

Cleaner Burning Liquid Natural Gas

Natural Gas

Nearly all of our state's current and future electricity generating plants are, or will be, powered by cleanburning natural gas. In addition, consumers rely on natural gas in their homes for heating, cooking and hot water. Natural gas also is a growing source of clean fuel for thousands of buses and other commercial vehicles.

As a result, the demand for natural gas in California and across the western United States is increasing every year. Yet, California produces only 16 percent of the natural gas consumed in the state. Increased demand has led to dramatically higher natural gas prices that have shown up in higher utility bills.

LNG Would Help Keep Utility Bills Down

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is an important option to increase natural gas supplies for our state. LNG is simply natural gas converted into a liquid form so that it can be economically transported from places where natural gas supplies are plentiful to where natural gas is needed. Increasing supplies of LNG and natural gas would help keep utility bills down.

LNG has been widely used throughout the world for more than 45 years. Several LNG projects have been proposed for the western United States.

California needs stable and reliable energy sources to allow the state's growing economy to keep pace with the increasing demand for electricity, and to avoid the shortages and costly price spikes of the past.

Our state will draw from a variety of resources, including conservation and renewables, to meet its future energy needs. Most critical right now is natural gas, which is the clean-burning fuel that our power plants use today to produce electricity.

An Excellent Safety Record

LNG has an excellent safety record. It has been imported safely for many years at four ports in the United States, including one in Boston Harbor, as well as major ports in Japan, France and Spain. More than 33,000 LNG ships have sailed more than 60 million miles, all without a major accident.

Multiple federal and state agencies are responsible for the ongoing oversight of LNG. On the federal level these include the U.S. Coast Guard, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The California Environmental Protection Agency is the lead agency for the state, along with fire and police departments at the local level.

