SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (DOE) gives notice of receipt of an application (Application), filed on November 30, 2010, by Eni USA Gas Marketing LLC (Eni USA), requesting blanket authorization to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) that previously had been imported into the United States from foreign sources in an amount up to the equivalent of 100 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas. The LNG would be exported from the Cameron LNG Terminal (Cameron Terminal), owned by Cameron LNG, LLC in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, to any country with the capacity to import LNG via ocean-going carrier and with which trade is not prohibited by U.S. law or policy. Eni USA seeks to export the LNG over a two-year period commencing on the date of the authorization. The application was filed under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA). Protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments are invited.

DATES: Protests, motions to intervene or notices of intervention, as applicable, requests for additional procedures, and written comments are to be filed at the address listed below in ADDRESSES no later than 4:30 p.m., eastern time, February 11, 2011.

ADDRESS:
Eni USA Gas Marketing LLC, DOE/FE Order No. 2786 issued May 12, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Public Interest Considerations

In support of its application, Eni USA states that pursuant to section 3 of the NGA, FE is required to authorize exports to a foreign country unless there is a finding that such exports “will not be consistent with the public interest.” 2 Eni USA states that there is thus a presumption in favor of a finding that the Application is in the public interest that must be rebutted. 3 Eni USA states further that in reviewing an application to export LNG under Section 3, DOE/FE applies the principles set forth in DOE Delegation Order No. 0204–111, focusing primarily on the domestic need for the gas to be exported, and the Secretary of Energy’s natural gas policy guidelines. Eni USA asserts that in its order issued on October 5, 2010, granting LNG export authorization to the Dow Chemical Company, the DOE/FE considered another application to export LNG that was not produced domestically in the U.S. Eni USA asserts that the DOE/FE stated that the fundamental question posed by such an application with respect to the public interest standard was whether the foreign-sourced LNG to be exported is needed to meet domestic demand. 4 Further, Eni USA states that the order point to a number of factors indicating that U.S. consumers currently have access to substantial quantities of natural gas sufficient to meet U.S. domestic demand without drawing on the foreign-sourced LNG sought to be re-exported, including the fact that the DOE’s Energy Information Agency forecasts increasing U.S. domestic shale gas production through 2015. 5 As detailed in the application, Eni USA states the blanket export authorization it seeks satisfies the public interest standard, based on the same evidence recognized by DOE/FE in two recent similar applications/orders. 6 Eni USA states that the LNG that may be exported pursuant to the blanket authorization requested in the Application is not needed to meet domestic demand. Eni USA states that granting the requested export authorization will encourage the continued importation of LNG into the United States. Eni USA also states that granting the requested export authorization will not diminish domestically-produced natural gas supplies. Further details can be found in the Application, which has been posted at http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html.

Environmental Impact

Eni USA states that its requested LNG export authorization does not require the construction of any new facilities (or modifications to any existing facilities) at the Cameron Terminal but that the owner of the Cameron Terminal, Cameron LNG, LLC, has filed a still-pending application before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission seeking authority to provide LNG export services at the Cameron Terminal. Exports of LNG from the Cameron Terminal also would not increase the number of LNG carriers that the Cameron Terminal is designed and authorized to accommodate. Eni USA states that approval of the Application would not constitute a federal action significantly affecting the human environment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). 7 Eni USA further states, as the DOE/FE has recognized in similar cases, approval of this Application would not require an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment. 8

DOE/FE Evaluation

This export application will be reviewed pursuant to section 3 of the NGA, as amended, and the authority contained in DOE Delegation Order No. 00–002.00J (Sept. 17, 2010) and DOE Redegulation Order No. 00–002.04D (Nov. 6, 2007). In reviewing this LNG export application, DOE will consider domestic need for the gas, as well as any other issues determined to be appropriate, including whether the arrangement is consistent with DOE’s policy of promoting competition in the marketplace by allowing commercial parties to freely negotiate their own trade arrangements. Parties that may oppose this application should comment in their responses on these issues.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., requires DOE to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of its proposed decisions. No final decision will be issued in this proceeding until DOE has met its NEPA responsibilities.

Public Comment Procedures

You may submit comments in electronic form on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov. Alternatively, written comments can be submitted using the procedures discussed below. If using electronic filing, follow the online instructions and submit such comments under FE Docket No. 10–152–LNG. DOE/FE suggests that electronic filers carefully review information provided in their submissions, and include only information that is intended to be publicly disclosed.

In addition to electronic filings using the procedures above, any person may file a protest, motion to intervene or notice of intervention, and written comments, as provided in DOE’s regulations at 10 CFR part 590.

Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding and to have their written comments considered as a basis for any decision on the application must file a motion to intervene or notice of intervention, as applicable. The filing of comments or a protest with respect to the application will not serve to make the commenter or protestant a party to the proceeding, although protests and comments received from persons who are not parties may be considered in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the application. All protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and written comments must meet the requirements specified by the regulations in 10 CFR part 590. Except where comments are filed electronically, as described above, comments, protests, motions to intervene, notices of intervention, and requests for additional procedures shall be filed with the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply at the address listed above.

