

CH-47F has the common avionics architecture system (CAAS) cockpit, which provides aircraft system, flight, mission, and communication management systems. The CAAS consists of two dual-redundant data buses and an Ethernet local area network. The CAAS includes five multifunction displays, two general purpose processor units, two control display units, and two data concentrator units. The Navigation System has two Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) devices, two Digital Advanced Flight Control Systems, one AN/ARN-147 (Very High Frequency (VHF) Omni Directional Radio Range/Instrument Landing System (VOR/ILS) marker beacon), one ARN-153 Tactical Air Navigation System (TACAN), two air data computers, and one AN/APN-209 radar altimeter system. The communications suite is as follows: two each AN/ARC-231A multi-mode radios providing VHF FM, VHF AM, ultra high frequency, HAVEQUICK II, and Demand Assigned Multiple Access satellite communications (SATCOM), and one each AN/ARC-220 high frequency radio. The identification friend or foe (IFF) will be the APX-123A, which provides the additional functionality of Mode 5. Aircraft survivability equipment will consist of the AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) and the AN/APR-39 Radar Signal Detecting Set (RSDS).

a. The AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) is the detection component of the suite of countermeasures designed to increase the survivability of current generation combat aircraft and special operations aircraft against infrared guided missiles.

b. The AN/ARC-231A is a software-defined radio that implements an NSA-modernized, Type 1, embedded cryptographic solution. It provides joint service standard line of sight, HAVEQUICK, and SINCGARS electronic counter-countermeasures, along with integrated waveform SATCOM.

c. The AN/APX-123A IFF transponder is a space diversity transponder and is installed on various military platforms. It provides identification, altitude, and surveillance reporting in response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based, and surface interrogators.

d. The KY-100M is a radio encryptor that has sensitive technology.

e. The AN/APR-39A Radar Signal Detecting Set provides the pilot with visual and audible warning when a hostile fire-control threat is encountered.

f. The KIV-77 is a common cryptographic appliqué for IFF that provides Mode-4 and Mode-5 capability.

g. The AN/PYQ-10 Simple Key Loader (SKL) is a ruggedized, portable, hand-held fill device used for securely receiving, storing, and transferring electronic key material and data between compatible end cryptographic units and communications equipment. It supports both the DS-101 and DS-102 interfaces, as well as the cryptographic ignition key.

h. The AN/ARC-220 is a microprocessor-based communications system employing advanced digital signal processor technology. The AN/ARC-220 provides embedded automatic link establishment, serial tone data modem, text messaging, GPS position reporting, and anti-jam electronic counter-countermeasure functions.

i. The MX-15 HDi is a multi-sensor, multi-spectral imaging system with a range of features and benefits, including long range laser illumination, that offers superior high-definition imaging resolution from Electro-Optical (EO) and Infrared (IR) cameras. The MX-15 HDi is ideal for medium-altitude covert intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) and search and rescue missions, and it can be integrated into aerostat, fixed-wing, rotary-wing aircraft and unmanned aerial systems.

j. The EAGLE M+429 EGI common is a self-contained, all-altitude navigation system with an embedded GPS receiver. EAGLE M+429 Common provides Precise Positioning System (PPS) Y-code and M-code operation when loaded with NSA approved COMSEC keys via SKL.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the United Arab Emirates can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the

Government of the United Arab Emirates.

[FR Doc. 2026-01357 Filed 1-23-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. 15-190-LNG]

**Rio Grande LNG, LLC; Rio Grande LNG Train 4, LLC; and Rio Grande LNG Train 5, LLC; Application for Amendment to Long-Term Authorization To Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations**

**AGENCY:** Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of application.

**SUMMARY:** The Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO) (formerly the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management) of the Department of Energy (DOE) gives notice (Notice) of receipt of an application (Application), filed by Rio Grande LNG, LLC (RGLNG); Rio Grande LNG Train 4, LLC (RGLNG4); and Rio Grande LNG Train 5, LLC (RGLNG5) (collectively, the RGLNG Entities) on December 17, 2025. The RGLNG Entities ask DOE to amend their existing authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the Rio Grande LNG Terminal (Terminal), currently under construction in Cameron County, Texas, to non-free trade agreement countries set forth in DOE/FE Order No. 4492 (as amended)—specifically, to authorize additional exports totaling 242.26 billion cubic feet per year (Bcf/yr). The RGLNG Entities filed the Application under the Natural Gas Act (NGA).

