

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
HYDROCARBONS AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY OFFICE

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ECA LIQUEFACTION, S. DE R.L. DE C.V. )  
\_\_\_\_\_) )

DOCKET NO. 18-144-LNG

ORDER AMENDING AUTHORIZATION  
TO EXPORT LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS  
TO FREE TRADE AGREEMENT COUNTRIES, AND  
GRANTING REQUEST TO EXTEND DEADLINE  
TO COMMENCE EXPORTS OF LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS  
TO NON-FREE TRADE AGREEMENT COUNTRIES

*ECA MID-SCALE PROJECT*

DOE/HGEO ORDER NO. 4317-C  
DOE/HGEO ORDER NO. 4364-C

MARCH 20, 2026

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## I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

On September 19, 2025, ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V. (ECA Liquefaction) filed with the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) (now known as the Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office)<sup>1</sup> a “Request for Extensions for Long-Term Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas” (Request)<sup>2</sup> under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA).<sup>3</sup> In the Request, ECA Liquefaction asks DOE to amend its two long-term export (or re-export)<sup>4</sup> authorizations involving the ECA Mid-Scale Project, currently under construction in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico. In this Order, as discussed below, we (i) amend the start of the export term for ECA Liquefaction’s Free Trade Agreement (FTA) authorization; (ii) grant the requested extension of the re-export commencement deadline for its non-FTA authorization, from March 29, 2026, to September 21, 2026; and (iii) provide a Make-Up Period for both authorizations, consistent with current DOE practice.

**Initial Authorizations and Term Amendment.** In 2019, DOE authorized ECA Liquefaction’s affiliate and predecessor-in-interest, Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V. (ECA), to export domestically produced natural gas by pipeline and to re-export the natural gas in the form of liquefied natural gas (LNG) under the following two orders:

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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. 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.

<sup>2</sup> ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V., Request for Extensions for Long-Term Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas, Docket No. 18-144-LNG (Sep. 19, 2025) [hereinafter Request].

<sup>3</sup> The authority to regulate the imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, under section 3 of the NGA (15 U.S.C. § 717b) has been delegated to the Assistant Secretary for FECM (now the Assistant Secretary for HGEO) in Redefinition Order No. S4- DEL-FE1-2023, issued on April 10, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> For purposes of this Order, “re-export” means to ship or transmit U.S.-sourced natural gas in its various forms (gas, compressed, or liquefied) subject to DOE’s jurisdiction under the NGA, 15 U.S.C. § 717b, from one foreign country (*i.e.*, a country other than the United States) to another foreign country.

- (i) DOE/FE Order No. 4317,<sup>5</sup> as amended, authorizing exports of U.S.-sourced natural gas by pipeline from the United States to Mexico and, after liquefaction in Mexico, by vessel from the proposed ECA Mid-Scale Project to any country with which the United States currently has, or in the future will have, a FTA requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas (FTA countries), under NGA section 3(c);<sup>6</sup> and
- (ii) DOE/FE Order No. 4364,<sup>7</sup> as amended, authorizing re-exports of U.S.-sourced natural gas in the form of LNG by vessel from the proposed ECA Mid-Scale Project to any other country with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy (non-FTA countries), under NGA section 3(a).<sup>8</sup>

Subsequently, DOE approved a request to transfer both authorizations from ECA to ECA Liquefaction.<sup>9</sup>

Under Order No. 4317, DOE authorized ECA Liquefaction to export LNG in a volume equivalent to 182 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per year (Bcf/yr) of natural gas for a 20-year term, “beginning on the earlier of the date of first export or seven years from the date the authorization is issued (January 25, 2026).”<sup>10</sup> Under Order No. 4364, DOE authorized ECA Liquefaction to re-export the U.S.-sourced natural gas in the form of LNG in a volume equivalent to 161 Bcf/yr of natural gas, on a non-additive basis, for a 20-year term, and requires that ECA Liquefaction

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<sup>5</sup> *ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order No. 4317, Docket No. 18-144-LNG, Order Granting Long-Term, Multi-Contract Authorization to Export Natural Gas to Mexico and to Other Free Trade Agreement Nations (ECA Mid-Scale Project) (Jan. 25, 2019), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4317-A (Oct. 7, 2019) (transferring authorization from Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V. to ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.), *further amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4317-B (Dec. 10, 2020) (extending export term).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c). The United States currently has FTAs requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas with Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, Republic of Korea, and Singapore. FTAs with Israel and Costa Rica do not require national treatment for trade in natural gas.

