
LNG - Environment - Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Calhoun LNG Project (Docket Nos. CP05-91-000 and CP05-380-000)

***Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
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FERC staff prepared a draft environmental impact statement for the Calhoun LNG, L.P. and Point Comfort Pipeline Company, L.P. (collectively referred to as Calhoun Point Comfort) Calhoun LNG Project.

FERC's environmental staff concludes that Calhoun Point Comfort's Calhoun LNG Project with appropriate mitigating measures, as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and the U.S. Department of Transportation are cooperated in the preparation of the draft EIS.

Staff concludes the project would be environmentally acceptable action (with appropriate mitigation) because:

- Calhoun Point Comfort would construct its LNG terminal on 73 acres of 89 acres of manmade, industrial land owned by the Port of Port Lavaca – Point Comfort;
- Calhoun Point Comfort would implement the FERC's Plan and Procedures to minimize impact on soils, wetlands, and waterbodies. In addition, Calhoun Point Comfort would segregate and replace topsoil along its pipeline to avoid mixing the topsoil with subsoil;
- Calhoun Point Comfort would use dredged material from the Calhoun County Navigation District's new turning basin and Calhoun Point Comfort's ship berth to aid in capping contaminated sediments, creating coastal marsh habitat, and stabilizing shorelines within Lavaca Bay and Cox Bay. Disposal of dredged material would be at five disposal areas;
- Calhoun Point Comfort initiated and is continuing consultation with federal and state agencies regarding the development of a mitigation plan that would compensate for impacts to wetland resources and filed a draft Wetland and Waters of the U.S. Mitigation Plan with the Commission;
- We believe that the Project would have no effect or would not be likely to adversely affect any federally or state listed threatened or endangered species;
- The Matagorda Bay Pilots indicated that they could continue to escort ships into and out of the Matagorda ship and Point Comfort Channels in a safe and expeditious manner and that the Project would have minimal impacts on ship traffic; and
- Safety features would be incorporated into the design and operation of the LNG import terminal and vessels.

FERC Commissioners will take into consideration staff's recommendations and the final EIS when they make a decision on the project.

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