

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



**CARIB ENERGY (USA) LLC**  
**DOCKET NO. 26-31-LNG**

**PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION:** Carib Energy (USA) LLC (Carib Energy) filed an application (Application) with the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office<sup>1</sup> on March 17, 2026, pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>2</sup> and 10 CFR Part 590 of DOE’s regulations. In its Application, Carib Energy seeks blanket authorization to engage in short-term exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG), either previously imported into Puerto Rico from foreign sources or received from sources within the United States, 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>3</sup> Carib Energy requests authorization to export this LNG in a volume equivalent to 14.6 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas on a cumulative basis for a two-year term beginning on the earlier of April 6, 2026, or the date of an order granting the requested authorization.<sup>4</sup> Carib Energy states that its proposed exports qualify as “small-scale natural gas exports” under DOE’s regulations at 10 CFR 590.102(p) and 590.208(a).

As relevant here, Carib Energy seeks to both source and export LNG from the Crowley LNG Puerto Rico Truck Loading Facility (Crowley Facility) in Peñuelas, Puerto Rico in either approved IMO7/TVAC-ASME LNG (ISO) containers transported on ocean-going vessels or in small-scale LNG vessels.

DOE’s proposed action is to authorize the exports described in the Application as small-scale natural gas exports. If granted, the authorization would permit the requested exports of LNG sourced from the Crowley Facility on a short-term basis, via either approved ISO containers transported on ocean-going vessels or via small-scale LNG vessels, 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).<sup>5</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.

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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> 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* § 717b(a).

<sup>4</sup> In the Application, Carib Energy also requests authorization to export LNG in the same volume to FTA countries under NGA section 3(c) on a non-additive basis. That request is not subject to this categorical exclusion determination. 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

<sup>5</sup> DOE’s NEPA Implementing Procedures can be viewed at <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/articles/doe-nepa-implementing-procedures-june-2025>.

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: 2026.04.06 16:02:02 -04'00'

**Date Determined:** 4/6/26

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