponds.

5. Siting

The site 3 miles northeast of the Tritium Loading Facility is selected as the preferred APT site. This site is selected because it results in:

- Greater buffer distance which would reduce public radiological exposure in case of an incident.
- Less impact to terrestrial and aquatic ecology.

6. Electric Power Supply

The alternative of obtaining electricity from the existing commercial capacity and through market transactions is selected as the preferred alternative for electrical power supply. The alternative is selected because:

- It presents the least environmental impact.
- It provides the greatest flexibility in reducing costs through using market mechanisms to obtain bulk wholesale costs.
- It provides opportunities to use alternative supplies of power.

7. Modular Design Variation

The modular design is selected as the preferred design for the APT because it:

- Provides capacity and cost flexibility in meeting changing tritium requirements.

8. Combine Tritium Separation and Tritium Extraction

This design variation is not selected since the APT was not selected as the primary tritium source. Since the CLWR was selected as the primary source, a Tritium Extraction Facility must be built to support this decision.

VI. Consolidated Tritium Supply and Recycling Decision

The Department of Energy will produce new tritium for national security purposes on a schedule and at a rate to meet the requirements of the President's Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Plan. Tritium will be produced by irradiating DOE-supplied tritium-producing rods in commercial light water reactors, specifically the Tennessee Valley Authority's currently operating Watts Bar Unit 1, Sequoyah Unit 1, and/or Sequoyah Unit 2 reactors. To support this method of tritium

production, a new Tritium Extraction Facility will be designed and constructed in the H-Area of DOE's Savannah River Site.

The Accelerator Production of Tritium technology will be developed as the backup tritium supply. Engineering development and demonstration, preliminary design, and detailed design of key elements of the system will be completed to permit expeditious initiation of accelerator facility construction at the preferred location on the Savannah River Site should it be needed.

The Fast Flux Test Facility will have no role in tritium production.

Signed this 6th day of May 1999.

Bill Richardson,

Secretary of Energy.

[FR Doc. 99-12019 Filed 5-13-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket Nos. 99-22-NG, et al.]

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, et al., Orders Granting, Amending, and Vacating Authorizations To Import and Export Natural Gas, Including Liquefied Natural Gas

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of orders.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy gives notice that it has issued Orders granting, amending, and vacating natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, import and export authorizations. These Orders are summarized in the attached appendix.

These Orders may be found on the FE web site at <http://www.fe.doe.gov>, or on the electronic bulletin board at (202) 586-7853.

They are also available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities, Docket Room 3E-033, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 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.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 6, 1999.

John W. Glynn,

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

Attachment

APPENDIX—ORDERS GRANTING, AMENDING AND VACATING IMPORT/EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS
[DOE/FE Authority]

| Order No. | Date issued | Importer/Ex- porter FE Docket No. | Import volume | Export volume | Comments |
|-------------|-------------|---|---|---------------|--|
| 1474 | 04/06/99 | Cascade Nat- ural Gas Corporation 99-22-NG. | 25,000 MMBtu/ per day and 15,000 MMBtu/per day. | ..... | Import specific volumes from Canada for the period of Novem- ber 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999, and import specific volumes from Canada for the period of April 1, 1999, through October 31, 1999. |
| 1475 | 04/08/99 | Sumas Energy 2, Inc. 99- 24-NG. | 82.8 Bcf ..... | ..... | Import from Canada beginning on the date of first delivery. |
| 1476 | 04/13/99 | Enserch En- ergy Serv- ices, Inc. 99- 25-NG. | 120 Bcf ..... | ..... | Import and export a combined total from and to Canada and Mexico beginning July 27, 1999, and extending through July 26, 2001. |
| 1477 | 04/20/99 | Wisconsin Electric Power Com- pany 99-23- NG. | 14 Bcf ..... | ..... | Import from Canada beginning January 1, 1999, and ending on December 31, 2000. |
| 1206-A | 04/20/99 | ProGas U.S.A., Inc. 96-65- NG. | ..... | ..... | Amendment to long-term import by increasing volumes from 16,402 Mcf per day to 29,365 Mcf per day for the period June 1, 1999, through October 31, 2006. From November 1, 2006, through October 31, 2007, the import volumes will revert back to the 16,402 Mcf per day. |
| 1197-B | 04/20/99 | ProGas U.S.A., Inc. 96-60- NG. | ..... | ..... | Amendment to long-term to increase import volumes from 2,309 Mcf per day up to 2,563 Mcf per day for the period of June 1, 1999, through October 31, 2012. |
| 1478 | 04/22/99 | International Gas Imports, L.L.C. 99- 28-LNG. | 300 Bcf ..... | ..... | Import liquefied natural gas from various sources beginning on the acquisition of first shipment. |
| 492-B | 04/20/99 | Fulton Cogen- eration Asso- ciates 90- 34-NG. | ..... | ..... | Vacate long-term import authority. |

[FR Doc. 99-12251 Filed 5-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Energy Information
Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Agency information collection
activities: Proposed collection; comment
request.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information
Administration (EIA) is soliciting
comments on the proposed revision and
extension to the Form EIA-28,
"Financial Reporting System (FRS)."

DATES: Written comments must be
submitted on or before July 13, 1999. If
you anticipate difficulty in submitting
comments within that period, contact
the person identified below as soon as
possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Gregory
P. Filas, Energy Information
Administration (EI-62), Financial
Analysis Team, Forrestal Building, U.S.
Department of Energy, Washington, DC
20585. Alternately, Mr. Filas may be
contacted by telephone (202) 586-1347;
e-mail greg.filas@eia.doe.gov; or FAX
(202) 586-9753.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or
copies of the form and instructions
should be directed to Mr. Filas at the
address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

I. Background

The Federal Energy Administration
Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-275, 15
U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the Department
of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. No.
95-91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*) require
the Energy Information Administration
(EIA) to carry out a centralized,
comprehensive, and unified energy
information program. This program

collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes,
and disseminates information on energy
resource reserves, production, demand,
technology, and related economic and
statistical information. This information
is used to assess the adequacy of energy
resources to meet near and longer term
domestic demands.

The EIA, as part of its effort to comply
with the Paperwork Reduction Act of
1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter
35), provides the general public and
other Federal agencies with
opportunities to comment on collections
of energy information conducted by or
in conjunction with the EIA. Any
comments received help the EIA to
prepare data requests that maximize the
utility of the information collected, and
to assess the impact of collection
requirements on the public. Also, the
EIA will later seek approval by the
Office of Management and Budget
(OMB) of the collections under Section
3507(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act
of 1995.

Under Pub. L. 95-91, section 205(h),
the Administrator of the EIA is required
to "identify and designate" the major
energy companies who must annually