



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO  
RIO BLANCO COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE  
555 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 599  
MEEKER, COLORADO 81641  
970-878-9430

November 10, 2020

Benjamin Nussdorf  
U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)  
Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement, Office of Fossil Energy  
PO Box 443755  
Washington, D.C. 20026-4375

**RE: Energía Costa Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V.; Application To Amend Long-Term Authorization To Export Natural Gas to Mexico and To Re-Export Liquefied Natural Gas From Mexico to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations**  
**Document Citation: 85 FR 64452**

Dear Sir:

The Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, urge you to approve the application to amend DOE/FE Order No. 4365 and the proposed increase in non-FTA export volume from 475 billion cubic feet per year to 636 billion cubic feet per year for the ECA Large-Scale Project.

Rio Blanco County, Colorado has a population of 6,668 people and covers approximately 3,200 square miles in northwest Colorado. Seventy-Five percent (75%) of Rio Blanco County is Federal land. Working to find a balance between managing resources under numerous laws and regulations, maximizing local participation in the process, recognizing and protecting private property rights and promoting economic development are critical to our western way of life. Rio Blanco County, Colorado has vast natural resources, including coal, natural gas, and timber. Additionally, Rio Blanco County has some of the oldest privately held ranches and agricultural operations in the state with vast outdoor recreational opportunities. Since its inception in 1889, our county has balanced agricultural, resource development, and recreation and boasts some of the cleanest air and water in the country. Due to the large amount of federal land, government legislation, policies and procedures directly impact our economic and cultural prosperity. The energy producers in Colorado generate approximately One Hundred Sixty Million in royalty revenues, of which over Forty Million comes from Rio Blanco County. The funds generated by energy producers benefit not only producing counties but the State of Colorado as a whole. The revenues collected from our oil and gas partners help to build infrastructure across the state.

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*JEFF RECTOR*  
Chairman

*SI WOODRUFF*  
Commissioner  
[bocc@rbc.us](mailto:bocc@rbc.us)

*GARY MOYER*  
Commissioner

The ECA access point and the export ability is vital not only to the U.S. as a whole, but to Rio Blanco County and Western Colorado. Ensuring that the ECA has adequate export ability is important to the U.S. balance of trade and will allow an increase in the wealth transfer into the United States. LNG exports provide important geopolitical benefits by diversifying global energy supply. In addition, Western Colorado, including Rio Blanco County, stands to benefit greatly from the ECA Large-Scale Project. This access point is important for Western Colorado natural gas and provides a route to access the largest growing energy market in the world, offering much needed positive economic impact to our communities. This export point means many things to us: jobs, capital investment in our communities, potential expansion of this important industry, and ensuring the future of Western Colorado.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this very important issue. We encourage you to approve Energia Costa Azul's request. Should you have any questions, please contact us by email at [bocc@rbc.us](mailto:bocc@rbc.us).

Sincerely,



Board of County Commissioners  
Rio Blanco County, Colorado

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*JEFF RECTOR*  
Chairman

*SI WOODRUFF*  
Commissioner  
[bocc@rbc.us](mailto:bocc@rbc.us)

*GARY MOYER*  
Commissioner



## Document Details

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### Submitter Info

<b>Comment:</b>	See attached file(s) * <a href="#">↻</a>
<b>First Name:</b>	Jeff <a href="#">↻</a>
<b>Middle Name:</b>	
<b>Last Name:</b>	Rector <a href="#">↻</a>


**Mailing Address:** P O Box 599  
**Mailing Address 2:** 555 Main Street  
**City:** Meeker [📍](#)  
**Country:** United States [📍](#)  
**State or Province:** Colorado [📍](#)  
**ZIP/Postal Code:** 81641 [📍](#)  
**Email Address:** bocc@rbc.us  
**Phone Number:** (970)878-9430  
**Fax Number:** (970) 878-5731  
**Organization Name:** Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado [📍](#)  
**Submitter's Representative:** Jeff Rector [📍](#)  
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**Government Agency:** Rio Blanco County [📍](#)  
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## Submitter Info

**Comment:** See attached file(s) [\\*📍](#)  
**First Name:** Jeff [📍](#)  
**Middle Name:**  
**Last Name:** Rector [📍](#)  
**Mailing Address:** P O Box 599  
**Mailing Address 2:** 555 Main Street  
**City:** Meeker [📍](#)

**Country:** United States 


**State or Province:** Colorado 


**ZIP/Postal Code:** 81641 


**Email Address:** bocc@rbc.us


**Phone Number:** (970)878-9430

**Fax Number:** (970) 878-5731

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