**DATES:** Protests, motions to intervene, or notices of intervention, as applicable, and written comments are to be filed electronically as detailed in the Public Comment Procedures section no later than 4:30 p.m., Eastern time, March 27, 2026.

### ADDRESSES:

*Electronic Filing by Email (Strongly Encouraged):* [fergas@hq.doe.gov](mailto:fergas@hq.doe.gov).

*Postal Mail, Hand Delivery, or Private Delivery Services* (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.) U.S. Department of Energy (EX-34), Office of Global Energy Security, Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-056, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585.

Due to potential delays in DOE's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, we encourage respondents to submit filings electronically to ensure timely receipt.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jennifer Wade or Peri Ulrey, U.S. Department of Energy (EX-34) Office of Global Energy Security, Office of Strategic Resources, Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office, Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4749 or (202) 586-7893, [jennifer.wade@hq.doe.gov](mailto:jennifer.wade@hq.doe.gov) or [peri.ulrey@hq.doe.gov](mailto:peri.ulrey@hq.doe.gov).

Cassandra Bernstein, U.S. Department of Energy (GC-76), Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Energy Delivery and Resilience, Forrestal Building, Room 6D-033, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, (240) 780-1691, [cassandra.bernstein@hq.doe.gov](mailto:cassandra.bernstein@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On February 10, 2020, in Order No. 4492, as amended (Order),<sup>1</sup> DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (now known as the Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office)<sup>2</sup> authorized the RGLNG Entities to export domestically produced LNG in a volume equivalent to 1,318 Bcf/yr of natural gas by vessel from the proposed Terminal, to be located in Cameron County, Texas, to any country with which the United States has not entered into 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), pursuant to NGA section 3(a).<sup>3</sup> This Order, as amended, extends through December 31, 2050.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Rio Grande LNG, LLC, et al.*, DOE/FE Order No. 4492, Docket No. 15-190-LNG, Opinion and Order Granting Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations (Feb. 10, 2020), amended by DOE/FE Order No. 4492-A (Oct. 21, 2020) (extending export term), further amended by DOE/FE/ECM Order No. 4492-B (Aug. 20, 2025) (adding authorization holders). DOE initially issued this order to RGLNG, but on August 20, 2025, DOE granted the RGLNG Entities' request to add RGLNG4 and RGLNG5 as joint authorization holders. *See Rio Grande LNG, LLC, et al.*, DOE/FE/ECM Order Nos. 3869-A and 4492-B, Docket No. 15-190-LNG, Order Granting Request to Amend Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Add Authorization Holders (Aug. 20, 2025).

<sup>2</sup> The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FE/ECM) on July 4, 2021. Subsequently, on November 20, 2025, FE/ECM changed its name to the Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGE/O). DOE uses the acronym in effect at the time of each order or action discussed herein.

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 717b(a).

<sup>4</sup> *See Rio Grande LNG, LLC*, DOE/FE Order No. 4492-A, at 9-10.

