

## INTERVIEW

### The LNG Terminal in Dunkirk Is Scheduled to Start Up at the End of 2015,

Sylvain Ringot, Technical Manager of Dunkerque LNG,  
Tells AOG

- ▶ Connected to two markets, the terminal is a major asset for the security and diversification of European gas supplies
- ▶ It will provide a large supply network flexibility

(Below is the text of an interview with Mr. Sylvain Ringot, Technical Manager of Dunkerque LNG. See its CV on page 17).

**Arab Oil & Gas:** *EDF holds a 65% interest in Dunkerque LNG that is developing the LNG terminal project in Dunkirk. How does this project fit into the gas strategy of EDF in France and Europe?*

■ **Sylvain Ringot:** The terminal, with its three storage tanks of liquefied natural gas, will provide a large supply network flexibility to address in particular the winter peak.

Connected to two markets, France and Belgium (which is a first), the terminal is also a major asset for the security and diversification of European gas supplies.

Finally, it will help to fluidize the gas market in France and increase accessibility.



**AOG:** *The commissioning of the LNG Dunkirk terminal is scheduled for the end of 2015. Can you confirm this deadline?*

■ **S. R.:** Yes, the commissioning is still scheduled for the end of this year.

**AOG:** *The construction of the LNG terminal represents an investment of 1 billion euros, to which must be added € 150 million for port construction entrusted to the Grand Port Maritime de Dunkerque and 80 million euros for the connection of the terminal to the Pitgam compressor station which is borne by GRTgaz. As for the terminal, will the budget be respected?*

■ **S. R.:** Yes, the project is within the budget as of today.

**AOG:** *The LNG terminal project is particularly original in terms of economic integration and of environmental and social support. Can you elaborate on these issues?*

■ **S. R.:** Following the public debate in 2007, an accompanying program of measures and compensations was publicly presented. It is on this basis that Dunkerque LNG initiated the discussion with the relevant players so that all the measures that make up this program were ready to be launched at the time of the investment decision taken on 27 June 2011.

Dunkerque LNG is particularly vigilant on social and environmental issues. We want to deal in a consistent way with the project's impact both environmentally and in terms of its usefulness and its integration into the environment, so that this infrastructure benefits the territory as a whole. The financial envelope by Dunkerque LNG for this program is significant, of the order of € 10 million.

Compensatory environmental measures and economic support measures have been implemented with the assistance of local partners: the **Chamber of Commerce and Industry** for subcontracting, the University for **Innocold** and relevant agencies or organizations for employment/training schemes.

To this were added accompanying social/societal measures in order to compensate the former uses of the site (kitesurfers, fishermen, ornithologists) by supporting various associations or by contributing financially to the realization of leisure facilities (biological swimming area, House of Nature, recreation lake, etc.).

**AOG:** *You mentioned that the Dunkirk LNG terminal would have a unique feature because of its connection to two markets, France and Belgium. Can you develop this aspect?*

<b>WHO'S WHO</b>	<p>&gt; Sylvain Ringot  <b>Technical Manager, Dunkerque LNG</b></p>
	<p>Born in 1961 in Valenciennes.</p>
	<p>After a preparatory class in Lille and an engineering training at the School of Electronics of Grenoble (<b>ENSERG</b>), Sylvain Ringot began his professional career with <b>Gaz de France</b>, near Paris, first at the Research Center and then at the Engineering Center.</p>
	<p>He has participated in several projects on LNG terminals operated by Gaz de France (Fos and <b>Montoir-de-Bretagne</b>) as an engineer. He was also project manager on the Montoir adaptation project to receive LNG from <b>Nigeria</b>.</p>
	<p>In 2000, Sylvain Ringot left GDF to join the <b>EDF</b> Group, still in Paris and always in the field of engineering.</p>
	<p>Since 2005, he is responsible for safety, studies, permits, construction contracts and follow-up for the construction of the LNG terminal in Dunkirk, within <b>Dunkerque LNG</b>, the project owner.</p> <p>He is also the President of <b>Innocold</b> (Technological Institute of Refrigeration, Dunkirk).</p> <p><i>Source: EDF.</i></p>

### ***The LNG terminal of Dunkerque LNG***

**Dunkerque LNG** shareholders are **EDF** (65%), **Fluxys** (25%) and **Total** (10%). On 27 June 2011, these three companies decided to launch the construction of the Dunkirk LNG terminal expected to come into service in late 2015. On 30 October 2014 the overall progress rate was 69%. According to Dunkerque LNG, the project is the second largest industrial site in France today. This will be the fourth LNG terminal in France alongside the two located in **Fos-sur-Mer** and that of **Montoir-de-Bretagne**.

Terminal capacity will be **13 billion cubic meters of gas per year**, or about 20% of the French and Belgian annual consumption of natural gas. Customers will be EDF, amounting to **8 billion cubic meters/year**, and Total (**2 billion cubic meters/year**). This leaves an available capacity of 3 billion cubic meters per year.

The terminal of Dunkerque LNG will be able to receive about 80 LNG tankers per year with a unit capacity of up to 270,000 cubic meters. It will comprise three storage tanks of liquefied natural gas of 190 000 cubic meters each.

■ **S. R.:** The LNG terminal will indeed be the first terminal directly connected to two markets: the French market via l'Artère des Hauts de France (GRTgaz) and Belgium through a pipeline that remains to be built by the end of 2015 between the French and Belgian Flanders. The gas from the Dunkirk terminal will supply the French (60%) and the Belgian (40%) markets. This second market itself is connected to England and Germany.

For the first time the gas will be exported physically from France to Belgium without being odorized beforehand (historically the gas flow is in the other direction).

**AOG:** *When will you get the administrative authorization for connection to the gas network in Belgium?*

■ **S. R.:** It is up to GRTgaz to get this authorization. Indeed they obtained it and the construction will start in March 2015 for commissioning at the time of the terminal start-up.

### ***Dunkerque Promotion***

**Dunkerque Promotion** is the economic development agency of the **Dunkirk** employment area responsible for prospecting investors, promoting the region and supporting businesses in their project development and implementation.

On 6 November 2014, Dunkerque Promotion organized a press trip to highlight the role of Dunkirk as the first energy hub in Europe. One of the key elements of this platform is the future LNG terminal (see the interview with Sylvain Ringot). **Arab Oil & Gas** was part of the media invited to the press trip.

Website: [www.dunkerquepromotion.org](http://www.dunkerquepromotion.org)