

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Calhoun LNG, L.P.

Docket No. CP05-91-000

Point Comfort Pipeline Company, L.P.

Docket No. CP05-380-000

TO THE PARTY ADDRESSED:

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), U.S. Coast Guard, (Coast Guard), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has prepared this final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Calhoun LNG, L.P. and Point Comfort Pipeline Company, L.P. (collectively referred to as Calhoun Point Comfort) in the above-referenced dockets. The final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The final EIS addresses federally listed species, cultural resources, and essential fish habitat issues.

The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project with appropriate mitigating measures, as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following proposed LNG terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities:

- a new marine terminal on the southeastern shore of Lavaca Bay, south of Point Comfort, in Calhoun County, Texas that could accommodate about 120 LNG vessels per year;
- two full containment LNG storage tanks each with a nominal working volume of approximately 160,000 m<sup>3</sup> (1,006,000 barrels equivalent);
- associated LNG vaporization and processing equipment;
- an approximately 27.1-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline extending northward from the LNG terminal to natural gas pipeline interconnects southwest of Edna, Texas;
- a 0.25-mile-long, 8-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline lateral extending from the proposed pipeline to a meter station servicing the Formosa Hydrocarbons Company (Formosa Lateral);
- a 0.25-mile-long, 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline lateral extending from the proposed pipeline to a meter station servicing the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation (Transco Lateral);

- ten delivery points/interconnects; and
- associated pipeline facilities including pig launcher and receiver facilities and three mainline valves (MLV).

In a separate, but related action, the Calhoun County Navigational District (CCND) would dredge a turning basin and ship berth affecting about 49 acres of Lavaca Bay, resulting in the need to dispose of approximately 2.7 million cubic yards (mcy) of dredged material. This activity is essential to the operation of the Calhoun LNG Project. Calhoun Point Comfort would use the CCND's turning basin to maneuver its LNG ships.

The proposed Calhoun LNG Project would provide facilities necessary to import, store, and vaporize on average about 1.0 billion cubic feet per day (bcfd) of LNG to provide a competitive supply of natural gas to local industrial customers, such as Formosa Hydrocarbons Company and Formosa Plastics Corporation, and other energy-consuming customers in Texas, and deliver natural gas into existing interstate and intrastate natural gas pipelines near Edna, Texas.

The Coast Guard within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is also participating as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS because it exercises regulatory authority over LNG facilities that affect the safety and security of port areas and navigable waterways under Executive Order 10173; the Magnuson Act (50 USC section 191); the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972, as amended (33 USC section 1221, et seq.); and the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (46 USC section 701). The Coast Guard also has authority for LNG facility plan review, approval and compliance verification as provided in Title 33 CFR Part 105, and siting as it pertains to the management of vessel traffic in and around the LNG facility. As required by its regulations, the Coast Guard is responsible for issuing a Letter of Recommendation (LOR) as to the suitability of the waterway for LNG marine traffic.

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Public Reference Room  
888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A  
Washington, D.C. 20426  
(202) 208-1371

Hard-copies of the final EIS have been mailed to federal, state, and local agencies; public interest groups; individuals and affected landowners who requested a copy of the EIS or provided comments during scoping; libraries; newspapers; and parties to this proceeding. A limited number of documents are available from the Public Reference Room identified above.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the EPA publishes a notice of availability of a final EIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal appeal process which allows other agency review or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the final EIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. The Commission decision for this proposed action is subject to a 30-day rehearing period.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at **1-866-208-FERC** or on the FERC Internet website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. 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 the eSubscription link on the FERC Internet website.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary