

No. 26-1036

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IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

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SIERRA CLUB and  
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL, INC.,

*Petitioners,*

v.

CHRIS WRIGHT, in his official capacity as Secretary of Energy,  
United States Department of Energy; UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY,

*Respondents.*

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**JOINT PETITION FOR REVIEW OF ORDERS OF THE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

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Nathan Matthews  
EARTHJUSTICE  
180 Steuart Street, #194330  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
T: 415.217.2183  
F: 415.217.2040  
[nmatthews@earthjustice.org](mailto:nmatthews@earthjustice.org)

Ann Jaworski  
EARTHJUSTICE  
311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1400  
Chicago, IL 60606  
T: 773.245.0837  
[ajaworski@earthjustice.org](mailto:ajaworski@earthjustice.org)

Adeline S. Rolnick  
Gillian Giannetti  
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE  
COUNCIL  
1152 15th Street NW, Suite 300  
Washington DC, 20005  
T: 202.513.6240  
[arolnick@nrdc.org](mailto:arolnick@nrdc.org)  
[ggiannetti@nrdc.org](mailto:ggiannetti@nrdc.org)

*Counsel for Petitioner Natural  
Resources Defense Council*

*Counsel for Petitioner Sierra Club*

Under Section 19(b) of the Natural Gas Act, 15 U.S.C. § 717r(b), as well as Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 15(a) and Circuit Rule 15, Petitioners Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council (“Petitioners”) respectfully petition the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to review and set aside the following order of the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”):

A. *Venture Global CP2 LNG, LLC, Final Order Granting Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations, DOE/FECM Order No. 5264-A, DOE Docket No. 21-131-LNG (Oct. 21, 2025) (the “Export Authorization”)* (attached hereto as **Exhibit A**).<sup>1</sup>

Petitioners also petition for review of the following final rule promulgated by DOE:

B. *Department of Energy, National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, 85 Fed. Reg. 78,197, Docket No. DOE-HQ-2020-0017 (Dec. 4, 2020) (modifying 10 C.F.R. Part*

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<sup>1</sup> Also available at [https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-10/ord5264-A\\_0.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-10/ord5264-A_0.pdf).

1021, Subpt. D, App. B, Categorical Exclusion B5.7) (the “Categorical Exclusion”) (attached hereto as **Exhibit B**).

This Court has jurisdiction to review this Categorical Exclusion both as applied in the Export Authorization, *N.L.R.B. Union v. Fed. Lab. Rel. Auth.*, 834 F.2d 191, 195–96 (D.C. Cir. 1987), and on its face, 5 U.S.C. § 702, *City of Tacoma v. Taxpayers of Tacoma*, 357 U.S. 320, 336–37 (1958) (where statute vests original jurisdiction in courts of appeal, courts of appeal have jurisdiction over “all issues inhering in the controversy”); *see also Shafer & Freeman Lakes Env’t Conservation Corp. v. FERC*, 992 F.3d 1071, 1087 (D.C. Cir. 2021).

In accordance with Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 15(c)(1), Petitioners have served parties that may have been admitted to participate in the underlying proceedings with a copy of this Petition for Review. As required by Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 15(c)(2), a list of parties served is attached.

Dated: February 17, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nathan Matthews  
Nathan Matthews

EARTHJUSTICE  
180 Steuart St., #194330  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
T: (415) 217-2183  
F: (415) 217-2040  
[nmatthews@earthjustice.org](mailto:nmatthews@earthjustice.org)

Ann Jaworski  
EARTHJUSTICE  
311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1400  
Chicago, IL 60606  
T: 773.245.0837  
[ajaworski@earthjustice.org](mailto:ajaworski@earthjustice.org)

*Counsel for Petitioner Sierra Club*

/s/ Adeline S. Rolnick  
Adeline S. Rolnick  
Gillian Giannetti  
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE  
COUNCIL  
1152 15th Street NW, Suite 300  
Washington DC, 20005  
T: 202.513.6240  
[arolnick@nrdc.org](mailto:arolnick@nrdc.org)  
[ggiannetti@nrdc.org](mailto:ggiannetti@nrdc.org)

*Counsel for Petitioner Natural  
Resources Defense Council*

## **DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with Rule 26.1 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and D.C. Circuit Rule 26.1, Petitioners make the following disclosures:

Petitioner **Sierra Club**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the environment. Sierra Club is a non-governmental corporate party with no parent corporation, and there are no publicly held corporations that have a ten percent or greater ownership in Sierra Club.

Petitioner **Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC)**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of the human environment and protecting the nation's endangered natural resources. NRDC is a non-governmental corporate party with no parent corporation, and there are no publicly held corporations that have a ten percent or greater ownership in NRDC's stock.

**LIST OF RESPONDENTS**

Petitioners provide a list of Respondents below, identifying the Respondent's name and addresses where Respondent and/or its counsel may be served with copies of this Petition for Review.

Department of Energy and  
Chris Wright, U.S. Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585  
AskCR@hq.doe.gov and  
The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

In accordance with Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 15(c)(1) & (2), the undersigned certifies that, on February 17, 2026, a copy of this Petition for Review and exhibits were served by email to the Department of Energy and to the parties on the Department of Energy's official service list of parties admitted to participate in Docket No. 21-131-LNG, listed below.

Chris Wright U.S. Secretary of Energy U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20585 AskCR@hq.doe.gov and <a href="mailto:The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov">The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov</a>	
Venture Global LNG, LLC Keith Larson General Counsel <a href="mailto:klarson@venturegloballng.com">klarson@venturegloballng.com</a> (202) 759-6736 Sandra Y. Snyder Associate General Counsel <a href="mailto:ssnyder@venturegloballng.com">ssnyder@venturegloballng.com</a> (202) 920-0919 1001 19th Street North Suite 1500 Arlington, VA 22209	Latham & Watkins LLP J. Patrick Nevins Attorney <a href="mailto:Patrick.Nevins@LW.com">Patrick.Nevins@LW.com</a> (202) 637-3363 555 Eleventh Street NW Washington, DC 20004-1304
Industrial Energy Consumers of America	Public Citizen, Inc. Tyson Slocum

Paul N. Cicio President <a href="mailto:pcicio@ieca-us.org">pcicio@ieca-us.org</a> (202) 223-1661 1776 K Street Suite 720 Washington, DC 20005	Energy Program Director <a href="mailto:tslocum@citizen.org">tslocum@citizen.org</a> (202) 454-5191 215 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Washington, DC 20003
Sierra Club Rebecca McCreary Associate Attorney <a href="mailto:rebecca.mccreary@sierraclub.org">rebecca.mccreary@sierraclub.org</a> 303-449-5595 x103 1650 38th Street, Suite 103W Boulder, CO 80301	Natural Resources Defense Council Gillian Giannetti Senior Attorney <a href="mailto:ggiannetti@nrdc.org">ggiannetti@nrdc.org</a> Morgan Johnson Staff Attorney <a href="mailto:majohnson@nrdc.org">majohnson@nrdc.org</a> (202) 717-8350 1152 15th Street NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005

*/s/ Adeline S. Rolnick*  
Adeline S. Rolnick  
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE  
COUNCIL  
1152 15th Street NW, Suite 300  
Washington DC, 20005  
T: 202.513.6240  
[arolnick@nrdc.org](mailto:arolnick@nrdc.org)