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

Mexico Pacific Limited LLC

Docket Nos. 18–70–LNG 22–167–LNG

Motion for Protective Order of Public Citizen, Inc., Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club

Pursuant to 10 CFR sections 590.302 and 590.305, Intervenors Public Citizen, Inc., Natural Resources Defense Council, and Sierra Club ("Intervenors") hereby move for issuance of a protective order in the above-entitled United States Department of Energy ("DOE") proceeding. This motion is based on good cause as provided below:

On May 30, Mexico Pacific Limited LLC (MXP) filed a second supplement to its Notice of Change In Control, in support of which it submitted, under seal, the *Third Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Mexico Pacific Limited LLC effective as of March 31, 2025, as amended*, as Exhibit A.¹ On June 6, responding to Intervenors' May 22, 2025 Protest, MXP filed an answer that included as Exhibit A, under seal, the *Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Mexico Pacific Holdings, L.P. effective as of March 3, 2025.*²

Because access to the information filed under seal by MXP in support of its May 30 and June 6 filings is clearly relevant to, and may be essential to an understanding of, the company's notice of change in control that is the subject of the May 22 Protest, Intervenors respectfully submit that good cause exists for issuance of a protective order to permit their review of the MXP filings in question – a protective order that balances both the company's legitimate need for confidentiality with the Intervenors' need for access to material information.

There can be no dispute that both of the exhibits filed under seal provide information that MXP considers material to the disputed determination of whether the noticed change in control is consistent with the public interest. Indeed, it is reasonable to assume that both documents contain details regarding the identity of what entities or individuals are empowered to exercise control of MXP – information that relates directly to the agency's determination of where the public interest lies. In other words,

¹ www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-

^{05/2025.05.30%20}Second%20Supplement%20to%20MXP%20Change%20in%20Control%20Filing%20Updating%20on%20Third%20Restated%20LLC%20Agreement.pdf

² www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-

^{06/}MPL%20Answer%20to%20Public%20Citizen%20et%20al.%20Protest%20to%20CIC%20Notice.pdf

the confidential documents are likely to contain information going to the heart of the dispute in this proceeding.

Where DOE does not have specific procedural rules applicable to the circumstances, DOE has previously directed applicants and intervenors in DOE proceedings to look to Rules of Practice of the United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). *See, e.g.,* <u>www.energy.gov/oe/articles/question-and-answer-procedural-questions-</u> <u>application-rehearing-order-no-202-05-02</u>. FERC routinely grants motions for protective orders to allow intervenors to access documents under seal. *See, e.g.,* Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, Ltd., FERC, Nos. CP 15-550-002 and 15-150-000, *Order Adopting Protective Order (July 25, 2024).*³ Intervenors believe that good cause for issuance of the requested protective order exists in this DOE proceeding.

For the reasons stated above, Intervenors respectfully request that their Motion for Protective order be granted and MXP be directed to disclose to Intervenors the documents filed under seal in this proceeding on May 30 and June 6, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyson Slocum Energy Program Director Public Citizen, Inc. 215 Pennsylvania Ave SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 454-5191 tslocum@citizen.org

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Joel Reynolds Senior Attorney, Nature Natural Resources Defense Council 1314 2nd Street Santa Monica, CA 90401 <u>jreynolds@nrdc.org</u>

Filed June 25, 2025

³ https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_number=20240725-3101.

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

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IN THE MATTER OF

Mexico Pacific Limited, LLC

FE Docket Nos. 18-70-LNG 22-167-LNG

NRDC VERIFICATION

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 590.103(b), I hereby verify under penalty of perjury that I am authorized to execute this verification, that I have read the foregoing document, and that the facts stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dated: June 25, 2025

<u>/s/ Joel Reynolds</u> Joel Reynolds Senior Attorney, Nature Natural Resources Defense Council 1314 2nd Street Santa Monica, CA 90401 jreynolds@nrdc.org

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

Mexico Pacific Limited LLC

Docket Nos. 18–70–LNG 22–167–LNG

VERIFICATION

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 590.103(b), I, Rebecca McCreary, hereby verify under penalty of perjury that I am authorized to execute this verification, that I have read the foregoing document, and that the facts stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed at Boulder, CO on June 25, 2025.

<u>/s/ Rebecca McCreary</u> Rebecca McCreary Staff Attorney 1650 38th St., Ste. 103W Boulder, CO 80301 rebecca.mccreary@sierraclub.org 303-449-5595 ext. 103 *Attorney for Sierra Club*

VERIFICATION

Pursuant to 10 CFR § 590.103(b), I, Tyson Slocum, declare that I am Energy Program Director for Public Citizen, Inc. and am authorized to make this verification; that I have authored and read the foregoing filing and that the facts therein stated are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Pursuant to 28 U.SC § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 25, 2025.

Tyson Slocum

Tyson Slocum Energy Program Director Public Citizen, Inc. 215 Pennsylvania Ave SE Washington, DC 20003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the applicant and intervenors for this docketed proceeding in accordance with 10 CFR § 590.107(b). Dated at Washington, DC this 25^{th} day of June 2025.

Signed,

Tyson Slocum Tyson Slocum

Energy Program Director Public Citizen, Inc. 215 Pennsylvania Ave SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 454-5191 tslocum@citizen.org