

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

MEXICO PACIFIC LIMITED LLC

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DOCKET NO. 22-167-LNG

UPDATED NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

FEBRUARY 16, 2024

On October 23, 2023, the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) of the Department of Energy (DOE) announced that, in connection with the non-free trade agreement (non-FTA) countries¹ portion of Mexico Pacific Limited LLC’s (MPL) application under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)² and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA),³ it would prepare an environmental assessment (EA) of MPL’s proposed project.⁴ DOE stated that the Environmental Assessment (EA) would rely, in part, on existing environmental analysis.⁵

On January 26, 2024, DOE announced that it is temporarily pausing review of applications to export LNG to non-FTA countries while it works to update the economic and environmental analyses that inform its determination of whether such applications are in the “public interest.”⁶

Because DOE is updating the environmental analysis upon which it will rely for its environmental assessment of MPL’s proposed project, the NEPA review process for the proposed project will not be completed until the relevant updates are complete.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on February 16, 2024.

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

¹ A non-FTA country is any country in which the United States does not have a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, and with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy.

² 15 U.S.C. § 717b. The authority to regulate the imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, under section 3 of the NGA has been delegated to the Assistant Secretary for FECM in Redesignation Order No. S4-DEL-FE1-2023, issued on April 10, 2023.

³ 42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*

⁴ Mexico Pacific Limited LLC, Notice of Environmental Assessment, Docket No. 22-167-LNG, at 5 (Oct. 23, 2023).

⁵ *See id.* at 6.

⁶ U.S. Dep’t of Energy, “DOE to Update Public Interest Analysis to Enhance National Security, Achieve Clean Energy Goals and Continue Support for Global Allies” (Jan. 26, 2024), <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-update-public-interest-analysis-enhance-national-security-achieve-clean-energy-goals>.