FROZEN GAS, BOILING PLANET:

How Canadian financial support for LNG is fueling a climate disaster

RECLAIM Finance

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Publication date:
December 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This briefing highlights the gap between the climate pledges of financial institutions and their continued support for liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects, with a specific focus on Canadian banks and investors. It shows that financial institutions have supported the rapid expansion of LNG export and import terminals since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and could play a key role in locking in new highly emitting LNG infrastructure.

Eight export terminal projects and 99 import terminal projects have been completed in the past two years, increasing the existing global export capacity by 7% and the global import capacity by 19%.[1] In addition, LNG developers are currently planning 156 new LNG terminal projects worldwide that will be constructed by 2030 — 63 export terminal projects and 93 import terminal projects.[2] However, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has been projecting an end to new LNG export terminals in its Net Zero Emissions by 2050 (NZE) scenario for two years now,[3] and any additional LNG infrastructure jeopardizes our chances of keeping global warming within tolerable limits while also increasing the risk of stranded assets. Numerous energy analyses further highlight the risk of overcapacity for import terminals.[4] This is particularly the case in Europe, where gas consumption is declining. Furthermore, each of the new projects is a block to the goals of the Paris Agreement and will lock in long-term dependence on fossil fuels, hampering the shift toward low-carbon economies.

We researched the financial services[5] provided to the top 150 LNG developers and attributed to LNG expansion.[6] These companies account for more than 90% of the global pipeline for planned new LNG capacity (proposed, under construction, or commissioned) by 2030.[7] We found that the 400 banks analyzed in this report provided US$213 billion to LNG expansion from 2021 to 2023, while the 400 investors assessed fueled this boom through US$252 billion in exposure to LNG as of May 2024.

Nine Canadian banks were responsible for US$16.7 billion of this overall financing[8] while the 21 Canadian investors[9] that invested the most in LNG expansion held US$15.8 billion in LNG assets as of May 2024. These amounts come from a relatively small number of financial institutions, both at the global and national levels. Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) (US$6.1 billion), Scotiabank (US$5.5 billion), CIBC (US$1.9 billion), Toronto-Dominion Bank (TD) (US$1.4 billion), National Bank of Canada (US$ 1.2 billion) and Bank of Montreal (BMO) (US$656 million) account for 97% of the total financing to LNG expansion provided by Canadian banks between 2021 and 2023.

Among the top clients of these two banks is the US-based company Venture Global LNG, which received US$5 billion from all Canadian banks over the period. Venture Global LNG is the largest LNG developer worldwide, planning to bring 68 Mtpa of new gas liquefaction capacities into use in the short term. Sempra, which has also been supported by Canadian banks by up to US$3.9 billion between 2021 and 2023, ranks fifth in terms of total LNG capacities under development as of 2024, and fourth for liquefaction capacities alone. All four biggest clients of the Canadian banks are among the largest developers of LNG export capacities worldwide.

Our analysis shows that there is no sign the support of Canadian banks and investors for LNG expansion drying up, although the six major Canadian bankers of LNG pledged to align their activities with a 1.5°C pathway and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.[10] On the contrary, the trend is intensifying, with RBC, Scotiabank and National Bank of Canada all significantly increasing their financing for LNG expansion between 2021 and 2023.

None of the Canadian banks have implemented any restrictions on LNG, putting them far behind the scientific recommendations to keep global temperature rise below 1.5°C and ranking them among the worst performers globally, compared to European financial institutions. In contrast, others like ING and some European banks have begun limiting their support for LNG, in addition to restricting financing for both oil and gas production. The lack of action against fossil gas expansion by Canadian banks is inexplicable from a climate or energy perspective, given that the IEA makes no distinction between new fossil gas fields[11] and new LNG export terminals. When it comes to Canadian investors, they are basically at square one regarding the oil and gas sector, as none of them has implemented restrictions to its support.

