UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

)	DOCKET NO. 14-96-LNG
)

THIRD NOTICE OF AMENDED SCHEDULE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

MARCH 29, 2023

I. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

On June 28, 2021, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy (now the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management¹) issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Alaska LNG Project (NOI) to conduct two Alaska-specific studies.² DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) was commissioned to conduct both studies. DOE published the NOI in the *Federal Register* on July 2, 2021.³

On August 24, 2021, DOE issued a Notice of Schedule for the SEIS,⁴ identifying the following key milestones:

Notice of Availability of Draft SEIS May 2, 2022

Notice of Availability of Final SEIS September 15, 2022

Final Order and NEPA Record of December 14, 2022

Decision

On February 25, 2022, to permit additional analysis, DOE issued a Notice of Amended Schedule for the SEIS,⁵ extending the original SEIS schedule by approximately 60 days, as follows:

Notice of Availability of Draft SEIS July 1, 2022

¹ On July 4, 2021, DOE's Office of Fossil Energy (FE) became the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM).

² U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, Docket No. 14-96-LNG (June 28, 2021) (pre-publication version).

³ U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, 86 Fed. Reg. 35,280 (July 2, 2021), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/2021-14188 FE NOI%20Alaska%20LNG.pdf [hereinafter NOI].

⁴ Alaska LNG Project LLC, Docket No. 14-96-LNG, Notice of Schedule for Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Aug. 24, 2021), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/Alaska%20LNG%20-%20Notice%20of%20Schedule%20for%20SEIS.pdf.

⁵ Alaska LNG Project LLC, Docket No. 14-96-LNG, Notice of Amended Schedule for Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Feb. 25, 2022), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/Alaska%20LNG%20%20Notice%20of%20Amended%20Schedule%20for%20SEIS.pdf.

Notice of Availability of Final SEIS November 14, 2022

Final Order and NEPA Record of February 13, 2023

Decision

On June 24, 2022, DOE issued the Notice of Availability for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project. DOE published the Notice in the *Federal Register* on June 29, 2022.

On October 28, 2022, to allow DOE and NETL to consider additional technical analysis in light of the complexity and range of comments received on the Draft SEIS, DOE issued a Second Notice of Amended Schedule for the SEIS,⁸ further extending the SEIS schedule as follows:

Notice of Availability of Final SEIS January 13, 2023

Final Order and NEPA Record of March 30, 2023

Decision

DOE stated that, if any changes to these amended dates became necessary, DOE would provide as much notice as possible.⁹

On January 6, 2023, DOE issued the Notice of Availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project. DOE published the Notice in the

⁶ U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Availability for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, Docket No. 14-96-LNG (June 24, 2022) (pre-publication version).

⁷ U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Availability for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, 87 Fed. Reg. 38,730 (June 29, 2022), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-06/2022-13869 FE NOA Alaska%20Lng%20Project.pdf.

⁸ Alaska LNG Project LLC, Docket No. 14-96-LNG, Notice of Second Amended Schedule for Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Oct. 28, 2022), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/Alaska%20LNG%20-%20Second%20Notice%20of%20Amended%20Schedule%20for%20SEIS.pdf.

⁹ *Alaska LNG Project LLC*, Docket No. 14-96-LNG, Notice of Second Amended Schedule for Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement at 4-5 (Oct. 28, 2022), https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/Alaska%20LNG%20-%20Second%20Notice%20of%20Amended%20Schedule%20for%20SEIS.pdf.

¹⁰ U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, Docket No. 14-96-LNG (Jan. 6, 2023) (pre-publication version).

Federal Register on January 11, 2023. ¹¹ The Final SEIS supplements the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alaska LNG Project published by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on March 6, 2020, and adopted by DOE on March 16, 2020 (DOE/EIS–0512). ¹² Specifically, the Final SEIS (1) examines the potential upstream environmental effects associated with incremental natural gas production on the North Slope of Alaska to support Alaska LNG's authorized exports of LNG, and (2) includes a life cycle analysis calculating the greenhouse gas emissions associated with exporting LNG by vessel from the proposed Alaska LNG Project to import markets in Asia (the markets targeted for exports from Alaska) and potentially in other regions.

II. CHANGES TO SEIS SCHEDULE

Due to the range of issues addressed in the Final SEIS, DOE has determined that it will need no more than 21 days to complete the Final Order and NEPA Record of Decision. DOE's amended schedule is as follows:

Final Order and NEPA Record of April 20, 2023 Decision

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 29, 2023.

Amy R. Sweeney Director, Office of Regulation, Analysis and Engagement Office of Resource Sustainability

¹¹ U.S. Dep't of Energy, Notice of Availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska LNG Project, 88 Fed. Reg. 1571 (Jan. 11, 2023), https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-01-11/pdf/2023-00345.pdf.

¹² See id.