<sup>7</sup> *ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order No. 4364, Docket No. 18-144-LNG, Opinion and Order Granting Long-Term Authorization to Re-Export U.S.-Sourced Natural Gas in the Form of Liquefied Natural Gas from Mexico to Non-Free Trade Agreement Countries (ECA Mid-Scale Project) (Mar. 29, 2019), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4364-A (Oct. 7, 2019) (transferring authorization from Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V. to ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.), *further amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4364-B (Dec. 10, 2020) (extending export term).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(a). DOE has provided a table showing both orders, and all amendments thereto, in the Appendix to this Order.

<sup>9</sup> *See ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order Nos. 4317-A and 4364-A.

<sup>10</sup> *ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order No. 4317, at 12 (Ordering Para. A); *see also* Request at 2.

“must commence re-export operations using the planned liquefaction facilities no later than seven years from the date of issuance of this Order,” *i.e.*, by March 29, 2026.<sup>11</sup>

In 2020, DOE granted ECA Liquefaction’s request to amend the 20-year export term in both authorizations to an export term extending “through December 31, 2050.”<sup>12</sup>

**Current Proceeding.**

***FTA Authorization:*** In the Request, ECA Liquefaction notes that Ordering Paragraph A of Order No. 4317 sets the start date of the term of the FTA Authorization beginning on the earlier of (i) the date of first export, or (ii) January 25, 2026.<sup>13</sup> ECA Liquefaction asks DOE to amend Order No. 4317, as amended, “to remove the deadline associated with ECA Liquefaction’s FTA Authorization and to establish the commencement of the term as the date of first export, consistent with DOE/FECM precedent.”<sup>14</sup> Below, DOE grants this requested amendment to Order No. 4317, as amended, pursuant to NGA section 3(c).<sup>15</sup>

***Non-FTA Authorization:*** With respect to its non-FTA authorization, ECA Liquefaction asks DOE to extend the export commencement deadline from March 29, 2026, to September 21, 2026, “to complete the construction and place the export facilities into service.”<sup>16</sup> Thus, the Request, if granted, would extend ECA Liquefaction’s current export commencement deadline by approximately six months.<sup>17</sup> The end date of the authorization—December 31, 2050—would remain the same.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> *ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order No. 4364, at 52 (Ordering Para. D); *see also* Request at 3.

<sup>12</sup> *ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.*, DOE/FE Order Nos. 4317-B and 4364-B, at 9-10.

<sup>13</sup> Request at 3; *see also* DOE/FE Order No. 4317, at 12 (Ordering Para. A).

<sup>14</sup> Request at 3.

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

<sup>16</sup> Request at 1, 6.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 1, 3.

<sup>18</sup> *See* DOE/FE Order No. 4364-B, *supra* note 7.

On November 18, 2025, DOE published a Notice of Request (Notice) in the *Federal Register*.<sup>19</sup> DOE invited the public to submit protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments in response to the Notice by December 18, 2025.<sup>20</sup> DOE received no filings in response to the Notice, and therefore the Request is uncontested.<sup>21</sup>

Further, with respect to ECA Liquefaction’s Request, DOE affirmed last year that it “will consider applications to extend an authorization holder’s export commencement deadline and grant such extensions for good cause shown on a case-by-case basis.”<sup>22</sup> Upon review of the record, and for the reasons set forth below, DOE finds that ECA Liquefaction has shown good cause for the requested extension.

