

**LATHAM & WATKINS** LLP

April 1, 2025

**By Electronic Mail**

U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management  
Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement  
[fergas@hq.doe.gov](mailto:fergas@hq.doe.gov)  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Attention: Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC  
FE Docket No. 16-28-LNG  
Order Nos. 4446 and 3866 – Semi-annual Status Report

Dear Sirs & Madams:

Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC (“Plaquemines LNG”) hereby submits to the Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (“DOE/FECM”) this semi-annual status report in compliance with: (1) ordering paragraph M of Order No. 4446 issued in FE Docket No. 16-28-LNG on October 16, 2019, which granted long-term, multi-contract authorization to export liquefied natural gas (“LNG”) to Non-Free Trade Agreement (“non-FTA”) nations and (2) ordering paragraph J of Order No. 3866 issued in the same docket on July 21, 2016, which authorized LNG exports to Free-Trade Agreement (“FTA”) countries.

**a) Progress of the Project:**

- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) issued its “Order Granting Authorizations Under Sections 3 and 7 of the Natural Gas Act” for the Plaquemines LNG Project, and the related Gator Express pipeline project, on September 30, 2019.<sup>1</sup> No requests for rehearing were filed.
- The DOE/FECM issued its Order No. 4446, “Opinion and Order Granting Long-term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations,” for Plaquemines LNG on October 16, 2019. No requests for rehearing were filed. On October 21, 2020, DOE/FECM granted Plaquemines LNG’s request to extend the term of its long-term export authorizations through December 31, 2050. On December 18, 2020,

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<sup>1</sup> *Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC and Venture Global Gator Express, LLC*, 168 FERC ¶ 61,204 (2019) (the “FERC Order”).

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DOE/FECM issued a blanket order, Order No. 4641, amending Plaquemines LNG's long-term authorizations (as well as others) to add short-term export authority, including for commissioning volumes.

- On May 25, 2022, Venture Global LNG, Inc. ("Venture Global") announced its final investment decision and the closing of the project financing for the initial 13.33 million metric tonnes per annum ("MTPA") phase of the Plaquemines LNG Project (and the affiliated Gator Express Pipeline). The lender group providing debt for the \$13.2 billion construction financing included many of the world's leading Asian, European, and North American project finance banks.<sup>2</sup>
- On March 13, 2023, Venture Global announced its final investment decision and the closing of the additional \$7.8 billion project financing for the second phase of the Plaquemines LNG Project, again with a lender group including the world's leading banks.<sup>3</sup> The proceeds of the debt and equity financing fully fund the balance of construction and commissioning of the entire 20 MTPA nameplate capacity Plaquemines LNG Project.
- Plaquemines LNG commenced construction of its Export Terminal on August 18, 2021, and is proceeding with construction so as to commence operations as quickly and safely as feasible. In compliance with the FERC Order, Plaquemines LNG requires numerous authorizations from FERC Staff to proceed with specified activities. Plaquemines LNG has received scores of authorizations from FERC Staff and is proceeding with construction and commissioning as the work is authorized. Notably, FERC Staff in recent months has authorized a series of steps needed to commence liquefaction and LNG exports, including authorizations to introduce natural gas into our first nine liquefaction blocks in a series of orders issued from November 2024 through February 2025, as well as authorization of the export of our first commissioning cargo by marine vessel in December 2024. In accordance with the FERC Order, Plaquemines LNG files monthly construction reports, and it began filing weekly commissioning reports in December 2020, after the first production of LNG, both in FERC Docket No. CP17-66.
- On March 11, 2022, Plaquemines LNG submitted to DOE/FECM an application for a limited amendment of its existing export authorizations, requesting that its authorized volumes for exports to both FTA and non-FTA nations be increased from 1,240 billion cubic feet ("Bcf") per year to 1,405.33 Bcf per year. The requested increase reflects a refined analysis of the peak liquefaction capacity of the already authorized facilities under optimal circumstances with no new construction or modification of those facilities, as detailed in a related amendment application with FERC that was also submitted on March

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<sup>2</sup> See Press Release, *Venture Global Announces Final Investment Decision and Financial Close for Plaquemines LNG*, May 25, 2022, available at: <https://venturegloballng.com/press/venture-global-announces-final-investment-decision-and-financial-close-for-plaquemines-lng/>.

