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Neptune LNG Deepwater Port Project Receives License from U.S. Maritime Administration

First Offshore LNG Project on the U.S. East Coast Granted License

BOSTON, March 26, 2007 – SUEZ Energy North America’s subsidiary, Neptune LNG LLC, announced today that the Neptune offshore LNG facility has received its Deepwater Port License. Neptune is the first offshore LNG project on the United States’ East Coast to reach this milestone. The license will allow Neptune LNG LLC to build, own, and operate the Neptune offshore LNG delivery system in Massachusetts Bay.

The Maritime Administration is responsible for issuing a Deepwater Port License under the Deepwater Port Act of 1974.

Sean T. Connaughton, Maritime Administrator, stated, “I conclude that the construction and operation of the Neptune deepwater port will be in the national interest and consistent with national security and other national policy goals and objectives, including energy sufficiency and environmental quality.”

The Neptune project will fill a growing need in Massachusetts and New England as demand for natural gas in New England is expected to increase by 1 to 2% per year over the next two decades, with Massachusetts alone accounting for half of the region’s natural gas consumption. At this rate of growth, the region could face a shortage of natural gas supply approaching 500 million cubic feet per day in the year 2010 unless new capacity is added.

The Neptune project is being developed to provide between 400 and 750 million cubic feet of natural gas per day – enough to serve 1.5 million to 3 million homes daily.

Neptune LNG anticipates having a fully operational project, including construction of a lateral pipeline connection to HubLineSM, the existing sub-sea pipeline, specially designed ships, and the LNG supply to serve customers in Massachusetts and the rest of New England in 2009.

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“We are eager to move forward with this project, and this license enables us to do so,” said Zin Smati, President and CEO of SUEZ Energy North America. “Meanwhile, we have delivered a letter of intent to occupy office, storage, and dock space at the Gloucester Marine Terminal in Gloucester, Massachusetts, in support of our Neptune activities. In addition, we are making progress on our commitment to the Maritime Administration and others to lead the industry in promoting employment opportunities for U.S. mariners on LNG vessels, having already found a number of qualified candidates who potentially could join our team.”

In December 2006, SUEZ committed to promote job opportunities for U.S. mariners on both its existing fleet of LNG ships serving the U.S. and on the vessels to be used for the Neptune deepwater port.

Dirk Beeuwsaert, CEO of SUEZ Energy International, said, “SUEZ has more than three decades of LNG experience worldwide. With this approval, SUEZ has cleared an important hurdle and is able to further strengthen its position as a key LNG player in the Atlantic Basin.”

Neptune Project Overview

The Neptune port will use specially designed LNG ships equipped to store, transport, and vaporize LNG into natural gas that can be sent to customers using the existing HubLineSM sub-sea pipeline. The LNG carriers will be moored at the deepwater port by means of a submerged unloading buoy system consisting of two buoys. An LNG ship will typically be moored for four to eight days while unloading its LNG cargo, depending on market demand. The two separate buoys will ensure that natural gas can be delivered in a continuous flow by having a brief overlap between arriving and departing LNG carriers.

The estimated cost for the project, including LNG ships built specifically to meet Massachusetts' rigorous environmental standards, the buoy system and the connection to the HubLineSM pipeline, is approximately \$1 billion.

Neptune's location has several important benefits. It does not require any precious coastal land, and also limits aesthetic impacts. Additionally, the site offers the necessary water depth to support the buoy system technology while specifically avoiding the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary and essential shipping lanes into Boston Harbor.

About the Company:

Based in Houston, SUEZ Energy North America, Inc. is the business unit of SUEZ Energy International responsible for managing SUEZ's positions within the energy value chain in the U.S., Mexico and Canada, including electricity generation and cogeneration, natural gas and liquefied

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natural gas (LNG), asset-based trading and origination, and retail energy sales and related services to commercial and industrial customers.

SUEZ Energy North America owns and/or operates a total of 45 power, cogeneration, steam, and chilled-water facilities, including those in construction or development, representing a capacity of more than 5,538 MW of electricity generation, 6.4 million pounds per hour of steam, and 61,749 tons per hour of chilled water. SUEZ Energy North America's wholly owned subsidiary, Distrigas of Massachusetts, owns and operates a liquefied natural gas receiving terminal in Everett, Mass., which began operations in 1971 and currently serves most of the gas utilities in New England and key power producers, meeting approximately 20 percent of New England's annual gas demand.

SUEZ Energy International is a business line of SUEZ (NYSE: [SZE](#) - [News](#)), which is an international industrial and services Group that employs 157,650 people worldwide and achieved revenues of 44.3 billion Euros.

For more information about these companies and their activities, please visit the following websites:

SUEZ: www.suez.com

SUEZ Energy International: www.suezeneryint.com

SUEZ Energy North America: www.suezeneryna.com

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