***Amendment to Establish Make-Up Period in Both Authorizations:*** Additionally, to align ECA Liquefaction’s export terms with DOE’s current practice, DOE has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to allow three additional years for ECA Liquefaction to export (or re-export) the approved FTA and non-FTA volumes of LNG under Order Nos. 4317 and 4364, as amended, respectively, beyond the term ending on December 31, 2050, solely to export (or re-export) any approved volume of LNG that it is unable to export (or re-export) during the original term (the Make-Up Volume).<sup>23</sup> This three-year term during which the Make-Up Volume may be

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<sup>19</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Energy, ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.; Request for Extension of Export Commencement Deadline, 90 Fed. Reg. 51,724 (Nov. 18, 2025).

<sup>20</sup> *See id.* DOE finds that the requirement for public notice of applications in 10 C.F.R. Part 590 is applicable only to non-FTA applications under NGA section 3(a).

<sup>21</sup> *See* 10 C.F.R. § 590.102(b).

<sup>22</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Energy, Rescission of Policy Statement on Export Commencement Deadlines in Authorizations to Export Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Countries, 90 Fed. Reg. 14,411 (Apr. 2, 2025) [hereinafter Rescission Notice]. Previously, on April 21, 2023, DOE issued a “Policy Statement on Export Commencement Deadlines” for non-FTA authorizations (Policy Statement), which established mandatory criteria that an authorization holder must meet for DOE to consider an export commencement extension. However, on April 2, 2025, DOE rescinded the Policy Statement in the Rescission Notice, stating that DOE was returning to its prior practice of granting such extensions upon a showing of good cause on a case-by-case basis. *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> *See supra* notes 5 & 7 (Order Nos. 4317-B and 4364-B, respectively, extending the original export term under each authorization to Dec. 31, 2050). For a discussion of the background of the Make-Up Period and DOE’s decision to reinstate the Make-Up Period through December 31, 2053, for long-term non-FTA authorizations, *see*

exported, known as the Make-Up Period, will extend through December 31, 2053, as reflected in the amendments below.<sup>24</sup>

**Categorical Exclusion.** DOE’s procedures for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)<sup>25</sup> provide for a categorical exclusion if neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required—specifically, categorical exclusion B5.7, *Export of natural gas and associated transportation by marine vessel.*<sup>26</sup> On March 19, 2026, DOE issued a categorical exclusion determination for the amendments to ECA Liquefaction’s non-FTA authorization (Order No. 4364, as amended) under this provision.<sup>27</sup>

## **II. STANDARD OF REVIEW**

### **A. FTA Authorization**

Section 3(c) of the NGA was amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486) to require that applications requesting authority for (a) the import and export of natural gas, including LNG, from and to a nation with which there is in effect a FTA requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas, and/or (b) the import of LNG from other international sources, be deemed consistent with the public interest and granted without modification or delay.<sup>28</sup>

### **B. Non-FTA Authorization**

NGA section 3(a) authorizes the exportation of natural gas from the United States to

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*Port Arthur LNG Phase II, LLC*, DOE/FECM Order No. 5292-A, Docket No. 20-23-LNG, Order Amending Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations (June 30, 2025), <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/ord5292-A.pdf>.

<sup>24</sup> ECA Liquefaction is not permitted to increase its annual export or re-export volume under this order over the three-year Make-Up Period, absent appropriate authorization by DOE.

<sup>25</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*

<sup>26</sup> See 10 C.F.R. Part 1021, Subpt. D, App. B, Categorical Exclusion B5.7.

<sup>27</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Energy, Categorical Exclusion Determination, ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V, Docket No. 18-144- LNG (Mar. 19, 2026).

