RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.
FE DOCKET NO. 10-114-LNG

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Chevron U.S.A. Inc. (Chevron), a Pennsylvania corporation, filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) on September 9, 2010, seeking authorization to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal in Cameron Parish, Louisiana to any country not prohibited by U.S. law or policy. The Application was submitted pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act and 10 CFR part 590 of the Department of Energy's (DOE) regulations. No new facilities or modification to any existing facilities at the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal are required in order for Chevron to export LNG from that facility.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION TO BE APPLIED: Under the above circumstances, DOE's NEPA procedures provide for a categorical exclusion for which neither an environmental assessment (EA) nor an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required. Specifically:

10 CFR Part 1021.410 Appendix B to Subpart D of Part 1021, Categorical Exclusions in B5.7 states:
"Approval of new authorization or amendment of existing authorization to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act that does not involve new construction and only requires operational changes, such as an increase in natural gas throughput, change in transportation, or change in storage operations."

DETERMINATION: This action would not: threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders; require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities; disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021). Furthermore, there are no extraordinary circumstances related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signature: Mark J. Matarrese **Date:** 12/8/10

Mark Matarrese
NEPA Compliance Officer
Office of Fossil Energy