

**ELECTRICITY EXPORT AUTHORIZATION**

**CITIZENS UTILITIES COMPANY**

**ORDER NO. EA-66-B**

**BACKGROUND:**

**On October 12, 1994, Citizens Utilities Company (Citizens) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act, for a permanent authorization to export electric energy to Canada. The proposed export would be transmitted over Citizens' existing 120,000-volt electric transmission facility at the United States-Canada border near Derby Line, Vermont. The construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of these facilities was authorized by Presidential Permit PP-66 issued by the DOE on June 21, 1979, pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended by Executive Order 12038. These transmission facilities were constructed in order for Citizens to import electric energy from Hydro-Quebec to supply Citizens' service areas in Vermont.**

**In related export authorization Orders EA-66 and EA-66-A, issued on March 31, 1993, and May 28, 1993, respectively, Citizens was authorized to**

**export electric energy to Hydro-Quebec, first to test export capability of the PP-66 facilities, and then to supply electric energy to certain Hydro-Quebec customers during a planned upgrading and outage of Hydro-Quebec's Stanstead substation. During the planned outage, from September 20 through 25, 1993, Citizens exported 1111.3 MWh to Hydro-Quebec at a maximum rate of 13.5 MWh per hour.**

**By this application Citizens requests authority to export up to 50,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) per year of electric energy to Hydro-Quebec at a maximum rate of 50 megawatts (MW). The request for a permanent export authorization is based on Citizens need to fulfill its obligations to Hydro-Quebec under its current interconnection agreement which requires each utility to provide assistance to the other under various circumstances. Citizens asserts that the permanent export authorization would allow Citizens to provide emergency services and to improve the reliability of bulk power supply through coordinated operations.**

**Notice of Citizen's application was placed in the Federal Register on November 18, 1994, (58 FR 60789) soliciting comments, protests, and petitions to intervene. No responses to this notice were received during the announced 30-day comment period.**



## **DECISION**

**The DOE has assessed the impact that the proposed export would have on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system. As a result of this review, the DOE has determined that the export of electric energy to Canada as requested by Citizens would not impair the sufficiency of electric supply within the United States and would not impede or tend to impede the coordination in the public interest of facilities in accordance with Section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act. A staff analysis in support of this finding has been made a part of the record in this docket.**

**The DOE has also assessed the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and has determined that this action is among those classes of actions not normally requiring preparation of an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement, and, therefore, is eligible for categorical exclusion under Appendix B to Subpart D, paragraph B4.2 of the revised DOE Regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Specifically, this categorical exclusion is for exports of electricity over existing transmission lines. Documentation of the use of this categorical exclusion has been placed in this docket.**



**ORDER:**

**Based on the above finding, it is hereby ordered that:**

**(A) Citizens Utilities Company (Citizens) is authorized to export up to 50,000 MWh of electric energy to Hydro-Quebec at a maximum rate of transmission of 50 MW and consistent with the terms of the interconnection agreement between Citizens and Hydro-Quebec dated January 25, 1988.**

**(B) The electric energy which Citizens herein is authorized to transmit from the United States to Canada shall be transmitted over the facilities authorized by Presidential Permit PP-66.**

**(C) Citizens shall conduct all operations pursuant to the authorization hereby granted in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Power Act and pertinent rules, regulations and orders adopted or issued by the DOE.**

**(D) This authorization shall be without prejudice to the authority of any State regulatory commission for the exercise of any lawful authority vested in such State or State regulatory commission.**

**(E) Citizens shall make and preserve full and complete records with respect to the electrical energy exported to Canada. Citizens shall furnish a report to DOE annually by February 15, showing, on a monthly basis for each month of the preceding calendar year, (1) the gross amount of kilowatt-hours of electric energy received or delivered; (2) the maximum hourly rate of transmission in kilowatts; and (3) the consideration paid or received for such energy.**

**(F) Exports to Hydro-Quebec authorized herein shall be reduced or suspended, as appropriate, whenever a continuation of those exports would impair or tend to impair the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply systems.**

**Issued in Washington, D.C., on February 13, 1995.**

**Anthony J. Como  
Director  
Office of Coal & Electricity  
Office of Fuels Programs  
Office of Fossil Energy**