<sup>28</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

non-FTA countries unless, after opportunity for hearing, DOE “finds that the proposed exportation . . . will not be consistent with the public interest.”<sup>29</sup> DOE also “may from time to time, after opportunity for hearing, and for good cause shown, make such supplemental order in the premises as it may find necessary or appropriate.”<sup>30</sup> Additionally, under NGA section 16, DOE may “prescribe, issue, make, amend, and rescind such orders . . . as it may find necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter.”<sup>31</sup> Before reaching a final decision on an application, DOE must also comply with NEPA.<sup>32</sup>

### III. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

ECA Liquefaction asks DOE to grant an approximately six-month extension of time of the export commencement deadline in its non-FTA Authorization, Order No. 4364, as amended, so that it may complete construction and commence exports from the ECA Mid-Scale Project by September 21, 2026.<sup>33</sup> ECA Liquefaction states that “good cause exists to grant the requested extensions and that such extensions are consistent with the public interest.”<sup>34</sup>

To support its request, ECA Liquefaction states that “[i]n the time since issuance of the FTA and Non-FTA authorizations, ECA Liquefaction has proceeded expeditiously to advance the ECA Mid-Scale Project and has worked diligently to develop the project in a manner consistent with the DOE/FECM authorizations.”<sup>35</sup> Specifically, as of the filing date of this Request, ECA Liquefaction describes the status of the ECA Mid-Scale Project as follows:

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<sup>29</sup> *Id.* § 717b(a).

<sup>30</sup> *Id.*

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* § 717o; *see also, e.g., Appalachian Voices v. Fed. Energy Regul. Comm’n*, 139 F.4th 903 (D.C. Cir. 2025) (holding that FERC reasonably concluded that good cause existed to extend deadline to construct natural gas pipeline facilities and denying petition for review, citing NGA § 16 and FERC regulations).

<sup>32</sup> *See Sierra Club v. U.S. Dep’t of Energy*, 867 F.3d 189, 192 (D.C. Cir. 2017).

<sup>33</sup> Request at 1, 5-6.

<sup>34</sup> *Id.* at 1.

<sup>35</sup> *Id.* at 5.

- All federal, state, local, and Mexican authorizations necessary for construction of the project facilities have been obtained;
- The project is 93.49% complete, with total project progress (including pre-commissioning and commissioning activities) reaching a cumulative 94.85%; and
- Main activities are “now focused on pre-commissioning and commissioning activities and clearing punch list items in order to achieve (i) pretreatment mechanical completion, (ii) mechanical completion for interconnecting systems and common area, including BOG [boil-off gas], and (iii) liquefaction mechanical completion.”<sup>36</sup>

Addressing the commercialization of the ECA Mid-Scale Project, ECA Liquefaction states that it “has entered into delivery contracts with Mitsui & Co., Ltd. and Total Gas & Power Asia Private Limited.”<sup>37</sup> Additionally, on January 15, 2026, ECA Liquefaction submitted to DOE a sale and purchase agreement signed with SI LNG Optimization Services, LLC for the purchase of approximately 0.23 million metric tons per annum (mtpa) of LNG for 20 years from the ECA Mid-Scale Project.<sup>38</sup> ECA Liquefaction further notes that the “ECA Mid-Scale Project reached FID [Final Investment Decision] in 2020.”<sup>39</sup>

ECA Liquefaction asserts that these activities demonstrate that good cause exists for the extension of time to complete the remaining construction and place the ECA Mid-Scale Project into service.<sup>40</sup> ECA Liquefaction further states that the requested extension “does not propose any changes to the nature, scope, or the design of the ECA Mid-Scale Project,” nor “will the overall volume of gas to be exported under the order be increased.”<sup>41</sup> For these reasons, according to ECA Liquefaction, “the public interest determination set forth in DOE/FE Order No. 4364 will not be affected by, and the public interest continues to be served by, this extension

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<sup>36</sup> *Id.*

<sup>37</sup> *Id.*

<sup>38</sup> See DOE, “ECA Liquefaction Facility Long-Term Contract Information and Registrations,” <https://www.energy.gov/hgeo/articles/eca-liquefaction-facility>.