<sup>3</sup> See Press Release, *Venture Global Announces Final Investment Decision and Financial Close for Phase Two of Plaquemines LNG*, March 13, 2023, available at: <https://venturegloballng.com/press/venture-global-announces-final-investment-decision-and-financial-close-for-phase-two-of-plaquemines-lng/>.

11, 2022. FERC issued an order approving this uprate amendment application on February 19, 2025, and environmentalist opposition have requested rehearing. DOE/FECM issued Order No. 3866-B on June 13, 2022, amending Plaquemines LNG's authorized level of exports to FTA nations as requested; but it has not yet acted on the non-FTA portion of the requested amendment.

- DOE/FECM granted blanket authorization for Plaquemines LNG to import LNG from various sources in total volumes up to the equivalent of 6 Bcf of natural gas in its Order No. 5126 issued on June 14, 2024. DOE/FECM granted blanket authorization for Plaquemines LNG to re-export the same quantity of previously imported LNG in its Order No. 5143 issued on July 11, 2024. With the requisite authorization from FERC Staff, Plaquemines LNG in September 2024 off-loaded a cargo of imported LNG for purpose of the cool-down of cryogenic facilities as part of the start-up of the Project.
- Plaquemines LNG began producing LNG in December 2024, and exported its first commissioning cargo on December 26, 2024, as reported to DOE/FECM in a notification submitted on January 8, 2025. Plaquemines LNG has to date exported more than 25 commissioning cargos. Plaquemines LNG is currently producing LNG using nine liquefaction blocks and will produce incrementally greater quantities of LNG for export over time as its commissioning phase proceeds. Information on all exports will be provided to DOE/FECM in the required monthly reports.
- On March 6, 2025, Plaquemines LNG joined in a filing with its affiliate Plaquemines Expansion, LLC requesting FERC approval to initiate the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") pre-filing review process for a proposed expansion of the Plaquemines LNG Terminal. As currently proposed, the expansion facilities will include twelve (12) new liquefaction blocks capable of producing up to approximately 18.6 MTPA, one marine loading berth for ocean-going vessels, and an onsite 930-megawatt natural gas-fired combined cycle electric generation facility. Plaquemines LNG and/or its affiliate expect to apply to DOE/FECM for export authorization for this expansion project later in 2025.

**b) Date the Project is expected to be operational:**

- Plaquemines LNG is implementing a phased operational start-up with exports of commissioning cargoes as the construction and commissioning of its facility continue. Plaquemines LNG currently anticipates the commencement of commercial operations of the initial phase of the Project in the fourth quarter of 2026, and the commencement of commercial operations of the second phase in the mid-2027.

**c) Status of the long-term contracts associated with the long-term export of LNG and any long-term supply contracts:**

- Plaquemines LNG has entered into binding, long-term LNG Sales and Purchase Agreements for all of the Project's 20 MTPA nameplate capacity, as well as a binding,

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long-term LNG Sales and Purchase Agreements for the available annual quantities in excess of the nameplate capacity. Plaquemines LNG has submitted to DOE/FECM full and non-redacted copies of each of these agreements on a confidential basis, along with public summaries of the material terms of the agreements. No new long-term offtake contracts have been executed since Plaquemines LNG's previous semi-annual report.

- Plaquemines LNG also has filed with DOE/FECM its long-term gas supply contracts, which also are confidential and have been submitted with a summary of the major, non-proprietary contract provisions for public posting. Since its previous semi-annual report, Plaquemines LNG has entered into and filed with DOE/FECM six additional long-term gas supply contracts with: Mercuria Energy America, LLC; TC Energy Marketing Inc.; Six One Commodities LLC; CNX Gas Company LLC; Southwest Energy, L.P., and another agreement with Mercuria Energy America, LLC.

We hope this update provides you with sufficient detail regarding the status of the Project in compliance with Order Nos. 4446 and 3866. Please feel free to contact the undersigned counsel for Plaquemines LNG if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/ J. Patrick Nevins

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*Counsel to  
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