

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Categorical Exclusion Determination**  
**Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management**



**DELFIN LNG LLC**  
**DOCKET NO. 13-147-LNG**

**PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION:** Delfin LNG LLC (Delfin) filed a “Request for Amendment of Long-Term Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas and for Additional Extension of Time to Commence Exports” (Request) with the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) (formerly the Office of Fossil Energy)<sup>1</sup> on May 2, 2025, pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>2</sup> and 10 CFR Part 590 of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) regulations.

In the Request, Delfin seeks to amend its existing long-term authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG), set forth in DOE/FE Order No. 4028, as amended.<sup>3</sup> Under Order No. 4028, as amended, Delfin is authorized to export LNG by vessel in a volume equivalent to 657.5 billion cubic feet per year of natural gas from its proposed floating LNG Project (Project), to be located offshore of Cameron Parish, Louisiana, for a term ending on December 31, 2050. Delfin is authorized to export this LNG to any country with which the United States does not have a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, and with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy (non-FTA countries).<sup>4</sup>

In the Request, as relevant here,<sup>5</sup> Delfin asks DOE to amend Order No. 4028 to reflect refinements in the design of its Project, in accordance with its deepwater port license issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD).<sup>6</sup> According to Delfin, advancements in the floating LNG vessel (FLNGV) industry in the time since Delfin obtained its non-FTA authorization have enabled Delfin to adopt a variety of refinements to the Project. Delfin states that, as a result of these refinements, it has modified its Project design to include three, rather than four, FLNGVs, without any change to its authorized export volume.

DOE’s proposed action is to grant the requested amendment to the Project description in Delfin’s non-FTA authorization (Order No. 4028, as amended), if DOE determines that it is necessary and appropriate to do so. If

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<sup>1</sup> The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) on July 4, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

<sup>3</sup> *Delfin LNG LLC*, DOE/FE Order No. 4028, Docket No. 13-147-LNG, Opinion and Order Granting Long-Term, Multi-Contract Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas by Vessel From a Proposed Floating Liquefaction Project and Deepwater Port 30 Miles Offshore of Louisiana to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations (June 1, 2017), *reh’g denied*, DOE/FE Order No. 4028-A (Apr. 3, 2018), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4028-B (Dec. 10, 2020) (extending export term), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4028-C (May 18, 2021) (correcting project location description), *amended by* DOE/FECM Order No. 4028-D (Mar. 10, 2025) (extending export commencement deadline to June 1, 2029).

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(a). In DOE/FE Order No. 3393, as amended (Docket No. 13-129-LNG), DOE authorized Delfin to export the same volume of LNG to FTA countries, on a non-additive basis. In the Request, Delfin also seeks amendments to Order No. 3393, which are not subject to this categorical exclusion determination.

<sup>5</sup> DOE is reviewing the remaining portion of Delfin’s Request in a separate order.

<sup>6</sup> Delfin’s proposed Project includes a “deepwater port” within the meaning of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974, as amended, 33 U.S.C. § 1501 *et seq.*, and consequently requires a deepwater port license from MARAD. This license was issued on March 21, 2025. See MARAD Press Release, “The Maritime Administration Issues the License for the Delfin LNG, LLC Deepwater Port Application” (Mar. 21, 2025), <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/newsroom/maritime-administration-issues-license-delfin-lng-llc-deepwater-port-application>.

granted, the amended authorization would modify the description of the Project in Order No. 4028, as amended.<sup>7</sup>

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION APPLIED:** B5.7 - Export of natural gas and associated transportation by marine vessel

For DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see 10 CFR 1021.102 and Appendix B in 10 CFR Part 1021, as well as Section 5.4 and Appendices B and C of DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025).<sup>8</sup>

Regulatory requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, respectively: (See full text in regulation and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures)

[✓] The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021 or Appendix B or C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures.

[✓] There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

[✓] The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signature: **BRIAN LAVOIE**  
 Digitally signed by BRIAN LAVOIE  
Date: 2025.11.24 16:09:00 -05'00'

Date Determined: **11/24/25**

**Brian Lavoie, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management**

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<sup>7</sup> The updated Project description continues to be part of the body of Delfin's non-FTA authorization, and thus the amendment does not require any modification to the Terms or Conditions or Ordering Paragraphs of Order No. 4028, as amended.

<sup>8</sup> DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures can be viewed at <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/articles/doe-nepa-implementing-procedures-june-2025>.