In the Application,<sup>5</sup> as relevant here,<sup>6</sup> the RGLNG Entities ask DOE to make two amendments to their authorized export volume in Order No. 4492, as follows:

(1) The RGLNG Entities state that their original application for export authorization in 2015 "utilized a conservative conversion factor of 48.7 Bcf per million metric tons of natural gas."<sup>7</sup> They request that DOE amend the Order to use DOE's "standard conversion factor" of 51.75 Bcf per million metric tons of dry natural gas."<sup>8</sup> The RGLNG Entities state that, using DOE's conversion factor, the Terminal's current LNG production capacity of 27 million metric tons per annum (mtpa), authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), would equate to 1,397.25 Bcf/yr of natural gas, resulting in a "nominal increase" of 79.25 Bcf/yr of natural gas over the authorized export volume of 1,318 Bcf/yr of natural gas in the Order.<sup>9</sup>

(2) The RGLNG Entities also request an additional increase of 163.01 Bcf/yr to their authorized export volume in the Order, "consistent with an anticipated increase in the Terminal's maximum LNG production capacity under peak operating conditions up to 30.15 MTPA, for which approval is currently pending before FERC."<sup>10</sup>

In total, the requested amendments of 79.25 and 163.01 Bcf/yr, respectively, represent an increase of 242.26 Bcf/yr of natural gas in the authorized non-FTA volume under the Order—from 1,318 Bcf/yr to 1,560.26 Bcf/yr of natural gas.<sup>11</sup> The RGLNG Entities state that this proposed increase in their non-FTA export volume will not require the construction of any new facilities or the

<sup>5</sup> *Rio Grande LNG, LLC, et al.*, Application for Amendment to Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Free Trade and Non-Free Trade Agreement Countries, Docket No. 15-190-LNG (Dec. 17, 2025) [hereinafter App.].

<sup>6</sup> This Notice applies only to the portion of the Application requesting an amendment to the RGLNG Entities' non-FTA authorization under NGA section 3(a). DOE will review the portion of the Application requesting an amendment to their existing authorization to export LNG to FTA countries separately pursuant to NGA section 3(c), 15 U.S.C. 717b(c).

<sup>7</sup> *App. at 5-6; see also id. at 4.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id. at 5 & n.16* (quoting U.S. Dep't of Energy, Small-Scale Natural Gas Exports: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 82 FR 41570, 41573 (Sept. 1, 2017) ("When converting from million metric tons to billion cubic feet, DOE uses a conversion factor of 51.75 Bcf per million metric tons of dry natural gas.")) The RGLNG Entities also cite other proceedings in which DOE used this conversion factor. *See id.*

<sup>9</sup> *See id. at 6.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id. at 2; see also id. at 6.*

<sup>11</sup> *See id. at 2, 6.*

modification of the previously authorized Terminal facilities.

Additional details can be found in the RGLNG Entities' Application, posted on the DOE website at <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-12/RGLNG%20Entities%20DOE%20Upgrade%20Application.pdf>.

**DOE Evaluation**

In reviewing the Application, DOE will consider any issues required by law or policy under NGA section 3(a), DOE's regulations, and any other documents deemed appropriate.

Parties that may oppose the Application should address these issues and documents in their comments and/or protests, as well as other issues deemed relevant to the Application.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, requires DOE to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of its proposed decisions. No final decision will be issued in this proceeding until DOE has met its NEPA responsibilities.

**Public Comment Procedures**

In response to this Notice, any person may file a protest, comments, or a motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable, addressing the Application. Interested parties will be provided 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register** in which to submit comments, protests, motions to intervene, or notices of intervention.

Any person wishing to become a party to this proceeding evaluating the Application must file a motion to intervene or notice of intervention.<sup>12</sup> The filing of comments or a protest with respect to the Application will not serve to make the commenter or protestant a party to this proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties will be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the Application. All protests, comments, motions to intervene, or notices of intervention must meet the requirements specified by DOE's regulations in 10 CFR part 590, including the service requirements.

Filings may be submitted using one of the following methods:

(1) Submitting the filing electronically at [fergas@hq.doe.gov](mailto:fergas@hq.doe.gov);

(2) Mailing the filing to the Office of Global Energy Security at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section; or

<sup>12</sup> 10 CFR 590.303.

