



DOWNEAST LNG INFORMATION BRIEF

Is Natural Gas the Same as Oil?

Many people equate natural gas with oil, yet they couldn't be more different. Oil is carried in ships that are often single hulled, making them more prone to rupture during a collision or grounding. When oil is spilled, the lighter fraction evaporates, leaving a tar-like residue that floats for a while and then sinks, coating everything it touches. After the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the "clean-up" took almost a year, and monitoring of the shoreline habitat recovery continued for over 10 years.

Liquefied natural gas is carried in double-hulled ships with 4-5 layers of material between the cargo and the ship exterior. The liquid cargo is stored in several separate containers onboard, so it's highly unlikely that the entire load could ever be lost as can happen with oil spills. If the content of any of these containers were to spill, it would vaporize (forming natural gas) and disperse or burn slowly back toward the ship, leaving no residue whatsoever on the marine environment. Most importantly, in 40 years of shipping, no LNG has ever been spilled while being transported by ship.

Downeast LNG is committed to the responsible, safe transport of liquefied natural gas and the health of our community. For more information, please visit our website at www.downeastlng.com.