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General Comment

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Saguaro LNG project by Mexico Pacific Ltd. This project, planned for the northeastern shore of the Gulf of California, poses significant environmental, social, and economic risks that warrant careful consideration and action.

The Gulf of California is renowned for its exceptional biodiversity and is home to numerous endangered species, including blue whales, whale sharks, and leatherback sea turtles. The Saguaro project threatens to disrupt this delicate ecosystem through habitat destruction, increased ship strikes, and underwater noise pollution. These impacts could lead to irreversible damage to marine life and the degradation of a UNESCO World Heritage site, known as the "Aquarium of the World" for its rich marine biodiversity.

Furthermore, the project poses substantial climate threats due to methane emissions, which are significantly more potent than carbon dioxide in the short term. The contribution of the Saguaro LNG project to greenhouse gas emissions could exacerbate climate change, affecting not only the local region but also global climate systems.

Local communities, including fishing and tourism industries, as well as environmental groups, have voiced strong opposition to the project. These communities are concerned about the potential loss of livelihoods and the environmental degradation that the project could bring. Legal actions and campaigns have been initiated to halt the project, highlighting the widespread concern and opposition.

Additionally, the project faces economic risks, including rising costs and political uncertainties. These factors could impact the project's feasibility and long-term viability, potentially leading to financial losses and economic instability in the region.

In light of these concerns, I urge the Department of Energy to conduct a thorough environmental review and consider the potential impacts of the Saguaro LNG project on the Gulf of California and the surrounding communities. It is crucial to prioritize the protection of our natural heritage and the well-being of local communities over short-term economic gains.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.