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

SUSTAIN ENERGY LLC
DOCKET NO. 26-52-LNG

PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION: SUSTAIN ENERGY LLC (Sustain) filed an application (Application) with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO) on May 12, 2026, pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)[1] and 10 CFR Part 590 of DOE's regulations.

In relevant part, in the Application, Sustain requests authorization to conduct "small-scale natural gas exports" under DOE's regulations at 10 CFR 590.208(a). Specifically, Sustain seeks long-term authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) in a volume equivalent to 51.75 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per year of natural gas (0.14 Bcf per day). Sustain requests that the export term commence on the date an authorization is issued and extend through December 31, 2050. Sustain requests authority to export the 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).[2]

Sustain intends to source LNG for its small-scale exports from any of the 17 existing facilities, identified in Appendix C to the Application (collectively, the Facilities), where the LNG would be loaded into approved International Organization for Standardization (ISO) containers and transported by truck to existing U.S. marine terminals, at which the ISO containers would be loaded onto ocean-going container vessels for export.

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 Facilities, in ISO containers loaded onto ocean-going container 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 (July 13, 2026).[3]

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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[1] 15 U.S.C. § 717b.
[2] *Id.* § 717b(a). In the Application, Sustain also requests authorization to export LNG in the same volume to FTA countries under NGA section 3(c), *id.* § 717b(c). That request, in which the authorized volume would not be additive to the requested small-scale volume, is not subject to this categorical exclusion determination.
[3] DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures can be viewed at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doe-nepa-implementing-procedures.

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: 2026.09.10 17:19:56 -04'00' **Date Determined:** 9/10/26

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