



Neptune LNG Deepwater Port Now Operational

After two years of construction, GDF SUEZ's Neptune LNG deepwater port is now operational.

The Neptune port, located 10 miles off the coast of Gloucester, Mass., will be serviced by two state-of-the-art shuttle and regasification vessels, or SRVs. These vessels house regasification equipment on board, allowing natural gas which has been converted from LNG to be pumped directly into a buoy connection. From the buoy, the gas inserts directly into gas pipelines. Each Neptune SRV has an average capacity of 400 million cubic feet of natural gas, or enough natural gas to serve 1.5 million homes every day.

The SRVs utilize dual fuel diesel electric propulsion as well as selective catalytic reducers for their combustion components, helping the vessels drastically reduce their nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide emissions. In addition, silicone paint on the bottom of the hulls makes the vessels highly fuel efficient.

When the Neptune port is not being serviced by an SRV, the only above-water evidence of the port is two off-loading buoys. The buoys connect directly to a 13.4-mile, 24-inch underground pipeline that links to existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure in eastern Massachusetts.