

U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination
Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office



CORPUS CHRISTI LIQUEFACTION, LLC; CCL MIDSCALE 8-9, LLC; AND CHENIERE MARKETING, LLC
DOCKET NO. 23-46-LNG

PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION: Corpus Christi Liquefaction, LLC, CCL Midscale 8–9, LLC, and Cheniere Marketing, LLC (collectively, CCL) jointly filed an application (Application) with the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) (now known as the Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO))¹ on April 6, 2023. The Application was submitted pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)² and 10 CFR Part 590 of DOE’s regulations.

In the Application, CCL seeks long-term, multi-contract authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) in a volume equivalent to approximately 170 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per year (Bcf/yr) of natural gas (approximately 0.47 Bcf per day). CCL requests authorization to export the LNG by vessel from the proposed Corpus Christi Liquefaction Midscale Trains 8 & 9 Project (Project), to be located at and adjacent to the existing Corpus Christi LNG Terminal (CCL Terminal) in San Patricio and Nueces Counties, Texas. In relevant part, CCL seeks 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).³ CCL requests that the export term begin on the date of first commercial export from the Project and extend through December 31, 2050.

DOE’s proposed action is to issue a final order authorizing the exports described in the Application if DOE determines that such exports are not inconsistent with the public interest. If granted, the authorization would permit the requested exports of domestically produced LNG by vessel from the Project to non-FTA countries, subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in the DOE order.

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).⁴

¹ The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) on July 4, 2021. Subsequently, on November 20, 2025, FECM changed its name to the Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO). DOE uses the acronym in effect at the time of each order or action discussed herein.

² 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

³ *Id.* § 717b(a). In the Application, CCL also requests authorization to export LNG in the same volume to FTA countries under NGA section 3(c), *id.* § 717b(c), on a non-additive basis. On July 19, 2023, in Order No. 5019, DOE granted the FTA portion of the Application, which is not subject to this Categorical Exclusion determination.

⁴ DOE’s NEPA Implementing Procedures can be viewed at <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/articles/doe-nepa-implementing-procedures-june-2025>.

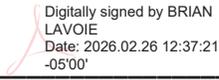
Regulatory requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, respectively: (See full text in regulation and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures)

] 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: 2026.02.26 12:37:21 -05'00'

Date Determined: 2/26/26

Brian Lavoie, NEPA Compliance Officer, Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office