

National Grid welcomes 500th Ship at Grain LNG

13 Mar 2020

STATEMENT RELEASE:

Simon Culkin, Importation Terminal Manager, at National Grid Grain LNG said:

"We're delighted to confirm that on Thursday 12 March, 2020, we welcomed the 500th ship at our liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal on the Isle of Grain. The 'LNG Merak' berthed, delivering cargo from Zeebrugge, and is the 22nd ship to arrive at Grain this year.

"Since commissioning our terminal in 2005, we have taken delivery of LNG from 13 countries, further strengthening the diversity and security of UK gas supplies.

"LNG imports into the UK increased by approximately 64% in 2019 versus 2018, contributing to a decrease in the wholesale (national balancing point) gas price of approximately 55%.

"LNG delivers much needed flexibility and energy reliability, enabling the integration of intermittent renewable energy and provides access to affordable energy. We're very proud that LNG, supported by our extensive infrastructure at Grain, will play a key role in enabling the UK to reach net zero carbon by 2050 by reducing carbon intensity across all segments of the energy system."

Background

- Grain LNG is the largest LNG importation terminal in Europe, with 1,000,000 m3 of storage and the capacity to process around 14.8 million tonnes of LNG annually, and deliver 25% of UK gas demand.
- Grain LNG is the only terminal in the UK able to process the full range of global LNG, due to extensive nitrogen facilities.
- LNG imports have increased significantly over the past six months. Utilisation rates are up across all terminals in Europe – including Grain who on November 14th 2019 exported the highest ever amount of gas in a single day from any European terminal – 698GWh.
- Gas currently makes up ~40% of the UK's total energy mix (up from ~35% in 2015). ~55% of total UK gas supply is imported, ~15% of which is LNG (source: Gov.uk).



-ends-

Contact for media information only

Press Officer

Simmie Korotane
simmie.korotane@nationalgrid.com
 +44 (0)7971 343383
 +44 (0)1926 653942

Share this page



Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

National Grid undertakes no obligation to update any of the information contained in this release, which speaks only as at the date of this release, unless required by law or regulation.

Quicklinks

In Media

- > [Press Releases](#)
- > [Media contacts](#)

Useful National Grid information

United Kingdom

- > [Our business](#)
- > [Electricity](#)
- > [Gas](#)
- > [Operating responsibly](#)
- > [Investor factsheets](#)
- > [Presentations and webcasts](#)
- > [Annual reports](#)
- > [Biographies](#)

United States

- > [Our business](#)
- > [Operating responsibly](#)
- > [Investor factsheets](#)
- > [Presentations and webcasts](#)
- > [Annual reports](#)
- > [Biographies](#)