

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



PORT ARTHUR LNG PHASE II, LLC
DOCKET NO. 20-23-LNG

PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION: Port Arthur LNG Phase II, LLC (PALNG Phase II) filed an application (Application) with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) (then known as the Office of Fossil Energy) on February 28, 2020.¹ The Application was submitted pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)² and 10 CFR Part 590 of DOE's regulations. PALNG Phase II submitted an amendment to the Application on March 3, 2020.

In relevant part, PALNG Phase II seeks long-term, multi-contract authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) in a volume up to 13.5 million metric tons per annum, which it states is equivalent to 698 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per year of natural gas (Bcf/yr) (1.91 Bcf per day). PALNG Phase II requests authorization to export the LNG by vessel from Trains 3 and 4 (the Expansion Project) of the proposed Port Arthur LNG Terminal (the Base Project), to be located in Jefferson County, Texas.³ PALNG Phase II seeks to export this LNG 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).⁴ PALNG Phase II requests that the export term begin on the earlier of the date of first export or seven years from the date of the authorization, and extend through the later of the date that is twenty years from the date of the commencement of the term or December 31, 2050.

DOE's proposed action is to authorize the exports described in the Application if DOE determines that such exports are not inconsistent with the public interest. If granted, the authorization would permit the requested exports of domestically produced LNG by vessel from Trains 3 and 4 of the proposed Port Arthur LNG Terminal to non-FTA countries, 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.

¹ The Office of Fossil Energy changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management on July 4, 2021.

² 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

³ PALNG Phase II's affiliate Port Arthur LNG, LLC (Port Arthur LNG) is developing the Base Project, which will consist of two liquefaction trains (Trains 1 and 2) previously approved for exports of LNG totaling 698 Bcf/yr of natural gas to both FTA and non-FTA countries on a non-additive basis.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. § 717b(a). In the Application, PALNG Phase II 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. On July 14, 2020, in Order No. 4562, DOE granted the FTA portion of the Application.

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: BRIAN LAVOIE

Digitally signed by BRIAN
LAVOIE
Date: 2025.05.27 17:43:24
-04'00'

Date Determined: 5/27/25

Brian Lavoie, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management