A decisional record on the application will be developed through responses to this notice by parties, including the parties’ written comments and replies thereto. Additional procedures will be used as necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the facts and issues. A party seeking intervention may request that additional procedures be provided, such as additional written comments, an oral presentation, a conference, or trial-type hearing. Any request to file additional written comments should explain why they are necessary. Any request for an oral presentation should identify the substantial question of fact, law, or policy at issue, show that it is material and relevant to a decision in the proceeding, and demonstrate why an oral presentation is needed. Any request for a conference should demonstrate why the conference would materially advance the proceeding. Any request for a trial-type hearing must

3 Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association v. ERA, 822 F.2d 1105, 1111 (DC Cir. 1987).
4 Dow Chemical Co., DOE/FE Order No. 2859, October 5, 2010 at pp. 3 and 4.
5 Id. at pp. 4 and 5.
6 Id. and Chenniere Marketing, LLC, DOE/FE/Order No. 2795, June 1, 2010.
7 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.
8 For example, Cheniere Marketing, LLC, DOE/FE Order No. 2795, June 1, 2010 at p. 7.
show that there are factual issues genuinely in dispute that are relevant and material to a decision and that a trial-type hearing is necessary for a full and true disclosure of the facts.

If an additional procedure is scheduled, notice will be provided to all parties. If no party requests additional procedures, a final Opinion and Order may be issued based on the official record, including the application and responses filed by parties pursuant to this notice, in accordance with 10 CFR 590.316.

The application filed by Eni USA is available for inspection and copying in the Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply donkey room, 3E–042, at the address listed in ADDRESSES. The donkey room is open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The application and any filed protests, motions to intervene or notice of interventions, and comments will also be available electronically by going to the following DOE/FE Web address: http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/gasregulation/index.html. In addition, any electronic comments filed will also be available at: http://www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 5, 2011.

John A. Anderson,
Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy.


For general information about the DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, contact Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC–54), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; or at 800–472–2756 or askNEPA@hq.doe.gov.

For information on the Hawai’i Interisland Renewable Energy Program, contact Mr. Allen G. Kam, Esq., AICP, HIREP EIS Manager, State of Hawai’i, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Renewable Energy Branch, State Energy Office, P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, HI 96804; or at 808–587–9023 or hirep@dbedt.hawaii.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY


AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of public scoping meetings and opportunity to comment.

SUMMARY: DOE will host four public meetings in the Hawaiian Islands to receive comments on the scope of the Hawai’i Interisland Renewable Energy Program: Wind Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (hereinafter referred to as the Hawai’i Wind EIS or the EIS). The public scoping meetings will be conducted jointly with the State of Hawai’i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), which is a co-lead agency with DOE in the preparation of the EIS. The EIS will assess the foreseeable environmental impacts that may arise from wind energy development under the Hawai’i Interisland Renewable Energy Program (HIREP) and the range of reasonable alternatives.

On December 14, 2010, DOE and DBEDT announced in the Federal Register (75 FR 77859) their intention to prepare the EIS and opened a public scoping period which will close on March 1, 2011.

During the scoping period, DOE and DBEDT invite the public to submit written comments by any of the means listed in the ADDRESSES section. Oral as well as written comments may also be provided at the public scoping meetings to be held as listed under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

DATES: DOE and DBEDT invite comments on the proposed scope of the EIS from all interested parties. The public scoping period began on December 14, 2010, and will close on March 1, 2011. Comments on the scope of the EIS should be submitted by March 1, 2011. Comments e-mailed or postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

DOE and DBEDT also invite members of the public to participate in public scoping meetings. Requests to speak at any of the public scoping meetings should be submitted to Allen Kam as indicated in the ADDRESSES section on or before January 28, 2011. Requests to speak also may be made at the scoping meetings; however, requests received by January 28, 2011, will be given priority in the speaking order. For interested parties wishing to speak with a DOE representative, see the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this announcement.

ADDRESSES: Requests to speak at the public scoping meetings and written comments on the proposed scope of the EIS may be submitted by any of the following means:

• By e-mail to comments@hirep-wind.com
• By submitting electronic comments on the EIS web page at http://www.hirep-wind.com
• By facsimile (fax) to 808–586–2536, Attention Allen G. Kam.
• By mail to Allen G. Kam, Esq., AICP, HIREP EIS Manager, State of Hawai’i, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Renewable Energy Branch, State Energy Office, P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, HI 96804.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on DOE’s proposed action, contact Anthony J. Como, DOE NEPA Document Manager, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE–20), DOE and DBEDT now announce that they will jointly host the following public scoping meetings:

February 1, 2011—McKinley High School Cafeteria, 1039 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96814, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

February 2, 2011—Pomaikai’s Elementary Cafeteria, 4650 South Kamehameha Avenue, Kahului, HI 96732, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.