

Carter Sends Energy Dictatorship Bill To Congress

In a bill drafted under the direction of U.S. "energy czar" James Schlesinger and sent to Congress for immediate action this week, the Carter White House is demanding sole authority to declare a natural gas emergency and unprecedented powers to oversee the allocation of natural gas supplies on a national basis. The bill would hand the President broad subpoena powers, backed by the threat of court action, to obtain information from any source he deems necessary to enable him to decide how gas supplies should be rationed.

The bill hardly pretends to offer solutions to the actual problem of natural gas shortage. Nowhere does it provide for emergency imports of natural gas or the utilization of existing U.S. wells on a crash basis; nor does it offer any long-term method for increasing U.S. energy supplies.

A comparison of the contents of the gas bill with Trilateral proposals for U.S. executive reorganization and global policy orientation, (all are excerpted below) should make it obvious that the bill instead offers the Trilateral Commission's standard "crisis management" administrative proposals — in effect putting the U.S. under an energy dictatorship in which lower Manhattan financiers who control Carter could wipe out major portions of U.S. industry and systematically destroy their political opposition.

Under the terms of the legislation, Carter will be able

to wage virtual economic warfare against the population by selectively shifting the gas shortage from one section of the country to another, shutting down industry after industry and throwing millions of workers out of their jobs. The fact that the Schlesinger bill designates homes, hospitals and small commercial establishments as high-priority recipients of gas rations makes it entirely in keeping with the monetarist spirit of Carter's overall de-industrialization thrust. Exacerbating the ongoing energy crisis, the bill will also force up natural gas prices by permitting regulated interstate purchasers to buy from the intrastate market at deregulated prices.

The extraordinary subpoena powers which the bill authorizes to the President will give Carter a lethal tool for blackmailing non-Rockefeller linked natural gas and oil producers and other industrial forces into compliance with his policies, or driving them out of business altogether.

The most criminal aspect of the legislation is this: by deliberately failing to propose measures for immediately increasing natural gas supplies, the legislation feeds directly into the Rockefeller-Trilateral Commission conspiracy to maintain the U.S. in a *permanent* energy crisis which will be continuously used over the coming months to justify precisely the kind of dictatorial powers which Carter is now demanding — but on a far broader basis.

Emergency Gas Bill

The following are excerpts from the natural gas emergency bill presented to the Congress by the Carter Administration this week:

A BILL

To authorize the President of the United States to order emergency deliveries and transportation of natural gas to deal with existing or imminent shortages by providing assistance in meeting requirements for high priority uses; to provide authority for short-term emergency purchases of natural gas; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Emergency Natural Gas Act of 1977."

DEFINITIONS

Sec. 2. As used in this Act:

(1) The term "high priority use" means — (A) use of natural gas in a residence; (B) use of natural gas in a commercial establishment *in amounts of less than 50 mcf* on a peak day; or (C) any other use of natural gas the termination of which the President determines would endanger life, health, or maintenance of physical property ...

Presidential Declaration

Sec. 3 The President may declare a natural gas emergency if he finds that a severe natural gas shortage

endangering the supply of natural gas for high priority uses exists or is imminent in the United States or any region thereof that the exercise of his authorities under section 4 is reasonably necessary to assist in meeting requirements for such uses. Such emergency shall be terminated when the President finds that such shortages no longer exist and are no longer imminent.

Sec. 4 (a) (1) If the President finds it necessary to assist in meeting the requirements for high priority uses of natural gas (including replenishment or injection), on the basis of a notification by the Governor of any State pursuant to subsection (c) or on the basis of other information available to the President, the President may, during a natural gas emergency declared under section 3, by order, require — (A) any interstate pipeline to make emergency deliveries of, or to transport, interstate natural gas to any other interstate pipeline or to any local distribution company served by an interstate pipeline for purposes of meeting such requirements; (B) any intrastate pipeline to transport interstate natural gas from any interstate pipeline to another interstate pipeline or to any local distribution company served by an interstate pipeline for purposes of meeting such requirements;... (2) No order may be issued under this subsection unless the President determines that such order will not ... (B) result in deliveries of natural gas from such pipeline which are excessive (as determined by the President) in relation to deliveries which are required under orders applicable to other interstate pipelines; and ... (d) The President may request that representatives of interstate pipelines, intrastate pipelines, local distribution companies, and other persons meet and provide assistance to the President in carrying out his authority under this section. (e) (1) In order to obtain information to carry out his authority under this section, the President may — (A) sign and issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, records, papers, and other documents; (B) require any person, by general or special order, to submit answers in writing to interrogatories, requests for reports or for other information, and such answers shall be made within such reasonable period, and under oath or otherwise, as the President may determine; and (C) secure, upon request, any information from any Federal department or executive agency. (2) The appropriate United States district court may, upon petition of the Attorney General at the request of the President, in the case of refusal to obey a subpoena or order of the President issued under this subsection, issue an order requiring compliance therewith, and any failure to obey an order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof. (F) (1) If the parties to any order issued under subsection (a) fail to agree upon the terms of compensation for deliveries (which may include compensation in kind) or transportation required pursuant to such order, the President, after a hearing held either before or after such order takes effect, shall, by supplemental order, prescribe the amount of compensation to be paid for such deliveries

or transportation and for any other expenses incurred in delivering or transporting such gas. (2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the President shall calculate the amount of compensation — (A) for deliveries of natural gas, based upon the reasonable replacement cost of such gas, as determined by the President, plus not more than 5 percent of such cost; and (B) for transportation and other expenses, based upon reasonable costs, as determined by the President.

