

Energy

4 minute read · July 11, 2022 7:16 AM CDT · Last Updated 5 months ago

Factbox: Could the U.S. ship more LNG to Europe?

By Scott Disavino

Feedback



[1/2] Model of LNG tanker is seen in front of the U.S. flag in this illustration taken May 19, 2022.
REUTERS/Dado Ruvic/Illustration

< 1 2 >



July 11 (Reuters) - The United States, the world's top natural gas producer, wants to send more liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Europe to help its allies break their dependence on Russian gas after Moscow invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24.

But U.S. exports are limited by the country's liquefaction capacity and an ongoing outage at Freeport LNG's plant after the second-biggest U.S. LNG export facility was hit by fire in June.

Russia, once Europe's biggest gas supplier, has already cut exports for various reasons this year, including the shutdown of pipelines near battle zones in Ukraine and disputes with customers refusing to pay for gas in roubles.

Feedback

Register for free to Reuters and know the full story

Register now

Advertisement · Scroll to continue

Data provider Refinitiv said Russia exported around 3.7 billion cubic feet per day (bcfd) of gas since mid June on the three main lines into Germany - Nord Stream 1 (Russia-Germany), Yamal (Russia-Belarus-Poland-Germany) and the Russia-Ukraine-Slovakia-Czech Republic-Germany) route.

That is down from around 6.5 bcfd in early June and more than halved from an average of 9.4 bcfd in July 2021.

Russian exports will likely fall further when Nord Stream 1 shuts for maintenance from July 11-21. Some in the market worry the pipe may not return on time.

Feedback

Latest Updates

Markets

'No sacred cows' as pipeline company TC Energy prepares for C\$5 bln asset sales

9:14 AM CST

Exploration & Production

OPEC+ seen heading for oil policy rollover, cut not ruled out

[View 2 more stories](#) ✓

Russia, the world's second biggest gas supplier, produced about 67.9 bcf/d in 2021 and exported 24.4 bcf/d, most of which (about 15.0 bcf/d) went to the European Union (EU).

Russian gas accounted for around 45% of EU's imports in 2021 and almost 40% of its total consumption of roughly 39 bcf/d, according to the International Energy Agency.

One billion cubic feet is enough gas for about five million U.S. homes for a day.

Advertisement · Scroll to continue

Feedback

HOW MUCH GAS DOES THE U.S. EXPORT?

The United States will produce about 96.5 bcf/d of gas in 2022 and export about 11.9 bcf/d as LNG, according to U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) projections.

Freeport LNG estimated the plant, which was consuming about 2 bcf/d of gas before it shut, could resume operations by October. Some analysts, however, think the outage will last longer. [read more](#)



My View Following Saved

Europe .

So far in 2022, the United States exported about 11.0 bcf/d of gas as LNG with 7.5 bcf/d, or 68%, going to Europe - where prices have averaged \$33 per mmBtu versus \$29 in Asia.

HOW MUCH MORE CAN THE U.S. EXPORT?

The United States will be able to export more gas, but it will take time.

The seven big U.S. LNG plants, including Freeport LNG, currently have the capacity to export about 13.6 bcf/d.

That will rise to 13.8 bcf/d later in 2022 when the last units at Venture Global LNG's Calcasieu Pass plant in Louisiana enter service.

In 2023, U.S. LNG export capacity could reach 14.2 bcf/d if New Fortress Energy Inc's ([NFE.O](#)) Fast LNG project in the Gulf of Mexico receives its permits and enters service as expected. [read more](#)

CAN OTHERS SUPPLANT RUSSIAN SUPPLIES?

Feedback

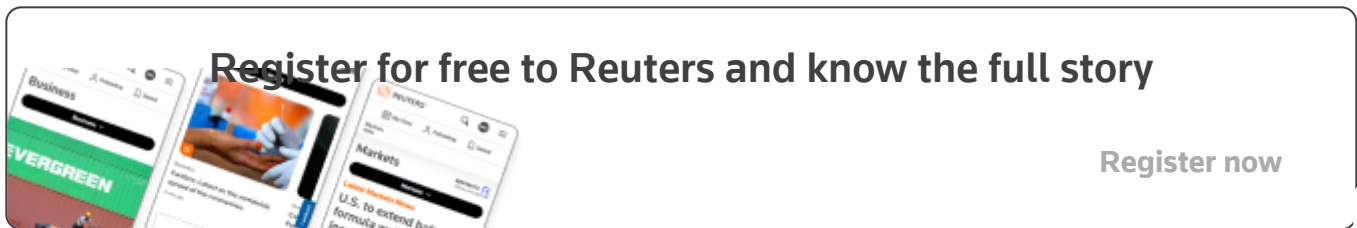
more LNG.

Europe has already boosted LNG imports from around 10.7 bcf/d in 2021 to an average of 17.4 bcf/d so far in 2022, according to Refinitiv data.

While most of that additional LNG came from the United States, several other countries boosted exports during the first half of 2022, including Equatorial Guinea, Egypt, Cameroon, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Australia, Norway, Oman and Peru.

Some of those LNG exports, however, did not go to Europe but went to other parts of the world to replace cargoes that were re-routed to Europe.

Register for free to Reuters and know the full story

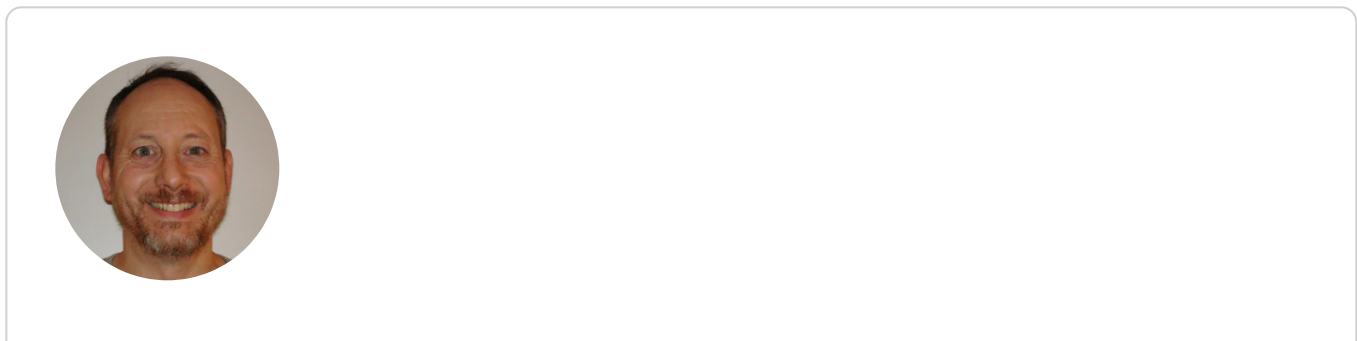


Register now

Reporting by Scott DiSavino Editing by Marguerita Choy



Our Standards: [The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.](#)



Feedback