UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

HYDROCARBONS AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY OFFICE

VENTURE GLOBAL PLAQUEMINES LNG, LLC	)	DOCKET NO. 16-28-LNG

ORDER AMENDING LONG-TERM AUTHORIZATION TO EXPORT LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TO FREE TRADE AGREEMENT NATIONS

DOE/HGEO ORDER NO. 3866-C

JULY 17, 2026

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On March 5, 2026, Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC (Plaquemines LNG) filed an application (Amendment Application)[1] with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO)[2] under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA).[3] As explained below, Plaquemines LNG asks DOE to amend its existing long-term export authorizations.

Plaquemines LNG is currently authorized to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) by vessel from the Plaquemines LNG Terminal, located on the west bank of the Mississippi River, near river mile marker 55, in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (Export Terminal or Project),[4] under the following orders:

(i) DOE/FE Order No. 3866, as amended,[5] authorizing exports to any country with which the United States currently has, or in the future will have, a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas (FTA countries) for a term extending through December 31, 2050, pursuant to NGA section 3(c);[6] and

(ii) DOE/FE Order No. 4446, as amended,[7] authorizing exports to any other country with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy (non-FTA

[1] Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC, Application for Limited Amendment of Authorizations to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Free Trade and Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations, Docket No. 16-28-LNG (Mar. 5, 2026) [hereinafter Amendment App.].
[2] 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 HGEO. In this Order, DOE uses the acronym in effect at the time of each order or action discussed.
[3] 15 U.S.C. § 717b. 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 Redelegation Order No. S4-DEL-FE1-2023, issued on April 10, 2023.
[4] Amendment App. at 1.
[5] *Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC*, DOE/FE Order No. 3866, Docket No. 16-28-LNG, Order Granting Long-Term, Multi-Contract Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas by Vessel from the Proposed Plaquemines LNG Terminal in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, to Free Trade Agreement Nations (July 21, 2016), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 3866-A (Oct. 21, 2020) (extending export term), *further amended by* DOE/FECM Order No. 3866-B (June 13, 2022) (increasing authorized export volume).
[6] 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.
[7] *Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC*, DOE/FE Order No. 4446, Docket No. 16-28-LNG, Opinion and Order Granting Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations (Oct.

> countries) for a term extending through December 31, 2050, pursuant to NGA section 3(a).[8]

These orders authorize exports to FTA and non-FTA countries on a non-additive basis in a total combined volume equivalent to 1,405.33 billion cubic feet per year (Bcf/yr) of natural gas, which Plaquemines LNG states is approximately equivalent to 27.2 million metric tons per annum (mtpa) of LNG.[9]

In the Amendment Application, as relevant here,[10] Plaquemines LNG asks DOE to further amend Order No. 3866 to increase the authorized export volume by 7.8 mtpa of LNG, equivalent to 467.67 Bcf/yr of natural gas, for a total export equivalent volume of 1,873 Bcf/yr to FTA countries.[11] In support of this request, Plaquemines LNG states that, on December 19, 2025, it filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) an application for a limited amendment to its authorization for the siting, construction, and operation of the Export Terminal.[12] Plaquemines LNG states that the authorization amendment it seeks from FERC would not require "the addition of any new facilities," explaining that "[t]he proposed additional increase in the peak liquefaction capacity reflects further refinements in the conditions and assumptions concerning the maximum potential output of the authorized facilities detailed in the FERC amendment and supporting technical materials."[13] The requested amendment to Order No. 3866 thus "reflect[s] the actual peak liquefaction capacity of the Project facilities under

16, 2019), *amended by* DOE/FE Order No. 4446-A (Oct. 21, 2020) (extending export term), *further amended by* DOE/HGEO Order No. 4446-B (Mar. 13, 2026) (increasing authorized export volume).

[8] 15 U.S.C. § 717b(a).

[9] Amendment App. at 2.

