U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination
Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

CARIB ENERGY (USA) LLC

DOCKET NO. 24-5-LNG

PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION: Carib Energy (USA) LLC (Carib Energy) filed an application (Application) with the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) on December 13, 2023, pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)[1] and 10 CFR Part 590 of the Department of Energy's (DOE) regulations. Carib Energy supplemented its Application on January 26, 2024. In its Application, as supplemented, Carib Energy seeks blanket authorization to engage in short-term exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) previously imported into Puerto Rico from foreign sources or received from sources within the United States. Carib Energy requests authorization to export this LNG in a volume equivalent to 14.6 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas on a cumulative basis for a two-year period commencing on the earlier of April 6, 2024, or the date on which DOE issues the requested authorization. Carib Energy states that its proposed exports qualify as "small-scale natural gas exports" under DOE's regulations at 10 CFR 590.102(p) and 590.208(a).

As relevant here, Carib Energy seeks to export this LNG in approved IMO7/TVAC-ASME LNG containers (ISO containers) loaded at the Crowley LNG Puerto Rico Truck Loading Facility (Crowley Facility) in Peñuelas, Puerto Rico, and transported on ocean-going vessels or via small-scale LNG vessels to any country with which the United States does not have a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, and with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy (non-FTA countries).[2]

DOE's proposed action is to authorize the exports described in the Application, as supplemented, as small-scale natural gas exports. If granted, the authorization would permit the requested exports of previously imported LNG in ISO containers by vessel on a short-term basis from the Crowley Facility, subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in the DOE order.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION APPLIED: B5.7 - Export of natural gas and associated transportation by marine vessel

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

[✔] The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

[✔] There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

[✔] The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signature: JAMES WARD Digitally signed by JAMES WARD Date: 2024.04.05 13:55:01 -04'00' **Date Determined:** 04/05/2024

James Ward, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

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[1] 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

[2] *Id.* § 717b(a). In the Application, Carib Energy also requests authorization to export LNG in the same volume to FTA countries under NGA section 3(c), *id.* § 717b(c), on a non-additive basis. That request is not subject to this categorical exclusion determination.