

TABLE II.1—LIST OF COMMENTERS FROM THE MAY 2025 DFR

Commenter	Reference in this rule	Comment No. in the docket	Commenter type
Center for Biological Diversity .....	CBD .....	2	Conservation Organization.
Bridget Dooling .....	Dooling .....	3	Individual.

A. Response to Administrative Procedure Act Procedural Comments

DOE received two comments that raised several procedural matters for DOE’s consideration and also incorporated another comment by reference. (EERE–2025–OT–0033–0002; EERE–2025–OT–0033–0003).

In response, DOE notes that the APA requires that agencies provide all interested persons with fair notice and an opportunity to comment on the rulemaking. *See* 5 U.S.C. 553(b) & (c). The May 2025 DFR provided the public with fair notice of the Department’s actions to amend the provisions governing the collection of information under ESECA. *See* 90 FR 20755. DOE also requested comments on the May 2025 DFR, and stated, if the Department received significant adverse comments, the Department would withdraw the rule or issue a new final rule which responds to such comments. 90 FR 20756. Thus, DOE provided interested persons with fair notice and an opportunity to comment as required by the APA. As a result, there was no need for a good cause exemption from notice-and-comment rulemaking under 5 U.S.C. 553(b).

Finally, contrary to the comments, Dooling cannot argue they were denied fair notice and an opportunity to comment solely based on how the notice was labeled. *See Little Sisters of the Poor Saints Peter & Paul Home v. Pennsylvania*, 140 S. Ct. 2367, 2384 (2020) (holding that “[f]ormal labels aside, the [interim final rules] contained all of the elements of a notice of proposed rulemaking as required by the APA”). Irrespective of its title, the May 2025 DFR contained the required elements of a proposed rulemaking under the APA

B. Response to Other Comments

Responding to the Center for Biological Diversity’s comment concerning differences between the ESECA and current supplementary regulatory requirement, the Department maintains that it has the right to amend and rescind regulations pursuant to changing policy so long as such changes are permissible under the applicable statute, there are good reasons for change, and the agency believes that the change would have a better result than

the existing policy. In the present matter, removing duplicative regulations and additional requirements not mandated by statute both ease regulatory burden and serve to reduce potential points of conflict and confusion. As such, DOE believes that this change does not run afoul of applicable statutes, and the Department believes that the change is in the public’s best interest.

Additionally, concerning internal consistency within the regulations under this section, the Department would like to note that by amending the language of § 207.5 to adopt the statute by reference, §§ 207.3 and 207.4 become entirely superfluous. Any violation of the statute could still reasonably result in notices of violations, enforcement, appeals, penalties and exemptions, all repeatedly refer to companies’ compliance as detailed by §§ 207.7 through 207.9.

III. Conclusion

For the reasons discussed in the May 2025 DFR and reiterated in the preceding sections of this document, DOE is not withdrawing the May 2025 DFR, which amends regulations regarding the collection of information under the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974.

DOE also notes, to the extent that 5 U.S.C. 553 applies to the delay of effective date, it is exempt from notice and comment because it constitutes a rule of procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A) and for which no notice or hearing is required by statute. Additionally, this action is not a “substantive rule” for which a 30-day delay in effective date is required under 5 U.S.C. 553(d).

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on July 9, 2025, by Chris Wright, Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an

official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 10, 2025.

**Treena V. Garrett,**  
*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*  
[FR Doc. 2025–13136 Filed 7–11–25; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 6450–01–P**

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

10 CFR Part 590

[DOE–HQ–2025–0010]

RIN 1901–AB67

Amending the Administrative Procedures With Respect to the Import and Export of Natural Gas

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Direct final rule; delay of effective date; response to comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) is publishing this document to respond to comments received on the May 16, 2025, direct final rule. As a result, DOE delays the effective date of the direct final rule on the administrative procedures regarding the Office of Fossil Energy’s (FE) filing requirements for the import and export of natural gas.

