

Q&A

LNG Safety

At Gulf LNG, we care about our community, and safety is a top priority. We are frequently asked the following questions about the safety and health impacts of our facility, and it is important to us to provide straightforward answers.

Is LNG safe?

Yes. LNG has been safely handled for decades. It is a clear, non-toxic, non-corrosive and odorless liquid. If exposed to ambient temperatures (as in the rare event of a leak), re-vaporize LNG, which is 40% lighter than air, would quickly vaporize, warming to the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere and dissipate. Additionally, LNG is stored under very low pressure, and in its liquid state will not burn.

How will the terminal affect local fisheries and marine life?

The dredging required for the development of the marine terminal will temporarily affect water quality in the Bayou Casotte Channel. Gulf LNG will implement all mitigation measures identified in federal and state permits to minimize impacts to water quality and marine organisms. Thus, localized dredging is not expected to adversely affect local fishery resources.

The Gulf LNG Project will not use seawater to vaporize LNG. Instead LNG will be vaporized utilizing a closed-loop system that does not require circulation of seawater; minimizing impacts that could occur to larvae or other marine organisms as a result of the vaporization operation.

Could a LNG spill affect groundwater?

No. In the unlikely event of a LNG release on land, it would quickly vaporize into a colorless and odorless vapor that would dissipate into the atmosphere.

If LNG were to spill onto water; would it produce something akin to an oil slick?

No. Since LNG is less dense than water, it would remain on the surface of the water. However, it would evaporate quickly and disperse into the atmosphere, leaving no residue or need for cleanup.

Will LNG vessels negatively impact channel traffic?

No. The channel is more than large enough for the transit of LNG vessels passing into port, or out to sea on an average of one every other day. LNG ships meet all Coast Guard regulations and comply with additional government regulations.

Will the terminal have visible emission or large stacks?

Most of the emissions from a LNG facility are the exhaust from the burners used to heat the LNG back into natural gas. Since the fuel requirement is relatively low and consists of burning natural gas, the emissions are clean compared to other fuels. The stacks required for this facility will not be as large as those required for most industrial facilities. In an already heavy industrial area, Gulf LNG believes the stacks will not detract from the area's aesthetics.

Who will operate the terminal?

The Gulf LNG facility will be operated by a subsidiary of El Paso Corporation, one of the most trusted names in the LNG regasification terminal business. El Paso developed and operates a similar LNG terminal in Savannah, Georgia. That terminal was constructed in the late 1970's and has a long record of safe, efficient operations.