

LNG Canada Regulatory Oversight

What is LNG Canada?

LNG Canada is Canada's first large-scale liquefied natural gas (LNG) export facility. Located in Kitimat, B.C., it is designed to turn natural gas into LNG that can be shipped to overseas markets.



What is Our Role?

The BC Energy Regulator (BCER) is the provincial regulator for LNG Canada. After a detailed application review, we issued LNG Canada a facility permit in 2015, which authorizes the facility to be built and operated, provided it meets a range of regulatory requirements and permit conditions. We also issued other permits and authorizations related to activities such as water use, work in and around streams and emissions.

Before permits are issued, application reviews include engagement with affected stakeholders and support the Crown's duty to consult with Indigenous Nations.

What Guides Our Oversight?

Our team of engineers, biologists, hydrologists, air quality specialists and inspectors review applications and oversee projects like LNG Canada.

Our involvement began during the environmental assessment process, which examined the project's potential environmental, social and economic effects. After the Environmental Assessment Certificate was issued, we reviewed and issued most of the permits and authorizations needed for the project.

Our oversight continues throughout the entire life of the project, from construction and operation through to eventual site restoration. We monitor compliance with legislation, regulations and permit conditions and we take action, when necessary, to ensure requirements are being met.



The guidance and rules for LNG production, storage, handling, emergency management and environmental protection are set out in legislation, including:

[Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Regulation](#)

[Environmental Protection and Management Regulation](#)

[Emergency Management Regulation](#)

[Forest Act](#)

[Water Sustainability Act](#)

[Environmental Management Act](#)

We work closely with government agencies, industry professionals and technical experts to help ensure projects are designed and operated safely while protecting the environment. As a regulator, our decisions are guided by provincial laws and regulations. The [Energy Resource Activities Act](#) (ERAA) sets out our authority and defines how energy activities are regulated in B.C.



What is Flaring?



Flaring is the controlled burning of waste gas visible at the end of a flare stack. Flaring is a necessary safety measure and when compared with releasing gas directly into the atmosphere, flaring reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

At LNG facilities, flaring is expected to occur during certain operating conditions such as start-ups, shutdowns, maintenance activities or unexpected equipment issues. During normal operations, a small pilot flame and a low flow of gas are maintained to ensure the flare system is ready when needed.



We regulate flaring to help protect public safety and the environment, and monitor these activities to make sure LNG Canada follows permit requirements.

LNG Canada is required to notify the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, the District of Kitimat and the Haisla Nation according to their required Flaring Notification Plan. The company also shares flaring notices through digital and social media channels.

How Are Air Contaminants Regulated?

The BCER reviews applications and can issue permits and approvals under the [Environmental Management Act](#) that authorize emissions from LNG facilities. These permits include requirements that limit air contaminants such as nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Can I View LNG Canada's Permits?

Yes. LNG Canada's facility permit along with other permits and authorizations related to the project can be viewed on the BCER's Major Projects webpage at bc-er.ca/what-we-regulate/major-projects/lng-canada/.

Our Active Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) Tools

Proactive Monitoring and Inspection

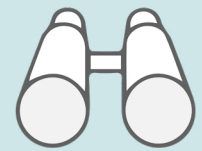
We regularly monitor activities and conduct inspections. When potential non-compliance is identified, we investigate and take appropriate enforcement action if needed. Inspection findings are published on the [BCER website](#).

Penalties, Escalation and Orders

If necessary, we can require corrective actions or order operations to stop until the issue is resolved. Continued non-compliance may result in stronger enforcement measures, including monetary penalties, tickets or prosecution in court. Information about enforcement actions and contravention decisions is available on the [BCER website](#).

For more information, see the BCER [Compliance and Enforcement Fact Sheet](#). Questions about compliance and enforcement related to LNG Canada can be directed to us toll free at:

1-877-500 BCER (2237).



We use a range of compliance and enforcement tools to respond to non-compliance. Our graduated response approach is designed so that our response matches the seriousness of the issue and helps us use regulatory resources effectively.

A permit holder cannot begin construction

of any phase of an LNG facility unless all required information has been submitted and the BCER has issued a Leave to Construct. This includes engineering designs, plot plans and hazard assessments and safety studies. Any pre-construction requirements listed in the LNG Facility Permit must also be satisfied prior to construction.

See Section 3 of the [LNG Facility Regulation](#).

Before any part of an LNG facility begins operating,

we confirm the permit holder has met all required pre-operation conditions. This includes having a Safety and Loss Management Program in place, completing pre-operation testing and posting clear signs showing the name of the permit holder and contact information. For more details on these requirements, see:

[Sections 8 through 10 of the LNG Facility Regulation](#).