

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> 8/11/25 7:01 PM
<b>Received:</b> July 30, 2025
<b>Status:</b> Pending Post
<b>Tracking No.</b> mdq-0fu6-w34r
<b>Comments Due:</b> August 08, 2025
<b>Submission Type:</b> API

**Docket:** DOE-HQ-2025-0240

Importation or Exportation of Liquefied Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: Mexico Pacific Ltd. LLC

**Comment On:** DOE-HQ-2025-0240-0001

Importation or Exportation of Liquefied Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: Mexico Pacific Ltd. LLC

**Document:** DOE-HQ-2025-0240-DRAFT-0272

Comment on FR Doc # 2025-12763

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## General Comment

Dear Review Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding the proposed Saguaro LNG Project and its associated cross-border transmission line. As a citizen with strong ties to the communities and ecosystems that may be impacted by this project, I respectfully share the following observations and considerations for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The project area is located near, and may potentially affect, the Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California, a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognized for its exceptional marine biodiversity. According to the United Nations and Mexico's Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP), this region is home to more than 900 fish species and a significant percentage of the world's marine mammal species, including several endangered whales and dolphins.

In addition, the Alto Golfo de California y Delta del Río Colorado Biosphere Reserve, a federally protected area in Mexico, overlaps with the maritime zone where increased LNG tanker traffic is expected. These tankers could pose risks to marine life through collisions, underwater noise, and pollution. These possible impacts deserve thorough consideration within the EIS.

Coastal communities in the region, including Puerto Libertad, rely on small-scale fishing, local tourism, and artisanal livelihoods. The region also holds valuable cultural and ecological heritage. Large-scale infrastructure projects of this nature can unintentionally affect these traditional economies and ways of life. It is important that the EIS include an assessment of long-term socioeconomic impacts and a clear analysis of whether the projected economic benefits will reach local populations equitably.

The Saguaro LNG Project involves various stages, including gas transport, liquefaction, electricity generation, and cross-border transmission, each contributing greenhouse gas emissions. While the DOE's jurisdiction does not extend to domestic energy policy in Mexico, a life-cycle analysis of emissions should be included in the EIS. This would help determine whether the project aligns with broader climate commitments and binational efforts toward a just energy transition.

There are also alternatives worth exploring, such as binational renewable energy development, particularly given the region's strong solar energy potential. These alternatives should be carefully evaluated in the EIS for their potential to deliver similar energy outcomes with fewer environmental and social costs.

Transparency and stakeholder participation are critical. Environmental, social, and economic assessments must be carried out by technically sound, independent institutions. Mexican communities, including local residents, civil society groups, and environmental organizations, should be included meaningfully in the review process. Building trust depends on ensuring these perspectives are acknowledged and respected.

Given the environmental sensitivity and the social complexity of the region, I respectfully request that the EIS include a comprehensive evaluation of all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on both sides of the border.

It is for this reason that, once a full and independent environmental, social, and economic assessment is completed, I encourage decision-

makers to seek out concrete alternatives that could help reduce the project's potential impacts. If such alternatives do not exist or if they are not developed in a timely and inclusive manner, then the project should be reconsidered or stopped.

Thank you for your attention and for ensuring a fair, inclusive, and evidence-based review process.

Sincerely,