Antitrust Protections

Sec. 5 (a) There shall be available as a defense to any action brought under the antitrust laws (1) that the activity which is the subject of such action was pursuant to a request of the President under section 4 (d) or was necessary to carry out an order under section 4 (a), and (2) in the case of any meeting, that such meeting was pursuant to such a request or necessary to carry out such an order and was in compliance with the requirements of subsection (b). (b) A meeting held pursuant to a request by the President under section 4 (d) or pursuant to an order under section 4 (a) complies with the requirements of this subsection if — (1) there is present at such meeting a full-time Federal employee designated for such purposes by the Attorney General; (2) a full and complete record of such meeting is taken and deposited, together with any agreement resulting therefrom, with the Attorney General, who shall make it available for public inspection; and (3) such other procedures as may be specified in such request or order are complied with.

Emergency Purchases

Sec. 6 (a) The President may authorize any interstate pipeline or local distribution company served by an interstate pipeline (or class or category of such pipelines or companies) to contract, upon such terms and conditions as the President determines to be appropriate (including provisions respecting fair and equitable prices), for emergency supplies of natural gas for delivery before August 1, 1977 — (1) from any producer or natural gas (other than a producer who is affiliated with an interstate pipeline as determined by the President) if (A) such natural gas is not produced from the Outer Continental Shelf and (B) the sale or transportation of such gas was not, immediately before the date on which such contract was entered into, certificated under the Natural Gas Act ... or (2) from any intrastate pipeline, local distribution company, or other person (other than an interstate pipeline or a producer of natural gas). (b) (1) The provisions of the Natural Gas Act shall not apply — (A) to any sale of natural gas to an interstate pipeline or local distribution company under the authority of subsection (a) or to any transportation in connection with any such sale if such transportation would not otherwise be subject to such Act; or (B) to any natural gas company (within the meaning of the Natural Gas Act) solely because of any such sale or transportation

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(b) Except with respect to enforcement of orders or

subpoenas under section 4 (e), the Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals shall have exclusive original jurisdiction to review any order issued, or other action taken, under this Act. (c) Prior to a final judgment, no court shall have jurisdiction to grant any injunctive relief to stay or defer the implementation of any order issued, or action taken, by the President under this Act.

Enforcement

Sec. 11(a) Any person who violates an order or supplemental order issued under section 4 or an order under section 6 (c) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each violation of such order. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense. (b) Any person who willfully violates an order

or supplemental order issued under section 4 or an order under section 6 (c) shall be fined not more than \$50,000 for each violation of such order. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate violation. (c) Whenever it appears to the President that any individual or organization has engaged, is engaged, or is about to engage in acts or practices constituting a violation of any order issued under section 4 (a), any supplemental order issued under section 4 (f), or any order under section 6 (c), the President may request the Attorney General to bring a civil action to enjoin such acts or practices and, upon showing, a temporary restraining order or preliminary or permanent injunction shall be granted without bond. In any such action, the court may also issue mandatory injunctions commanding any person to comply with any such order or supplemental order.

EXCLUSIVE

Trilateral Document Demands U.S. Interventions, End To 'National Sovereignty'

The following are excerpts of "Towards a Renovated International System," a draft prepared for presentation at the Jan. 9-11 meeting of the Trilateral Commission in Tokyo. Ostensibly written by three Trilateral Commission members — Richard Cooper, a Yale University professor recently nominated by Jimmy Carter to be Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs; Karl Kaiser, the head of the Research Institute of the German Society for Foreign Policy; and Masataka Kosaka, a Professor of Law at Kyoto University — the document bears the heavy editorial hand of Carter's new National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, who, according to the document's introduction, has been "brainstorming" with the authors since Dec. 7, 1974.

The document demonstrates how closely the Carter Administration follows the Trilateral Commission's supranational policies. Most striking is the document's long analysis of the alleged danger posed by the long-negotiated Brazil-West German nuclear deal... written months before Carter sent Vice President Mondale, another Trilateral member, on a European junket with the express purpose of stopping the deal. Similarly, the document's emphasis on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons — which the document essentially equates with the non-proliferation of nuclear energy — presages the statements that came out in the last phase of Carter's presidential campaign.

Most important, however, is what the document

outlines as *future* Carter policy. No piece so far published by the Commission has been so vehement in its call for "limited sovereignty" — the ability of one country to intervene, "Entebbe-style," in another. "The desire for national autonomy and the traditional concepts of sovereignty" are a major obstacle to Trilateral policy, notes the draft, especially in Third World countries; and this is complicated by the fact that national leaders have to cater to a voting constituency!

Rather, Trilateral policy dictates that certain problems should justify "limited sovereignty" solutions: pollution — which the document incredibly asserts to be caused by "industrialization, the introduction of modern agricultural techniques and the expansion of population" — and the use of extreme disassociation strategies" on the part of the Third World. Significantly, one of the "disassociation strategies" is what the document calls a "joint development bank," a hardly veiled reference to the International Development Bank proposal of U.S. Labor Party chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche.

Against such bank arrangements, the document calls for the enforcement of the expanded use of the bankrupt International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights and commodity buffer stocks, the much-discredited proposal of C. Fred Bergsten, the economist who left the Trilateral Commission and the Brookings Institution to become Carter's Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Economic Affairs.