

II. LNG INDUSTRY ENJOYS EXCELLENT SAFETY RECORD UNTIL IT DOESN'T...

From Pivotal III.A.1: *“Petitioners do not point to actual incidents that have occurred or any concrete risks associated with small-scale LNG facilities. In fact, the LNG industry has an excellent safety record.”*

Response: LNG facilities have excellent safety records until they don't. “The explosion and fire in Texas last week that shut down about one-fifth of the country's liquefied natural gas export capacity wasn't the first time flames have bedeviled the Freeport LNG facility.”⁹

Case in point: March 31, 2014, explosion at Williams LNG peak-shaving facility in Plymouth, Washington.¹⁰ In May of 2016, “at DOT's headquarters in Washington, D.C., the agency's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) hosted an in-depth discussion of what went wrong during a March 2014 explosion at an LNG facility in Plymouth, Wash., that led to five injuries and \$72 million in property damage ([EnergyWire](#), May 6).”¹¹

Quoting Dr. Jerry Havens, Director of the University of Arkansas Chemical Hazards Research Center, in testimony concerning **Sound Energy Solutions, FERC Docket Nos. CP04-58-000, et al**, Long Beach LNG Import Project, POLB Application No. HDP 03-079 Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report: “Notwithstanding the advancements in science and technology, human error is still a possible cause of an accident at an LNG import terminal or elsewhere. Havens Supp. at 24-26. Indeed, on September 14, 2005, due to human error, a 10,000-gallon LNG tanker truck leaked LNG at Fernley, Nevada. After the LNG vapor ignited into an intense fire, people within a mile were evacuated, and the responding fire departments were moved back several times, finally staging approximately one mile from the scene. By way of comparison, just a 10-minute spill from a ship unloading line at SES's proposed LNG import terminal could cause a spill of 550,310 gallons of LNG (DEIS/EIR 4-138), which is more than 55 times the entire content of the LNG tanker truck in the Fernley, Nevada fire.”

FERC disclaimed jurisdiction over small-scale inland LNG export facilities that are producing 10 times the amount of LNG involved in the Fernley, Nevada, truck incident, and they are storing over 27 times the amount of LNG. To

⁹ “LNG plant had history of safety issues before explosion,” Mike Soraghan, Mike Lee, Carlos Anchondo, Energywire, June 15, 2022, <https://www.eenews.net/articles/lng-plant-had-history-of-safety-issues-before-explosion/>

¹⁰ Failure Investigation Report – Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Peak Shaving Plant, Plymouth, Washington, PHMSA, accessed September 29, 2022, https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/sites/phmsa.dot.gov/files/docs/FIR_and_APPENDICES_PHMSA_WUTC_Williams_Plymouth_2016_04_28_REDACTED.pdf

¹¹ “Explosive LNG issues grab PHMSA's attention,” Jenny Mandel, EnergyWire, June 7, 2016, <https://www.eenews.net/articles/explosive-lng-issues-grab-phmsas-attention/>