

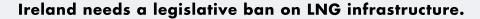
# Keep Ireland LNG FREE

Summary Briefing (2025)

www.notherenotanywhere.com

## LNG IMPORTS WILL NOT DELIVER **ENERGY SECURITY, VALUE OR JOBS**

Ireland needs to immediately reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, the number one cause of climate change. Instead, the Irish Government and the fossil fuel industry are pushing to build Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals which will lock us into decades of polluting gas consumption, increase our reliance on imported energy, and obstruct investment in clean local energy, delaying the urgent transition towards a zero carbon future [1].





Freeport LNG Explosion, Texas, 2022



# WHY IS LNG SO HARMFUL?



# **CLIMATE**

are to meet our carbon budgets.

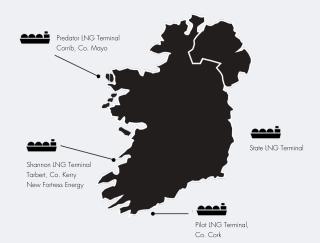
#### LNG is fossil gas which is liquefied, shipped across the world in tankers and regasified to be fed into the gas grid. It emits high levels of methane at all stages of the supply chain [2,3], a potent greenhouse gas which traps at least 84 times more heat than carbon dioxide in our atmosphere over a 20 year period [4]. Research from the International Energy Agency states that we cannot afford any new fossil fuel infrastructure if we are to reach Net Zero emissions by 2050 [5]. We need to rapidly phase fossil gas out of the Irish energy mix if we

# PUBLIC SAFETY



LNG terminals involve large and disruptive infrastructure, causing health impacts to local residents from air pollution, and risk to life through gas leaks and explosions, such as the Freeport LNG terminal explosion in the US in 2022 [6,7]. LNG is typically obtained by fracking, a method of extraction with serious environmental and health impacts, including birth defects, respiratory disease and increased cancer rates in local communities [8,9]. Fracking is so dangerous that we banned it in Ireland in 2017. Importing LNG would support the fracking industry and exploit vulnerable communities in the US and elsewhere.

# What LNG projects are proposed for Ireland?



Three commercial LNG import terminals are currently proposed for the Republic of Ireland. The government has also approved the development of an LNG Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) as an emergency gas reserve, in an unspecified location [10].

The Shannon LNG terminal is proposed by New Fortress Energy and is currently going through the planning process [11] (see overleaf). Predator Oil and Gas plc has proposed the Mag Mell LNG project, with Co. Cork and Co. Mayo as likely sites [12]. Pilot LNG has signed an agreement with the Port of Cork for an LNG terminal in Cork. New Fortress Energy and Pilot LNG would import fracked US gas and Predator has not indicated where its LNG would be imported from.

# We do not need LNG for energy security

### **HOW DID WE GET HERE?**

### **July 2017**

Fracking ban in the Republic of Ireland

#### 2021

PfG rules out fracked gas LNG imports

#### **Sept 2021**

Launch of the energy security review (ESR)

#### Nov 2023

ESR proposes FSRU as one of several gas storage options

#### **Sept 2024**

Courts overturns refusal of Shannon LNG planning permission

#### March 2025

ABP permits Shannon LNG's 600MW gas power plant in Kerry

#### 2020

New programme for government (PfG) agreed

#### Aug 2021

Shannon LNG application for FSRU in Kerry

#### **Sept 2023**

An Bord Pleanala rejects Shannon LNG application

#### **April 2024**

Shannon LNG planning application for 600MW power plant in Kerry

### March 2025

Irish government approves state-led FSRU, removing fracked gas imports ban

### **LNG MYTHBUSTING**

#### Myth: LNG is necessary for the energy transition.

#### Fact: LNG will delay the energy transition.

LNG terminals are expensive to develop and operate, which incentivises the LNG operator to use the terminal as much as possible to recover costs [13]. This would lock us into high-carbon energy, delaying the energy transition. If we fail to meet our 2030 climate targets, Ireland will face fines of up to €26 billion [14].

#### Myth: LNG will bring jobs to rural areas.

#### Fact: LNG terminals create few long-term jobs.

The bulk of jobs will be temporary, during construction [15]. The proposed Shannon LNG terminal and gas power plant development would only create 70 long-term jobs [16].

#### Myth: LNG will provide energy security in emergencies.

#### Fact: LNG is not a solution to energy security.

An FSRU is more vulnerable to attack than the Moffat pipeline and they are notoriously vulnerable to weather-related disruption [17]. Combined measures including demand management, battery storage and new electricity measures like interconnectors are a safer and cleaner solution [18]. This would both reduce emissions and the cost to the State of importing fossil energy. Furthermore, it is now cheaper to produce wind, solar and battery storage than gas and coal [19].

## TAKE ACTION NOW!

We need a ban on the development of all LNG projects in Ireland immediately.

- Sign the Petition to Keep Ireland LNG Free on Uplift.ie
- For policymakers: To discuss legislative options to ban LNG projects, contact info@notherenotanywhere.com
- For more information, visit: <u>www.notherenotanywhere.com</u> and www.lngfree.ie



Not Here Not Anywhere is a nationwide non-partisan grassroots volunteer group with no political affiliations. We are campaigning to end fossil fuel exploration and the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure in Ireland. We advocate for a just transition to renewable energy systems both here and around the world. The Keep Ireland LNG Free campaign is supported by over 25 environmental and social justice groups.

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