

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 process natural gas into LNG for overseas export.



What is Our Role?

The BC Energy Regulator (BCER) is the provincial regulator for LNG Canada. After a thorough application review, we issued LNG Canada an LNG Facility Permit in 2015, which authorized construction and operation of the facility (subject to a number of legally-binding regulatory requirements and permit conditions). We also issued other supporting permits and authorizations required by the project for aspects including using water, work in and around streams, and emissions. Application processes include consulting with affected stakeholders and fulfilling the Crown's duty to consult with Indigenous Nations.

Our regulatory involvement began during the provincial environmental assessment review - the stage that reviews the social and environmental impacts of the project. Once an Environmental Assessment Certificate was issued, we started the process of reviewing and issuing the majority of required permits and authorizations. BCER oversight will continue throughout the life cycle of the project through until final restoration. Our compliance and enforcement activities verify permit holder compliance with all relevant legislation, regulations and permit conditions.

What Guides Our Oversight?

BCER experts, which include engineers, biologists, hydrologists, airshed specialists and inspectors, ensure thorough application reviews and compliance with requirements, once the construction and operations phases commence.

We combine the diverse skill sets of our experts with government and industry professionals, sharing knowledge and technical expertise, to ensure project plans are designed to be safe and environmentally leading. As the regulator, the decisions we make are in accordance with the authorities granted to us. The [Energy Resource Activities Act](#) (ERAA) defines our role, specifies how to manage our resources responsibly and clearly outlines how to proceed with energy activities if they are approved.



The guidance and rules for production, storage and handling of LNG, emergency management and environmental protection for LNG Canada and all other projects, are clearly outlined in legislation:

[Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Regulation](#)

[Environmental Protection and Management Regulation](#)

[Emergency Management Regulation](#)

[Forest Act](#)

[Water Sustainability Act](#)

[Environmental Management Act](#)



What is Flaring?



Flaring is the ignition and controlled burning of waste gas visible at the end of a flare stack. Flaring is a necessary safety measure and when compared with venting it results in reduced pollution and greenhouse gases.

At LNG Canada, flaring is anticipated during facility operations (e.g., start-ups, shutdowns, process upsets, and maintenance activities). During operation, there will be a continuous small pilot lit and a purge flow of gas to flares to ensure safe operation when flaring is required during non-routine situations.



We regulate flaring to protect public safety and the environment, and will be monitoring these activities in accordance with LNG Canada's permit.

As conditions of LNG Canada's permit and under the [Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Regulation](#), LNG Canada must not create a hazard to public health or safety, must minimize black smoke and the duration and quantity of flared gas and not allow off-lease odours. When facility operations first start, the community may see an elevated flare flame and associated smoke. The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, the District of Kitimat and the Haisla Nation must be notified in accordance with their required Flaring Notification Plan. LNG Canada will also be posting flaring notifications on digital and social media platforms, as per the Flaring Notification Plan.

How Are Air Contaminants Regulated?

The BCER reviews applications and has the authority to issue permits and approvals under the [Environmental Management Act](#) for the release of emissions during the operation of an LNG facility. Each permit or approval outlines requirements for limiting the release of air contaminants such as oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Can I View LNG Canada's Permits?

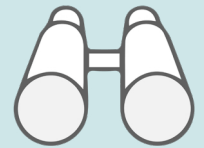
LNG Canada's facility permit and all other associated permits and authorizations are available for viewing on the BCER's Major Projects webpage about LNG Canada at bc-er.ca/what-we-regulate/major-projects/lng-canada/.

Our Active Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) Tools

We use a graduated non-compliance response model ranging from notices to statutory enforcement actions. This ensures response actions are commensurate with the non-compliance and our resources are allocated for maximum effect.

Proactive Monitoring and Inspection

We investigate and take enforcement action when alleged non-compliance is identified. The findings of inspections are posted on the [bc-er.ca website](#).



Penalties, Escalation and Orders

We can order corrective work or shut down operations not in compliance with the law. Failure to comply may escalate our response and lead to monetary penalties, tickets or prosecution in court. Contravention Decisions and Enforcement Actions are available at [bc-er.ca](#).

Our [Compliance and Enforcement Fact Sheet](#) describes our C&E tools in more detail. Questions about C&E for LNG Canada can be directed to us toll free at **1-877-500-BCER (2237)**.

A permit holder must not begin construction

of any phase of an LNG facility unless all required information has been submitted to us and the permit holder has received a Leave to Construct. This includes engineering design documents, plot plans and hazard and safety studies. Any pre-construction requirements listed in the LNG Facility Permit must also be satisfied prior to construction commencing.

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

Before operating any part of an LNG facility,

we confirm the permit holder has satisfied any pre-operation requirements listed in their Facility Permit and ensure a Safety and Loss Management Program has been prepared, pre-operation testing has been conducted and all appropriate signage has been clearly posted identifying the name of the permit holder and their contact information. For more on these requirements, refer to:

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