

time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Dated: August 31, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP17-495-000; CP17-494-000]

#### Notice of Anticipated Schedule of Final Order for the Jordan Cove Project: Jordan Cove Energy Project, LP; Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP

On September 21, 2017, Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P. filed an application in Docket No. CP17-495-000, pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Part 153 of the Commission's regulations, for authorization to site, construct and operate a liquefied natural gas export terminal and associated facilities on the bay side of the North Spit of Coos Bay in unincorporated Coos County, Oregon. On the same day, Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP filed an application in Docket No. CP17-494-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, pursuant to section 7(c) of the NGA and Parts 157 and 284 of the Commission's regulations, to construct, operate, and maintain an approximately 220-mile-long natural gas pipeline to be located in Klamath, Jackson, Douglas, and Coos Counties, Oregon. The combined proposed projects, known as the Jordan Cove Project (Project), would liquefy and export about 7.8 million metric tons of natural gas per annum.

In accordance with Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, enacted on December 4, 2015, agencies are to publish completion dates for all federal environmental reviews and authorizations. This notice identifies the Commission's anticipated schedule for issuance of the final order for the Project, which is based on the anticipated date of issuance of the final Environmental Impact Statement.

Accordingly, we currently anticipate issuing a final order for the Project no later than:

Issuance of Final Order—November 29, 2019

If a schedule change becomes necessary for the final order, an additional notice will be provided so that interested parties and government agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

Dated: August 31, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP17-470-000]

#### Freeport LNG Development, L.P.; Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Train 4 Project

On June 29, 2017, Freeport LNG Development, L.P. (Freeport LNG) filed an application in Docket No. CP17-470-000 requesting an Authorization for siting, construction, and operation of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility pursuant to Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act. The proposed project is known as the Train 4 Project (Project), and would increase Freeport LNG's ability to liquefy and export by 5.1 million metric tonnes per annum of natural gas at the existing Freeport LNG terminal.

On July 14, 2017, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

#### Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of the EA—November 2, 2018  
90-day Federal Authorization Decision  
Deadline—January 31, 2019

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

## Project Description

The Project would add a fourth liquefaction unit (Train 4) and associated infrastructure and utilities to Freeport LNG's terminal on Quintana Island in Brazoria County, Texas. The Project would also expand the Pretreatment Plant located about 4 miles north of the terminal in Freeport, Texas and includes a new pipeline to connect various facilities. The Project would be located adjacent to the facilities authorized and currently under construction for the Phase II Modification Project (Docket No. CP12-29-000) and Liquefaction Project (Docket No. CP12-509-000), which comprises three liquefaction trains and related facilities. The proposed fourth liquefaction train would be within the existing Freeport LNG Terminal site and the additions to the Pretreatment Plant would be within the current construction footprint. The proposed 10.6-mile-long, 42-inch-diameter pipeline would connect the existing Stratton Ridge meter station, the Pretreatment Plant, and the Freeport LNG Liquefaction Plant.

## Background

On August 19, 2015 the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Planned Train 4 Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). A subsequent change to the Project resulted in the Commission issuing the *Supplemental Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Planned Freeport LNG Train 4 Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (Supplemental NOI) on August 31, 2016. The NOI and the Supplemental NOI were issued during the pre-filing review of the Project in Docket No. PF15-25-000 and were sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the NOI and Supplemental NOI, the Commission received comments from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Texas Historical Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Sierra Club, and eight members of the public. The primary issues raised by the commentors are alternative pipeline routes, and impacts on land use, wetlands, protected species, visual landscape, noise environment, air quality, road traffic, marine traffic, and safety.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Energy are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EA.

#### Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the eLibrary link, select General Search from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and Docket Number excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP17-470), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov).

The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Dated: August 31, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP16-454-000; CP16-455-000]

#### Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Rio Grande LNG, LLC and Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC Rio Grande LNG Project

On May 5, 2016, Rio Grande LNG, LLC (RG LNG) filed an application in Docket No. CP16-454-000 requesting authorization pursuant to Section 3(a) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) to construct and operate liquefied natural gas (LNG) export facilities. On the same day, Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC (RB Pipeline) filed an application in Docket No. CP16-455-000, requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Section 7(c) of the

NGA to construct, operate, and maintain certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The combined projects, collectively referred to as the Rio Grande LNG Project, would provide gas and processing to produce up to 27 million tons per annum of LNG for export. On August 17, 2016, in Order No. 3869, the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, granted to RG LNG a long-term, multi-contract authorization to export LNG to Free Trade Agreement nations.

On May 19, 2016, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued its Notice of Application for the project. Among other things, that notice alerted other agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on the request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Rio Grande LNG Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for completion of the final EIS for the project, which is based on an issuance of the draft EIS in October 2018. The forecasted schedule for both the draft and final EIS is based upon RG LNG and RB Pipeline providing complete and timely responses to any future data requests. In addition, the schedule assumes that the cooperating agencies will provide input on their areas of responsibility on a timely basis.

#### Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of Notice of Availability of the final EIS—April 26, 2019

90-Day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline—July 25, 2019

If a schedule change becomes necessary for the final EIS, an additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the project's progress.

#### Project Description

RG LNG and RB Pipeline, collectively the Rio Grande Developers (RG Developers), propose to construct and operate natural gas pipelines and liquefaction facilities in Jim Wells, Kleberg, Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron Counties, Texas. The Rio Bravo Pipeline would include two new parallel 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipelines, each about 135.5 miles long, capable of transporting 4.5 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas. In addition, a 2.4-mile-long header system at the origin of the pipelines would interconnect with existing natural gas transmission pipelines. The pipeline facilities would

include three new compressor stations in Kleberg, Kenedy, and Cameron Counties and two new interconnect booster stations in Kenedy County.

The Rio Grande LNG Terminal would be located on 750.4 acres of an approximately 1,000-acre site along the Brownsville Ship Channel about 5.5 miles inland from the channel entrance, in Cameron County, Texas. The terminal would include six liquefaction trains capable of producing 27 million tons per annum of LNG; marine facilities, including two LNG berths, a turning basin, and a material offloading facility; truck loading and unloading facilities for LNG and natural gas liquids; and four LNG storage tanks. If approved, RG Developers would construct the project in stages. Operation of the first liquefaction train, and one of the two parallel pipelines, is proposed to begin during the fourth quarter of 2021; operation of the full project is proposed for early 2025.

#### Background

On April 13, 2015, the Commission staff granted the RG Developers' request to use the FERC's Pre-filing environmental review process. On July 23, 2015, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned Rio Grande LNG Project and Rio Bravo Pipeline Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings* (NOI) in Docket No. PF15-20-000. The NOI was issued during the pre-filing review of the project, and was sent to federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; affected landowners; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes and regional organizations; commentors and other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. Major issues raised during scoping include impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat (including threatened and endangered species), aquatic resources, surface water, wetlands, public lands, visual resources, local ecotourism, public health and safety, air and noise quality, and cumulative impacts.

The U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, and Federal Aviation Administration are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.