<sup>39</sup> Request at 5.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.* at 5-6.

<sup>41</sup> *Id.* at 4.

request.”<sup>42</sup>

#### **IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

##### **A. Grant of Requested Term Amendment to FTA Authorization**

The portion of ECA Liquefaction’s Request seeking an amendment to its FTA authorization (Order No. 4317, as amended) falls within NGA section 3(c),<sup>43</sup> and, therefore, DOE grants the requested FTA amendment without modification or delay.

##### **B. Grant of Requested Export Commencement Extension to Non-FTA Authorization**

ECA Liquefaction asserts that it has demonstrated good cause for an extension of the export commencement deadline set forth in its non-FTA authorization (Order No. 4364)—from March 29, 2026, to September 21, 2026.

Based on the facts submitted to DOE in the Request, we find that ECA Liquefaction has presented uncontested evidence that it has made substantial progress in developing the ECA Mid-Scale Project through a variety of commercial, financial, legal, and physical efforts. Since obtaining its original non-FTA authorization, ECA Liquefaction has made a positive FID, executed three long-term commercial agreements for a total of approximately 3 mtpa of LNG from the ECA Mid-Scale Project, and completed construction on almost 95% of the project facilities.<sup>44</sup> These important milestones support ECA Liquefaction’s assertion that it “has worked diligently to develop” the ECA Mid-Scale Project and requires DOE to grant a less than six-month extension of time in its non-FTA authorization “due to the time needed for the remaining construction.”<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

<sup>43</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

<sup>44</sup> See Request at 5; see also DOE, “ECA Liquefaction Facility Long-Term Contract Information and Registrations,” <https://www.energy.gov/hgeo/articles/eca-liquefaction-facility>.

<sup>45</sup> Request at 5.

Moreover, DOE agrees with ECA Liquefaction that extending the deadline to commence non-FTA exports from the ECA Mid-Scale Project does not alter DOE’s public interest determination in granting Order No. 4364, as amended, under NGA Section 3(a).<sup>46</sup> No facts associated with ECA Liquefaction’s original non-FTA application, and no requirements of the non-FTA authorization, are affected by this extension beyond the additional time period for ECA Liquefaction to commence export operations. The requested extension also does not affect the cumulative volume of non-FTA exports that DOE has approved to date.<sup>47</sup>

In sum, we find that amending ECA Liquefaction’s re-export commencement deadline to September 21, 2026, will provide the time needed for ECA Liquefaction to complete the construction of the ECA Mid-Scale Project and place it into service, as stated in the Request.<sup>48</sup> For the reasons set forth above, we find that ECA Liquefaction has shown good cause for this six-month extension.

Additionally, we note that in recent weeks, the global supply of LNG has been significantly impacted from the developments in the Middle East. For instance, the supply disruption that occurred on March 2, 2026, from the drone strike at the Ras Laffan LNG export terminal operated by QatarEnergy,<sup>49</sup> has removed approximately 20% of global LNG supplies,<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> *Id.* at 5-6.

<sup>47</sup> See *Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC*, DOE/HGEO Order No. 4446-B, Docket No. 16-28-LNG, Order Amending Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations, at 9, 56 (Mar. 13, 2026).

<sup>48</sup> Request at 1, 5-6.

<sup>49</sup> See QatarEnergy, “QatarEnergy to Stop Production of LNG” (Mar. 2, 2026), <https://www.qatarenergy.qa/en/MediaCenter/Pages/newsdetails.aspx?ItemId=3892> (“Due to military attacks on QatarEnergy’s operating facilities in Ras Laffan Industrial City and Mesaieed Industrial City in the State of Qatar, QatarEnergy has ceased production of [LNG] and associated products.”).