(3) Hand delivering the filing to the Office of Global Energy Security at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

For administrative efficiency, DOE prefers filings to be filed electronically. All filings must include a reference to “Docket No. 15-190-LNG” or “RGLNG Entities’ Application” in the title line. Filings must be submitted in English to be considered.<sup>13</sup>

*For electronic submissions:* Please include all related documents and attachments (e.g., exhibits) in the original email correspondence. Please do not include any active hyperlinks or password protection in any of the documents or attachments related to the filing. All electronic filings submitted to DOE must follow these guidelines to ensure that all documents are filed in a timely manner.

The Application, and any filed protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and comments will be available electronically on the DOE website at [www.energy.gov/hgeo/regulation](http://www.energy.gov/hgeo/regulation).

A decisional record on the Application will be developed through responses to this Notice by parties, including the parties’ written comments and replies thereto. Additional procedures will be used as necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the facts and issues. If an additional procedure is scheduled, notice will be provided to all parties. If no party requests additional procedures, a final Order may be issued based on the official record, including the Application and responses filed by parties pursuant to this Notice, in accordance with 10 CFR 590.316.

Signed in Washington, DC, on January 21, 2026.

**Amy Sweeney,**  
Director, Office of Global Energy Security,  
Office of Strategic Resources.

[FIR Doc. 2026-01407 Filed 1-23-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

**[Docket No. IC26-8-000]**

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (Ferc-538) Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection FERC-538 (Gas Pipeline Certificates: Section 7(a) Mandatory Initial Service).

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due March 27, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit comments via email to [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov). You must specify the Docket No. (IC26-8-000) and the FERC Information Collection number (FERC-538) in your email. If you are unable to file electronically, comments may be filed by USPS mail or by hand (including courier) delivery:

- *Mail via U.S. Postal Service only, addressed to:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

- *Hand (including courier) delivery to:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852.

**Docket:** To view information related to this docket, please visit <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kayla Williams may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), or by telephone at (202)502-6468.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Gas Pipeline Certificates: Section 7(a) Mandatory Initial Service.

**OMB Control No.:** 1902-0061.

**Type of Request:** Three-year extension of the FERC-538 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

**Abstract:** The purpose of FERC-538 is to implement the information collections pursuant to sections 7(a), 10(a) and 16 of Natural Gas Act,<sup>1</sup> and part 156 of the Commission Regulations.<sup>2</sup> These statutes and regulations allow for the Commission, after receiving an application, to order a natural gas company to extend or improve its transportation facilities and sell natural gas to the municipality or person and, for such purpose, to extend its transportation facilities to communities immediately adjacent to such facilities or to territories served by the natural gas pipeline company. The Commission uses the application data in order to be fully informed concerning the applicant, and the service the applicant is requesting.

**Type of Respondents:** Persons or municipalities authorized to engage in the local distribution of natural gas.

**Estimate of Annual Burden:**<sup>3</sup> The Commission estimates the annual reporting burden and cost for the information collection as:

	Number of respondents (1)	Annual number of responses per respondent (2)	Total number of responses (1) * (2) = (3)	Average burden hrs. & cost (\$) per response <sup>4</sup> (4)	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost (\$) (3) * (4) = (5)	Cost per respondent (\$) (5) ÷ (1)
Gas Pipeline Certificates.	1	1	1	240 hrs.; \$24,720 .....	240 hrs.; \$24,720 .....	24,720

**Comments:** Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of

<sup>13</sup> Executive Order 14224 of March 1, 2025, *Designating English as the Official Language of the United States*, 90 FR 11363 (Mar. 6, 2025).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 717f-w.

<sup>2</sup> 18 CFR part 156 (2005).

<sup>3</sup> “Burden” is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 CFR 1320.3.

<sup>4</sup> Commission staff estimates that the industry’s hourly cost for wages plus benefits is similar to the Commission’s \$103 FY 2025 average hourly cost for wages and benefits.