

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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

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## General Comment

Harm to marine life and the environment

The main criticism of the project centers on the harm it could cause to marine life, an aspect that has been highlighted by environmental organizations and scientists. The Sea of Cortez is a rich and fragile ecosystem, known as the "world's aquarium" by biologist Jacques Cousteau, and it's a critical habitat for various species, including whales, dolphins, and sea turtles.

**Acoustic Impact:** The construction and installation of the pipeline, which involves underwater drilling and explosions, would generate intense noise that could affect the communication and navigation of whales and other species. These sound waves can disorient them, make it difficult for them to feed and reproduce, and in extreme cases, cause death.

**Pollution:** The laying of pipes and the operation of the gas pipeline could release pollutants into the water, such as heavy metals and sediments, which would affect water quality and the health of fish and corals. In addition, there is a risk of natural gas spills that could have devastating consequences for the ecosystem.

**Habitat Disruption:** The presence of a large-scale infrastructure on the seabed could alter species' migratory patterns and destroy their feeding and breeding grounds.

Socioeconomic Consequences

Beyond the environmental effects, the Saguaro project also raises socioeconomic concerns for local communities that depend on fishing and ecotourism.

**Impact on Fishing:** The decline in fish populations due to pollution and habitat disruption would directly affect local fishermen, jeopardizing their livelihoods and the region's food security.

**Damage to Ecotourism:** The Sea of Cortez is a popular destination for whale watching and diving. If the ecosystem deteriorates, the ecotourism industry would be severely impacted, resulting in economic losses and unemployment in coastal communities.

In summary, the Saguaro Energía project, while presented as an energy development initiative, is seen by many as a significant threat to the environment and the local economy. Its implementation could compromise the unique biodiversity of the Sea of Cortez and undermine conservation efforts in the region.