

Environmental Impact Study: What was assessed?

The Canaport LNG Environmental Impact Assessment was approved in August 2004. The thorough permitting process looked at 14 Valued Environmental Components, or VECs.

For each component, we reported on:

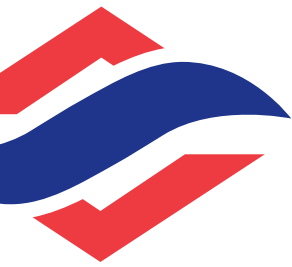
- Why the VEC was chosen or considered significant
- The existing conditions/environment
- What environmental impacts the project would have on this component
- Recommended follow-up to ensure any environmental impacts were minimized

Valued Environmental Components (VECs)

1	Atmospheric Environment
2	Groundwater Resources
3	Marine Environment (including species of special conservation concern)
4	Freshwater Fish and Fish Habitat (including species of special conservation concern)
5	Terrestrial and Wetland Environments (including species of special conservation concern)
6	Migratory Birds (including species of special conservation concern)
7	Commercial Fisheries
8	Health and Safety
9	Land Use
10	Archaeological and Heritage Resources
11	Aboriginal Land and Resource Use
12	Road Transportation Network
13	Labour and Economy
14	Vessel Navigation

To learn more about each Valued Environmental Component and how they will be protected during construction and operation of the project, you can view the complete Canaport LNG Environmental Impact Statement at:

<http://www.gnb.ca/0009/0377/0002/0008-e.asp>.



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How Valued Environmental Components were studied

Here are two examples of how VECs were examined as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment:

Groundwater Resources

Groundwater Resources were identified as a Valued Environmental Component for the Canaport LNG study.

As part of its examination of Groundwater Resources, the EIA considered the effects of the project on groundwater, including cumulative effects resulting from construction and operation, as well as any accidents or unplanned events.

The EIA concluded that the project's impact on groundwater would not be significant.

To minimize any impacts, Canaport LNG must establish a baseline of existing water conditions in surrounding wells, particularly before beginning construction work such as blasting. This baseline survey will include an interview with the well owner, documentation of well construction specifics (where available), collection of a water sample for analysis, and a photographic documentation of the well location. The EIA also laid out a response plan should the Canaport LNG project receive concern calls from neighbours about well water quality.

Marine Environment

The Marine Environment (including species of special conservation concern) was identified as a Valued Environmental Component for the project.

The EIA considered the effects of the project on fish and fish habitat and marine species. The EIA studied tides, water temperature, salinity, marine mammals, and migratory birds to determine the impacts of the project on the Marine Environment.

The EIA concluded that the environmental effects of all planned phases of the project would not be significant in terms of the Marine Environment, but that the environment could be significantly harmed by a large spill of LNG, although this scenario is considered to be extremely unlikely given the safety record of LNG ships.

The Environmental Impact Study outlines several mitigation measures that should be taken to ensure any impacts on the Marine Environment are minimized, such as using designated shipping routes, using pilots to berth LNG ships, and disposing of drill cuttings from the pier installation on land rather than at sea.