

104 FERC ¶ 61,165
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Pat Wood, III, Chairman;
William L. Massey, and Nora Mead Brownell.

Tractebel Calypso Pipeline, LLC

Docket Nos. CP01-409-003
CP01-410-003
CP01-411-003
CP01-444-003

ORDER AMENDING PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

(Issued July 29, 2003)

1. On June 13, 2003, Tractebel Calypso Pipeline, LLC (Tractebel) submitted a "request for clarification" of a preliminary determination on non-environmental issues issued on May 1, 2003.¹ The May 2003 order addressed non-environmental issues associated with the Tractebel application for Natural Gas Act Section 3 and 7 authorizations to build a new approximately 41.8-mile long pipe to bring up to 832,000 MMBtu of gas per day from an underwater interconnect at the US-Bahamian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) boundary to delivery points in Broward County, Florida. The May 2003 order provided for Tractebel to complete its proposed project within two years of the issuance of a final order in this proceeding. Tractebel requests that this be extended to three years. We will amend the May 2003 order to provide the additional time requested.²

2. This order has no impact on our consideration of environmental issues; these issues will be addressed in a subsequent order in this proceeding. Final approval and issuance of the requested authorizations depend on a favorable environmental review, and nothing in this order limits our actions with respect to that assessment.

¹103 FERC ¶ 61,106 (2003).

²This order follows the approach taken on a similar request also involving a proposed pipeline extending from the EEZ boundary to Florida. See AES Ocean Express LLC, 103 FERC ¶ 61,326 (2003).

Background and Proposal

3. Tractebel proposes to build and operate 41.8 miles of 24-inch pipe to bring gas from an offshore receipt point at the boundary between the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to onshore delivery points in Broward County, Florida. An affiliate of Tractebel plans to construct a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Freeport, Grand Bahama Island to store and regassify LNG. Regassified volumes will be transported from the new terminal facilities in Freeport through a new 53.9-mile long, 24-inch diameter pipe to an interconnect with the offshore terminus of the proposed Tractebel pipeline.

May 2003 Preliminary Determination

4. Ordering Paragraph (G) of the May 2003 order states that any authority issued in a final order in this proceeding will be conditioned on Tractebel's placing its proposed facilities into service within two years of the final order. Tractebel states that while it expects to be able to complete construction of its portion of the overall project (from the EEZ boundary to Florida) in approximately 15 months, construction of its affiliate's new LNG terminal in Freeport and the connecting pipeline is expected to take approximately 32 months. Tractebel states that construction of the Bahamian facilities will most likely not begin until after the Commission issues a final order in this proceeding. Thus, although the Tractebel facilities can be completed well within the two years specified in Ordering Paragraph (G) of the May 2003 order, the nonjurisdictional Bahamian facilities that Tractebel will rely on to provide the contemplated service may require more than two years to complete. Tractebel asks that the Commission accommodate this by permitting up to three years between issuance of a final order in this proceeding and Tractebel's placing its proposed facilities in service.

Commission Response

5. In recognition of the interdependence of the separate U.S. and Bahamian projects, we will modify Ordering Paragraph (G) of our May 1, 2003 order to provide Tractebel with up to three years from a final order in this proceeding to complete its proposed project.

The Commission orders:

Ordering Paragraph (G) of the May 1, 2003 order in this proceeding is amended to read as follows:

Construction of any facilities authorized in this proceeding shall be completed and placed in service within three years from the date of any final order in this proceeding in accordance with Section 157.20(b) of the Commission's regulations.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Linda Mitry,
Acting Secretary.