

# Downeast LNG Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 1

September 2005



## Letter to Community

Downeast LNG would like to first thank everyone for giving us the opportunity to present our proposed project to the community. The active participation by the community is a demonstration of your interest to be informed and involved in the project development process.

After our initial meetings in Robbinston, we held meetings in Calais and Eastport – with good attendance. These meetings went well and we intend to hold additional meetings in Perry and in Canada in September/October.

At this time, we are undertaking environmental and engineering studies to gather more information. The Margaret Chase Smith School of the University of Maine is also in the process of conducting an economic impact assessment that we hope will be completed by October.

Last, for those of you who forwarded comments to us, we have answered most and we hope you've received our responses. However, we are still in the process of answering all the comment forms so please bear with us. In total, we have received 97 comment forms, with 44 expressing favorable support for the project and 3 opposed. The remaining responses did not indicate their position.

Thanks again for your participation. We look forward to working with the Advisory Committee and resident/property owners directly. Please feel free to contact us at any time. My email address is [dgirdis@downeastlng.com](mailto:dgirdis@downeastlng.com) and our director of environmental affairs, Rob Wyatt, can be reached at [rw Wyatt@downeastlng.com](mailto:rw Wyatt@downeastlng.com).

Best regards,  
Dean Girdis,  
Downeast LNG



## Status and Studies

Wetlands and Special Species – Biologists and wetlands specialists conducted a preliminary site investigation in July. The results are being tabulated and mapped for review.

Bathymetry – A marine contractor and local boat owner took depth measurements and conducted geophysical profiling in the waters of Mill Cove in Mid-August.

Seismicity – Geophysical profiling of the rock strata and geophysical nature of the project site also started in Mid-August.

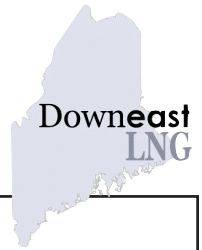
Waterway Suitability Assessment – We have initiated this important evaluation and met with the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S./Canadian Marine Pilots to begin the technical review process that evaluates the passage of an LNG ship to and from the project site.

Fisheries – We have begun discussions with fishermen who could be impacted by the project and we plan on developing a proposal to address their concerns. Many promising resolutions have been offered by the fishermen.

Economic Impact – The University of Maine is currently working on this study to assess the economic and fiscal impacts of the project, including the project's potential affects on property values.

Pipeline Routing – We will soon begin detailed analyses of potential natural gas pipeline routes to Baileyville, which will include discussions with landowners along the route.

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## **Fact or Myth?**

Myth: *"The dock will stretch halfway from Maine to St. Andrews."*

Fact: The proposed dock is expected to be less than 3,500 ft long. The distance from the shore of Mill Cove to St. Andrews is 16,500 ft – more than three miles.

Myth: *"LNG tankers and facilities are noisy and produce odor."*

Fact: LNG facilities produce no odor and are virtually noiseless. LNG tankers are not any noisier than any other ship.

Myth: *"An LNG terminal will bring chemical and petroleum industries to our area."*

Fact: The Downeast Project is not sized or designed to allow such industrialization. Ultimately, the Town of Robbinston will decide if even a small business like a blueberry freezing plant will be developed as an energy conservation "green" company that might be beneficial to local employment.

Myth: *"The U.S. Coast Guard uses gun ships to enforce an exclusion zone."*

Fact: LNG ships are unescorted by the Coast Guard at four of the five LNG facilities in the U.S.

## **Notable Comments from Residents**

*"Be honest"*

*"Make it happen"*

*"That jobs go local"*

*"Do not offer anything to the town that you cannot deliver"*

*"Keep the town informed"*