

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

Venture Global Calcasieu Pass LLC

Docket No. 15-25-LNG

Rehearing Request of Public Citizen, Inc.

Public Citizen requests rehearing¹ of the Department's August 4 order amending Venture Global's long-term authorization to export LNG to non-free trade agreement nations to increase its LNG exports from 620 Bcf/yr to 640.666 Bcf/yr. The order is fatally flawed because it fails to incorporate necessary restrictions on LNG exports as implied by the National Energy Emergency declaration of President Donald J. Trump on January 20, 2025. The National Energy Emergency declaration states that "the United States' insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to our Nation's economy." The Department of Energy cannot authorize increases in LNG exports at a time when the President has declared a national energy emergency citing "insufficient" domestic energy supplies.

The U.S. Department of Energy is tasked by Congress to only permit exports of natural gas to non-Free Trade Act countries which are "not inconsistent with the public interest."² The U.S. Supreme Court noted that the "primary aim" of this 85-year-old law is "to protect consumers against exploitation at the hands of natural gas companies".³

The August 4 order (at page 8) mentions President Trump's January 20, 2025 executive order 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*, but curiously omits President Trump's Executive Order 14156 of January 20, declaring a National Energy Emergency.⁴ The declaration of a National Energy Emergency is directly relevant to an application to increase the volume of natural gas that will be exported out of the United States as it deprives gas volumes available for domestic consumers. The President's National Energy Emergency declaration commands:

The energy and critical minerals identification, leasing, development, production, transportation, refining, and generation capacity of the United States are all far too inadequate to meet our Nation's needs . . . our Nation's inadequate energy supply and infrastructure causes and makes worse the high energy prices that devastate Americans, particularly those living on low- and fixed-incomes . . . These numerous problems are most pronounced in our Nation's Northeast and West Coast, where dangerous State and local policies jeopardize our Nation's core national defense and security needs, and devastate the prosperity of not only local residents but the entire

¹ 10 C.F.R. § 590.501.

² 15 USC § 717b(a).

³ *FPC v. Hope Nat. Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591 (1944).

⁴ www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/29/2025-02003/declaring-a-national-energy-emergency

*United States population. The United States' insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to our Nation's economy, national security, and foreign policy. In light of these findings, I hereby declare a national emergency.*⁵

The National Energy Emergency declaration—and President Trump's official assessment that America's "inadequate energy supply . . . causes and makes worse the high energy prices that devastate Americans" decisively supports the 2024 LNG Export Study's conclusions that increasing the volume of LNG exports exacerbates domestic supply and demand shortages, exposing Americans to unjust and unreasonable price increases.⁶ Diverting U.S. natural gas away from needed domestic markets in favor of foreign destinations exacerbates the conditions cited in the President's National Energy Emergency, especially "high energy prices". Therefore, for as long as President Trump's declared National Energy Emergency remains in effect, the U.S. Department of Energy cannot authorize additional LNG exports, as doing so is inconsistent with the public interest.

The order claims (at page 7) that "Public Citizen took no position on the Amendment Application, and therefore the Amendment Application is uncontested." But on March 20, 2025, Public Citizen filed timely comments in this docket raising the concern that increasing LNG export authorizations is incompatible with President Trump's National Energy Emergency declaration. Our comments were filed not only with the Department's online eDocket system,⁷ but also in this docket with service to all parties. Evidence of this is included as Exhibit A.

Indeed, the Department's May 2025 *Energy, Economic, and Environmental Assessment of U.S. LNG Exports: Response to Comments* highlights Public Citizen's March 20 comments that increasing LNG exports is incompatible with President Trump's National Energy Emergency declaration.⁸ Importantly, the Department's Response to Comments does not offer a rebuttal of Public Citizen's argument that increasing LNG exports is incompatible with the President's declaration of a National Energy Emergency.

The Department's failure to address the inherent conflict between the President's National Energy Emergency declaration and Venture Global's application to increase the volume of LNG exports is a fatal error.

⁵ www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/declaring-a-national-energy-emergency/

⁶ *2024 LNG Export Study: Energy, Economic, and Environmental Assessment of U.S. LNG Exports*, <https://fossil.energy.gov/app/docketindex/docket/index/30>

⁷ <https://fossil.energy.gov/App/DocketIndex/Docket/DownloadFile/3448>

⁸ At printed page 3, or page 8 (of 55) of the pdf: www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/2024%20LNG%20Export%20Study_Response%20to%20Comments_Final_05.19.2025.pdf

Respectfully submitted,

Tyson Slocum

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EXHIBIT A



Outlook

Public Citizen Comments in multiple LNG proceedings Docket Nos. 23-46-LNG, 24-87-LNG, 23-34-LNG, 23-87-LNG, 22-167-LNG, 22-39-LNG, 20-23-LNG, 24-27-LNG, 23-109-LNG, 13-69-LNG, 14-88-LNG, 15-25-LNG, 21-131-LNG & 16-28-LNG

From Tyson Slocum <tslocum@citizen.org>

Date Thu 3/20/2025 2:47 PM

To FERGAS <fergas@hq.doe.gov>; Sweeney, Amy <amy.sweeney@hq.doe.gov>; Bernstein, Cassandra <cassandra.bernstein@hq.doe.gov>; Ulrey, Peri <peri.ulrey@hq.doe.gov>; harold.bulger@cheniere.com <harold.bulger@cheniere.com>; karri.mahmoud@cheniere.com <karri.mahmoud@cheniere.com>; florian.pintgen@cheniere.com <florian.pintgen@cheniere.com>; Cunningham, Jacob <jacob.cunningham@orrick.com>; Lisa Tonery (ltonery@orrick.com) <ltonery@orrick.com>; mjohnston@orrick.com <mjohnston@orrick.com>; nathan.matthews@sierraclub.org <nathan.matthews@sierraclub.org>; Tom Gosselin <tom.gosselin@sierraclub.org>; msundback@sheppardmullin.com <msundback@sheppardmullin.com>; smagness@bigriverenergy.com <smagness@bigriverenergy.com>; danachee@gtlaw.com <danachee@gtlaw.com>; nelsonh@gtlaw.com <nelsonh@gtlaw.com>; Kenneth.Minesinger@gtlaw.com <kenneth.minesinger@gtlaw.com>; vc@gulfstreamlng.com <vc@gulfstreamlng.com>; garnerw@gtlaw.com <garnerw@gtlaw.com>; Monique Harden <moniqueh@dscej.org>

 1 attachment (246 KB)

LNGdockets.pdf;

Attached are comments of Public Citizen Inc. in DOE dockets 23-46-LNG, 24-87-LNG, 23-34-LNG, 23-87-LNG, 22-167-LNG, 22-39-LNG, 20-23-LNG, 24-27-LNG, 23-109-LNG, 13-69-LNG, 14-88-LNG, 15-25-LNG, 21-131-LNG & 16-28-LNG.

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.S.C § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on September 3, 2025.



Tyson Slocum
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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 3rd day of September 2025.

Signed,

Tyson Slocum

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