

THE INSANITY OF EUROPEAN LNG UTILISATION RATES

2019

We took a look at the average daily total utilisation rates for the EU's current 22 large-scale LNG terminals*. We found that **90% of EU LNG large-scale terminals are used at less than 50% of their full capacity.**

On average, since 2012 all EU terminals have been used at only 23%! Clearly this not only an inefficient use of infrastructure, but a waste of EU money.

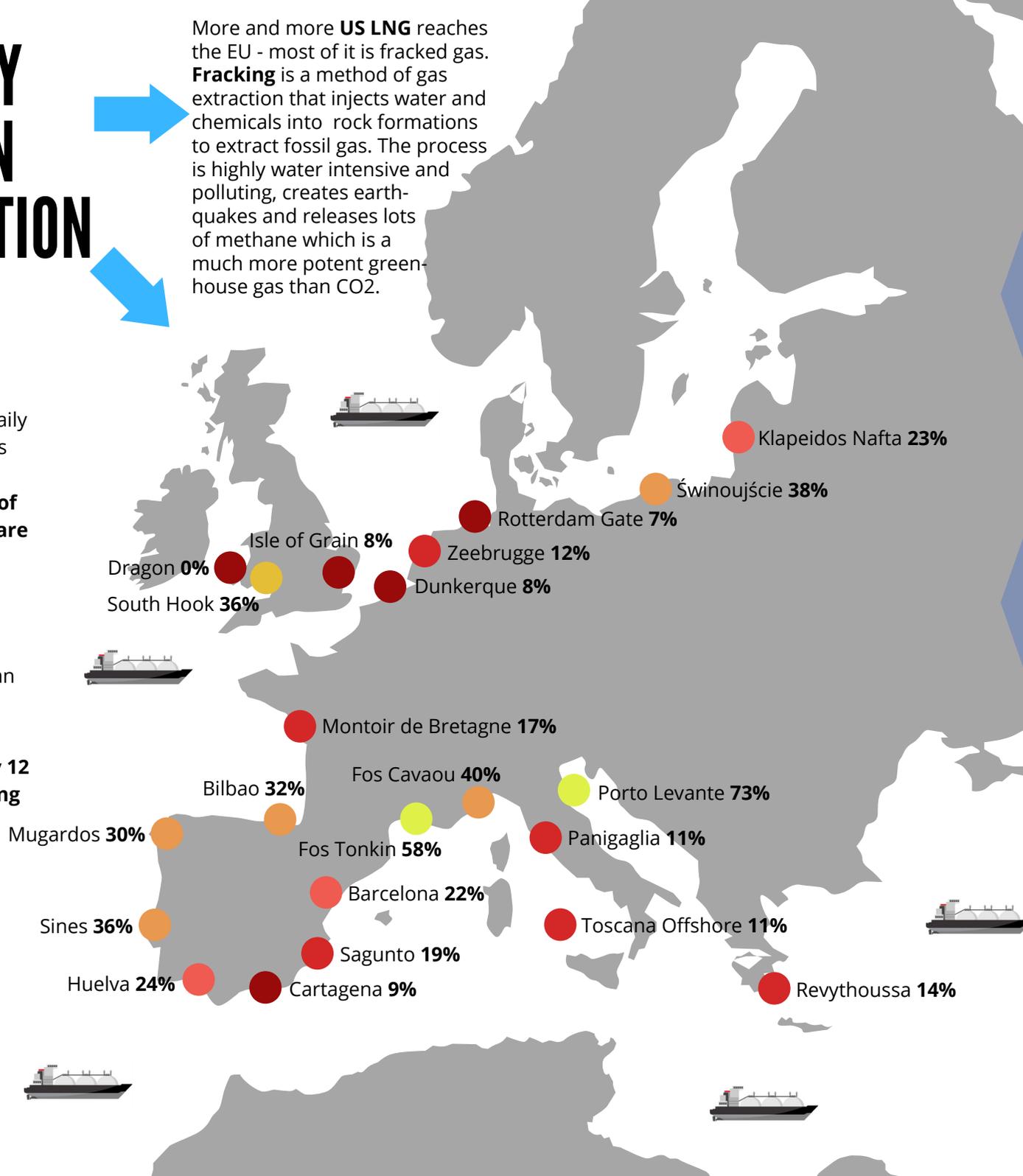
So why then, are there currently **12 proposed LNG projects applying for status on the PCI List?**

More and more **US LNG** reaches the EU - most of it is fracked gas. **Fracking** is a method of gas extraction that injects water and chemicals into rock formations to extract fossil gas. The process is highly water intensive and polluting, creates earthquakes and releases lots of methane which is a much more potent greenhouse gas than CO2.

When looking at the **average national LNG utilisation rate** figures, the results appear even more shocking, demonstrating the inefficiency of current LNG infrastructure in the EU.

For Belgium **12%**, France **31%**, Greece **14%**, Italy **31%**, Lithuania **23%**, Netherlands **7%**, Poland **38%**, Portugal **36%**, Spain **23%** UK **15%**.

The £250m **Dragon LNG terminal** in Wales, UK is an exceptional case as the average utilisation rate for the project seems to have been 0 for the last decade. This project has been undergoing "planned maintenance" work and doesn't appear to supply the UK with gas. Yet in Ireland a new terminal, **Shannon LNG**, is trying to get on the PCI list arguing that it is a priority!



LNG stands for **Liquified Natural Gas**. It is fossil gas that has been cooled down to liquid state so that it can be transported via ships across the world. It is turned back into gas at gasification plants. LNG can be more easily stored than fossil gas. As a result of increased **fracking** activity and pushes for EU-US gas trade, the number LNG cargoes from the US to Europe rose significantly.

Average Daily Total Utilisation Rate %

0-10%	31-40%
11-20%	41-50%
21-30%	51% +

Note: all figures have been rounded, *FSRU in Malta not included