**DATES:** As of July 14, 2025, the effective date of the direct final rule published May 16, 2025, at 90 FR 20758, is delayed until August 13, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** The docket for this rule, which includes the **Federal Register** notices, comments, and other supporting documents and materials, is available for review at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). All documents in the docket are listed in the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) index. However, not all documents listed in the index may be publicly available, such as information that is exempt from public disclosure. The docket web page can be found at [www.regulations.gov/docket/DOE-HQ-2025-0010](http://www.regulations.gov/docket/DOE-HQ-2025-0010). The docket web page contains instructions on how to access all documents, including public

comments, in the docket, as well as a summary.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jeffrey Novak, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, Acting General Counsel, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington,

DC 20585–0121; (202) 586–5281 or [DOEGeneralCounsel@hq.doe.gov](mailto:DOEGeneralCounsel@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. May 2025 Direct Final Rule**

On May 16, 2025, DOE published a direct final rule amending part 590 regulations to remove antiquated references and update submission

processes to reduce the burden on the public. 90 FR 20758.

**II. Response to Comments**

DOE received three comments in response to the direct final rule published on May 16, 2025. 90 FR 20758 (“May 2025 DFR”).

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Commenter	Reference in this rule	Comment No. in the docket	Commenter type
Center for Biological Diversity .....	CBD .....	3	Conservation Organization.
Bridget Dooling .....	Dooling .....	4	Individual.
Meghan Maury .....	Maury .....	2	Individual.

All three commenters had procedural objections to DOE’s use of a direct final rule. For example, Dooling stated that the May 2025 DFR did not satisfy the good cause exemption from notice and comment rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”). (Dooling, No. 4 at p. 4). CBD also stated that DOE should have engaged in a full notice-and-comment rulemaking process. (CBD, No. 3 at p. 1).

In response, DOE notes that the APA requires that agencies provide all interested persons with fair notice and an opportunity to comment on the rulemaking. *See* 5 U.S.C. 553(b) & (c). The May 2025 DFR provided the public with fair notice of DOE’s changes to its own administrative procedures regarding filing requirements for the import and export of natural gas. *See* 90 FR 20759 (discussing specific administrative changes to the filing requirements). DOE also requested comments on the May 2025 DFR, and stated, if the Department received significant adverse comments, the Department would withdraw the rule or issue a new final rule that responds to such comments. 90 FR 20758. Thus, DOE has provided interested persons with fair notice and an opportunity to comment as required by the APA. So, the lack of discussion of a good cause exemption under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) in the DFR is irrelevant as the notice and comment procedures under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (c) have been observed before this rule takes effect. Commenters cannot argue they were denied fair notice and an opportunity to comment solely based on how the notice was labeled. *See Little Sisters of the Poor Saints Peter & Paul Home v. Pennsylvania*, 140 S. Ct. 2367, 2384 (2020) (holding that “[f]ormal labels aside, the [interim final rules] contained all of the elements of a notice of

proposed rulemaking as required by the APA”).

**III. Conclusion**

For the reasons discussed in the preceding sections of this document, DOE is not withdrawing the May 2025 DFR, which finalizes amendments to its administrative procedures to update and streamline the general requirements for filing documents with FE for the import and export of natural gas.

DOE also notes, to the extent that 5 U.S.C. 553 applies to the delay of effective date, it is exempt from notice and comment because it constitutes a rule of procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A) and for which no notice or hearing is required by statute. Additionally, this action is not a “substantive rule” for which a 30-day delay in effective date is required under 5 U.S.C. 553(d).

**Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on July 09, 2025, by Chris Wright, Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 10, 2025.

**Treana V. Garrett**,  
Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S.  
Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2025–13193 Filed 7–11–25; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450–01–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**10 CFR Part 600**

[DOE–HQ–2025–0017]

**RIN 1991–AC20**

**Rescinding Obsolete Financial Assistance Rules**

**AGENCY:** Office of Management, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Direct final rule; delay of effective date; response to comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (“DOE”) is publishing this document to respond to comments received on the direct final rule on the rescission of the Department’s outdated Financial Assistance Rules that published on May 16, 2025. As a result, DOE delays the effective date of the direct final rule, and is responding to the comment it received on the direct final rule.

**DATES:** As of July 14, 2025, the effective date of the direct final rule published May 16, 2025, at 90 FR 20761, is delayed until August 13, 2025.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jeffrey Novak, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, GC–1, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585–0121; (202) 586–5281 or [DOEGeneralCounsel@hq.doe.gov](mailto:DOEGeneralCounsel@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. May 2025 Direct Final Rule**

On May 16, 2025, DOE published a direct final rule rescinding part 600 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”). 90 FR 20761 (“May 2025 DFR”). Part 600 contains regulations that governed DOE financial assistance awards prior to December 26, 2014. Effective December 26, 2014, DOE adopted the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and