[10] DOE will review the portion of the Amendment Application requesting an amendment to Plaquemines LNG's existing authorization to export LNG to non-FTA countries separately pursuant to NGA section 3(a), 15 U.S.C. § 717b(a).

[11] *See* Amendment App. at 3 & n.9.

[12] *Id.* at 3 (Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC, Abbreviated Application for Limited Amendment of Authorization under Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, FERC Docket No. CP26-53 (Dec. 19, 2025)). The application remains pending before FERC.

[13] *Id.*

optimal conditions" and aligns with the amendment requested from FERC.[14] Plaquemines LNG states that "[a]ll other obligations, rights, and responsibilities of the existing export authorizations, including all applicable reporting requirements and other conditions, would remain the same without change."[15]

In this Order, DOE grants the portion of the Amendment Application seeking to increase Plaquemines LNG's export volume approved in DOE/FE Order No. 3866, as amended, pursuant to NGA section 3(c).[16] The non-FTA portion of the Amendment Application—seeking to increase the export volume in Plaquemines LNG's non-FTA order (DOE/FE Order No. 4446, as amended)—will be reviewed pursuant to NGA section 3(a),[17] and addressed in a separate order.

II. FINDINGS

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. The FTA portion of Plaquemines LNG's Application falls within section 3(c) of the NGA, as amended. Therefore, DOE is charged with granting the requested amendment without modification or delay.[18] This grant of the requested amendment should not be read to indicate DOE's views on the non-FTA portion of Plaquemines LNG's pending Amendment Application or the requested amendment thereto.[19]

[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.* at 3–4.
[16] 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).
[17] *Id.* § 717b(a).
[18] DOE further finds that the requirement for public notice of applications and other hearing-type procedures in 10 C.F.R. Part 590 applies only to applications seeking to export natural gas, including LNG, to non-FTA countries.
[19] *See supra* note 10.

ORDER

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

A. Ordering Paragraph A of Order No. 3866, as amended, is further amended to state as follows:

> Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC (Plaquemines LNG) is authorized to export domestically produced LNG by vessel from the Plaquemines LNG Project, located in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The volume authorized in this Order is equivalent to 1,873 Bcf/yr of natural gas for a term to commence on the date of first export and to extend through December 31, 2050. Plaquemines LNG is authorized to export this LNG on its own behalf and as agent for other entities that hold title to the LNG, pursuant to one or more contracts of any duration.[20]

This amended Ordering Paragraph A supersedes Ordering Paragraph A in Order No. 3866, as previously amended, in its entirety.

B. All other obligations, rights, and responsibilities established by DOE/FE Order No. 3866, as amended, remain in effect.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on July 17, 2026.

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

[20] 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).

APPENDIX: LONG-TERM EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE PLAQUEMINES LNG PROJECT

Table 1: Orders Issued by DOE for the Long-Term Export of LNG from the Plaquemines LNG Terminal or Plaquemines Expansion Project to FTA Countries

Docket No.	Order No., With Amendments	Date Issued	Type of Amendment	Volume (Bcf/yr)
16-28-LNG	3866	July 21, 2016	-	1,240
16-28-LNG	3866-A	Oct. 21, 2020	Term extension through Dec. 31, 2050	-
16-28-LNG	3866-B	June 13, 2022	Volume increase	165.33
25-143-LNG	5418	May 6, 2026	-	1,624.25
16-28-LNG	3866-C	July 17, 2026	Volume increase	467.67
Total FTA Volume				**3497.25**

Table 2: Orders Issued by DOE for the Long-Term Export of LNG from the Plaquemines LNG Terminal or Plaquemines Expansion Project to Non-FTA Countries

Docket No.	Order No., With Amendments	Date Issued	Type of Amendment	Volume (Bcf/yr)
16-28-LNG	4446	Oct. 16, 2019	-	1,240
16-28-LNG	4446-A	Oct. 21, 2020	Term extension through Dec. 31, 2050	-
16-28-LNG	4446-B	Mar. 13, 2026	Volume increase	165.33
Total Non-FTA Volume				**1,405.33**