

148 FERC ¶ 61,004
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Cheryl A. LaFleur, Acting Chairman;
Philip D. Moeller, John R. Norris,
and Tony Clark.

Tricor Ten Section Hub, LLC

Docket No. CP09-432-000

ORDER VACATING CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZATIONS

(Issued July 2, 2014)

1. On September 30, 2011, the Commission authorized Tricor Ten Section Hub, LLC (Tricor) pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)¹ to construct and operate a natural gas storage facility in the depleted Ten Section oil and gas field located in Kern County, California and a 21-mile pipeline header system connecting to an interstate pipeline running between the cities of Daggett and Bakersfield, California.² The Commission also issued Tricor a blanket transportation certificate under Subpart G of Part 284 of the regulations³ and a blanket construction certificate under Subpart F of Part 157 of the regulations.⁴
2. The 2011 Order required Tricor to complete construction of the proposed facilities and make them available for service by March 30, 2013. On February 10, 2012, Tricor requested an extension of time until November 5, 2014, due to delays in obtaining storage permits from the California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources (DOGGR). On February 17, 2012, Commission staff granted the extension of time.

¹ 15 U.S.C. § 717f(c) (2012).

² *Tricor Ten Section Hub, LLC*, 136 FERC ¶ 61,242 (2011) (2011 Order).

³ 18 C.F.R. pt. 284, Subpart G (2013).

⁴ 18 C.F.R. pt. 157, Subpart F (2013).

3. On May 6, 2014, Tricor filed a request to vacate the authorizations granted in the 2011 Order. Tricor states that it has been unable obtain the storage permit approval from DOGGR.⁵ In addition, Tricor states that it has not entered into any natural gas storage agreements for service from the project facilities.

4. Since Tricor does not intend to construct or operate the storage facilities and has not entered into any agreements to provide service from the project facilities, the Commission will vacate the certificate issued in the 2011 Order to construct and operate those facilities. The Commission will also vacate the Part 284, Subpart G blanket transportation certificate and the Part 157, Subpart F blanket construction certificate.

The Commission orders:

The certificate authorizations issued to Tricor in the 2011 Order are vacated.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

⁵ Tricor also states that even if DOGGR does issue a storage permit, the conditions it will impose on Tricor to re-enter and re-abandon previously sealed and abandoned oil wells pose excessive technological challenges and costs that prevent project development.