<sup>50</sup> See U.S. Energy Info. Admin., *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report Supplement* (Mar. 5, 2026), <https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/weekly/supplement/archive/2026/03/05/> (follow link to “Liquefied Natural Gas – International Prices”) (stating that “QatarEnergy LNG, which supplies about 20% of global LNG volumes, declared force majeure on LNG exports”).

and QatarEnergy’s LNG production remains shut down.<sup>51</sup> With this requested extension, ECA Liquefaction will have additional time to complete final construction and be able to commence exports to non-FTA countries by September 21, 2026. In light of these circumstances, we emphasize that additional U.S. LNG supplies from export facilities already operating and supplies that will be readily available once facilities currently under construction are completed—such as the ECA Mid-Scale Project—are essential to supplying the global LNG market and strengthening global energy security.<sup>52</sup>

### **C. Make-Up Period for FTA and Non-FTA Authorizations**

As discussed above, DOE finds that it is necessary and appropriate to amend ECA Liquefaction’s authorizations to provide three additional years for ECA Liquefaction to export U.S.-sourced natural gas and/or to re-export the natural gas in the form of LNG under Order Nos. 4317 and 4364, as amended, beyond the export term for each authorization ending on December 31, 2050.<sup>53</sup> During the Make-Up Period, which will extend through December 31, 2053, ECA Liquefaction will be permitted to export and/or re-export any approved volume of natural gas or LNG, respectively, that it is unable to export or re-export during the original term.<sup>54</sup>

### **D. Environmental Review**

DOE’s NEPA procedures provide for a categorical exclusion if neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required—specifically, categorical exclusion B5.7, *Export of natural gas and associated transportation by marine vessel*.<sup>55</sup> As

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<sup>51</sup> See QatarEnergy, “QatarEnergy Declares Force Majeure” (Mar. 4, 2026), <https://www.qatarenergy.qa/en/MediaCenter/Pages/newsdetails.aspx?ItemId=3894> (stating that, due to its need to “stop production of [LNG] and associated products, QatarEnergy has declared Force Majeure to its affected buyers”).

<sup>52</sup> See, e.g., *Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC*, DOE/HGEO Order No. 4446-B, at 47-51 (discussing energy security).

<sup>53</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717o; see also *supra* at 3 and note 12.

<sup>54</sup> See *supra* at 4-5.

<sup>55</sup> See 10 C.F.R. Part 1021, Subpt. D, App. B, Categorical Exclusion B5.7.

noted above, on March 19, 2026, DOE issued a categorical exclusion determination for the amendments to ECA Liquefaction's non-FTA authorization.<sup>56</sup>

## V. ORDER

Pursuant to section 3 and 16 of the Natural Gas Act, DOE hereby orders as follows:

### **DOE/FE Order No. 4317 (FTA Authorization)**

A. Ordering Paragraph A of Order No. 4317, as amended most recently in Order No. 4317-B, is further amended to state in full:

ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V. (ECA Liquefaction), is authorized to export U.S.-sourced natural gas by pipeline from the United States to Mexico and, after liquefaction in Mexico, to re-export the U.S.-sourced natural gas in the form of LNG by vessel from the proposed ECA Mid-Scale Project, to be located in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, to FTA countries. The volume authorized in this Order is up to the equivalent of 182 Bcf/yr of natural gas for a term beginning on the date of first export and extending through December 31, 2050. ECA Liquefaction may continue exporting any Make-Up Volume for a three-year Make-Up Period following this export term, *i.e.*, through December 31, 2053.<sup>57</sup> ECA Liquefaction is authorized to export the U.S.-sourced natural gas and to re-export the LNG on its own behalf and as agent

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<sup>56</sup> See *supra* note 27 (Categorical Exclusion Determination).

<sup>57</sup> This three-year Make-Up Period does not affect or modify ECA Liquefaction's total approved FTA volume (182 Bcf/yr of natural gas). Insofar as ECA Liquefaction may seek to export additional volumes not previously authorized, it will be required to obtain appropriate authorization from DOE.

for other entities that hold title to the natural gas, pursuant to one or more contracts of any duration.<sup>58</sup>

This amended Ordering Paragraph A supersedes Ordering Paragraph A in Order No. 4317, as previously amended, in its entirety.

