LNG safety and environment fact sheet

Safety – LNG import facility

1. LNG IS SAFE

- LNG is natural gas that has been cooled to its cryogenic liquid form so it can be transported and stored easily and safely. LNG will be returned to its natural gas form in NZ's LNG import facility. This natural gas is just like that produced in the Taranaki region and supplied via pipeline throughout the North Island.
- LNG is non-toxic, non-flammable and non-explosive in its cryogenic liquid form.
- Liquid LNG is heavier than air. In the event of a release, it warms and returns to its gas state, which is lighter than air. The gas quickly rises and disperses on its own.
- LNG is not oil. It does not leave a persistent spill or residue – it does not leave a slick, coat shorelines, or affect wildlife in the way an oil or fuel spill could.



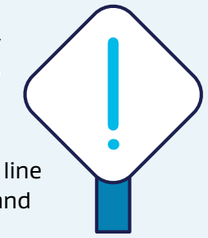
2. LNG IS NEW TO NEW ZEALAND, BUT WELL ESTABLISHED OVERSEAS

- LNG has been shipped safely around the world since the 1960's.
- Importing LNG is a proven, safe technology managed by an established industry with a strong safety track record for operating import facilities.
- Over 45 countries import or export LNG – including Germany, the UK, and the Netherlands. Australia has exported LNG globally for over 20 years.



3. NZ'S LNG IMPORT FACILITY WILL BE SUBJECT TO RIGOROUS HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

- MBIE will evaluate proposals based on safety and feasibility with advice from an expert engineering firm. MBIE will not recommend that the Government progresses with an import facility if we or our advisors have safety concerns.
- Once selected, the developer will provide a design notice to WorkSafe for feedback, and then a full safety case to be accepted or declined. The import facility will be subject to the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Maritime Transport Act.
- Emergencies relating to LNG are rare, but the developer will still need to include emergency response plans in their safety case. These are developed with emergency services, civil defence organisations and Port Taranaki.
- The ships that import LNG will be operated in line with the relevant international conventions and best practice.



Once confirmed, the developer will engage closely with the Taranaki community and users of the marine area on safety considerations.

4. THERE ARE MANY LNG IMPORT FACILITIES THAT OPERATE SAFELY IN URBAN AREAS

LNG import facilities operate safely in urban areas without affecting the public, including in:

- Boston, USA
- Barcelona, Spain
- Fezzano, Italy
- Pyongtaek, Korea

There are 28 existing LNG import facilities in Japan – a seismically active country – and most are near major cities like Tokyo and Osaka.

Governments around the world consistently approve LNG import infrastructure as a safe and acceptable urban activity.



Environment – LNG import facility

1. ANY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS WILL BE WELL MANAGED IN LINE WITH ESTABLISHED PRACTICE

- Environmental impacts of the LNG import facility will depend on the configuration of the LNG import facility and how it operates. This will be confirmed later in 2026.
- MBIE will continue to communicate with a range of groups on assessing and minimising potential environmental impacts, including the Port, local iwi and hapū, and the regional and local councils.
- The developer's environmental impact assessment of the proposed LNG import facility will be carefully reviewed and tested by regulators and by MBIE.

Environmental performance is one of the key criteria MBIE will consider when comparing potential solutions.

2. WE ARE MINDFUL OF IMPORTANT LOCAL FEATURES AROUND PORT TARANAKI

We will be very mindful of important local features like:

- Ngāmotu beach
- the protected view from the new Ngāmotu Marae
- marine protected areas around the Ngā Motu/Sugar Loaf Islands
- the Tapuae Marine Reserve.

The contract for the import facility will include decommissioning obligations covering both on and offshore infrastructure.

Once selected, the developer will engage closely with the Taranaki community and users of the marine area on environmental and cultural considerations.

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

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