

Liquefied Natural Gas

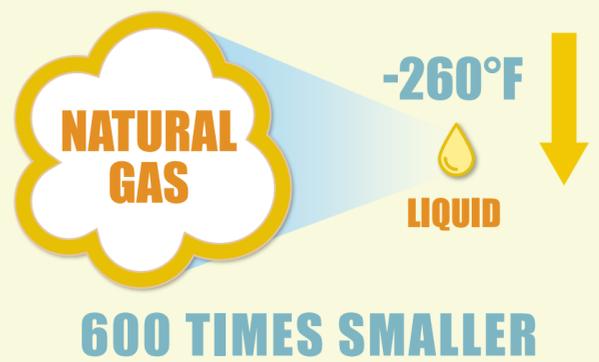
Bright Present and Future

The United States has an abundance of natural gas, a vital energy source for the world. Propelled by the shale revolution, we are the top producer of natural gas and one of the biggest suppliers of **liquefied natural gas (LNG)**.

BACKGROUND

LNG is natural gas that has been cooled to a liquid by chilling it to about -260 degrees Fahrenheit (-162 degrees Celsius). The volume of natural gas in its liquid state is about **600 times smaller** than in its gaseous state.

Liquefaction makes it possible to transport natural gas to places pipelines do not reach, which helps create new markets. Plus, natural gas is relatively clean-burning and emits fewer greenhouse gases than other fossil fuels.



TRANSPORTATION

LNG is most often transported in specially designed **large, double-hulled ships or in smaller tanks** that can be loaded onto barges or container ships. It can also reach remote or smaller markets through “virtual pipelines” that transport LNG by **rail, trucks, barges, or small ships**.

DOUBLE-HULLED SHIPS



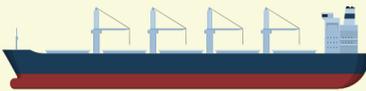
RAIL



TRUCKS



BARGES



SMALL SHIPS



When it reaches its destination, LNG is converted back into a gas at a receiving terminal. It can then be transported by pipeline to end users such as gas-fired power plants, factories, homes, and businesses.

USES



Run highly-efficient electrical power plants



Provide fuel and feedstock for industry



Fuel trucks, locomotives, cruise ships, and cargo ships



Cook meals and heat homes and businesses

EXPORT BENEFITS

The United States exports LNG to more than 3 dozen countries on 5 continents. Some of the benefits that flow from our LNG exports include:



Energy security for U.S. allies and trade partners who depend on imports



Environmental benefits from the use of a low-emissions fuel



Flexible transportation methods



Economic benefits to the United States, including U.S. jobs and improvements to the U.S. trade balance

GROWTH

The United States has **8 large-scale LNG export projects** under various states of operation and construction. And, there are several additional fully permitted export projects that are ready to begin construction. With so much potential for growth, the United States is on its way to becoming the **world's leading LNG exporter**.



REGULATIONS

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy has an active role in the LNG sector as the Nation's regulatory authority for natural gas imports and exports. The Department also engages with partner countries to facilitate LNG development and to open new markets for natural gas.

For more information, visit the Office of Fossil Energy website or fossil.energy.gov.