**DOE/FE Order No. 4364 (Non-FTA Authorization)**

B. Ordering Paragraph A of Order No. 4364, as amended most recently in Order No. 4364-B, is further amended to state in full:

ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V. (ECA Liquefaction), is authorized to re-export U.S.-sourced natural gas in the form of LNG by vessel from the proposed ECA Mid-Scale Project, to be located in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, in a volume equivalent to 161 Bcf/yr of natural gas. This authorization is for a term to commence on the date of first re-export and to extend through December 31, 2050. ECA Liquefaction may continue re-exporting any Make-Up Volume for a three-year Make-Up Period following this export term, *i.e.*, through December 31, 2053.<sup>59</sup> ECA Liquefaction is authorized to re-export this LNG on its own behalf and as agent for other entities who hold title to the natural gas, pursuant to one or more contracts of any duration.<sup>60</sup>

This amended Ordering Paragraph A supersedes Ordering Paragraph A in Order No. 4364, as

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<sup>58</sup> See U.S. Dep't of Energy, Including Short-Term Export Authority in Long-Term Authorizations for the Export of Natural Gas on a Non-Additive Basis; Policy Statement, 86 Fed. Reg. 2243 (Jan. 12, 2021).

<sup>59</sup> This three-year Make-Up Period does not affect or modify ECA Liquefaction's total approved non-FTA volume (161 Bcf/yr of natural gas). Insofar as ECA Liquefaction may seek to re-export additional volumes not previously authorized, it will be required to obtain appropriate authorization from DOE.

<sup>60</sup> See U.S. Dep't of Energy, Including Short-Term Export Authority in Long-Term Authorizations for the Export of Natural Gas on a Non-Additive Basis, 86 Fed. Reg. 2243 (Jan. 12, 2021).

previously amended, in its entirety.

C. Ordering Paragraph D of Order No. 4364, as amended, is further amended to state as follows:

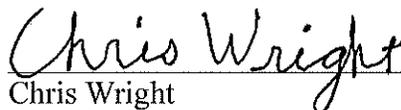
ECA Liquefaction must commence re-export operations using the planned liquefaction facilities no later than September 21, 2026.

This amended Ordering Paragraph D supersedes Ordering Paragraph D in Order No. 4364, as previously amended, in its entirety.

D. Any reference to a prior export or re-export commencement deadline in the Terms and Conditions or Ordering Paragraphs of Order No. 4364, as amended, is now superseded.

E. All other obligations, rights, and responsibilities established by Order Nos. 4317 and 4364, both as amended, remain in effect.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 20, 2026.

  
Chris Wright  
U.S. Secretary of Energy

**APPENDIX: LONG-TERM EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS ISSUED TO  
ECA LIQUEFACTION, S. DE R.L. DE C.V. (ECA LIQUEFACTION)**

**Docket No. 18-144-LNG, ECA Mid-Scale Project**

<b>Type of Order</b>	<b>Order No., With Amendments</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Type of Amendment</b>	<b>Volume (Bcf/yr)</b>
<b>FTA</b>	<b>4317</b>	Jan. 25, 2019	-	182
	4317-A	Oct. 7, 2019	Transferring authorization from Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V. to ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.	-
	4317-B	Dec. 10, 2020	Term extension through Dec. 31, 2050	-
	4317-C	Mar. 20, 2026	Amendment to start date of export term; Make-Up Period added	-
<b>Non-FTA</b>	<b>4364</b>	March 29, 2019	-	161
	4364-A	Oct. 7, 2019	Transferring authorization from Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V. to ECA Liquefaction, S. de R.L. de C.V.	-
	4364-B	Dec. 10, 2020	Term extension through Dec. 31, 2050	-
	4364-C	Mar. 20, 2026	Extension to re-export commencement deadline; Make-Up Period added	-