For financial institutions to be consistent with their climate commitments, Reclaim Finance calls[12] for banks to adopt comprehensive policies to:

- End financial services for new LNG projects, especially export terminals, which contradict climate goals, and also for import terminals which hinder the development of renewable energy.
- End financial services for LNG export developers and commit to extending this exclusion to LNG import developers that fail to abandon LNG expansion plans in the near future.

Reclaim Finance calls for investors to adopt comprehensive policies that:

- Expect LNG companies in their portfolios to stop LNG expansion immediately.
- Stop new investments in companies developing new LNG export terminals, and use existing holdings to engage and vote against strategic management-proposed items (for example, the re-election of directors, remuneration, and financial statements).

Banks and investors should require LNG import terminal developers to adopt transition plans aligned with a 1.5°C pathway with no or low overshoot that includes no new LNG import terminals and that relies on minimal negative emissions, such as the IEA's NZE scenario.

METHODOLOGY

This country brief assesses financial flows (project financing and corporate financing) to and investments (bonds and equity) in the 150 largest LNG developers. The 150 largest LNG developers are selected on the prorated LNG capacities planned (proposed, under construction or commissioning) using Urgewald's 2023 Global Oil and Gas Exit List (GOGEL). These companies account for 90% of the global pipeline for new LNG capacities that are planned.

Financial flows to the top 150 LNG developers have been adjusted, through a joint research effort between Reclaim Finance and Friends of the Earth France, to represent the proportion of the LNG segment future activity in a company's overall business.

- Financial data from this report relies on 2021 to 2023 financial flows accorded by 400 banks worldwide[13] to the 150 largest LNG developers, using the extended dataset of the 2024 'Banking On Climate Chaos' report that compiles data from Refinitiv and Bloomberg LP. Financial flows include project and corporate financing, via corporate loans, revolving credit facilities and bond and equity issuances. Financial flows directly linked to green projects have been excluded.
- Investments made by the 400 most exposed investors in the 150 largest LNG developers as of May 2024, using Urgewald's 'Investing in Climate Chaos' database downloaded on 9 July 2024. Investments include bonds and equities held by financial institutions. All green bond holdings have been excluded. The equity holding as of 30 April 2024 of the Fonds Communs de Placement en Entreprise (Employee Investment Fund) of TotalEnergies, managed by Amundi, has been added to the Investing in Climate Chaos dataset.

Additionally, non-adjusted 2024 financial operations reported in this analysis have been extracted using the Bloomberg LP and IJ Global databases.

LNG emissions to 2030 have been calculated at project level and aggregated at corporate level using the Global Oil and Gas Exit List extended data. Emissions calculations rely on Robert Howarth's 2024 research paper 'The Greenhouse Gas Footprint of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Exported from the United States',[14] with adjustments made on methane leakage rate per country using country's average methane leakage rate from Rystad Energy.[15]

The assessment of the policies by the financial institutions relies on Reclaim Finance's Oil & Gas Policy Tracker (OGPT). In this tracker, bank policies for the oil and gas sector are rated according to three main criteria, of which mainly two – 'Projects' and 'Expansion companies' – were used to provide an LNG-specific assessment for this report. Investors' policies for the oil and gas sector were mainly assessed through the 'Expansion companies' criterion.

More details are available in our methodology.

INTRODUCTION

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and the subsequent spike in gas prices, liquefied natural gas (LNG) has come center stage. This fossil fuel has increasingly been promoted by the oil and gas industry as the key solution to maintain gas supply while ensuring energy security. Over the past few years, global markets have been flooded with a growing quantity of LNG,[16] driven by exports from the US, Australia, and Qatar.[17] Already, eight export terminal projects and 99 import terminal projects have been completed in the past two years, increasing the existing global export capacity by 7% and the global import capacity by 19%.[18]

Despite the risks of overcapacity and to the climate, LNG continues to be developed, including in Canada, which ranks fourth globally for its expected expansion of LNG export capacity.[19] 150 LNG developers are currently planning 156 new LNG terminal projects worldwide for construction by 2030,[20] threatening global fossil fuel lock-in in the future. The 63 export terminals projects planned by these companies would add 472.2 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of liquefaction capacity, while the 93 new import terminal projects would represent 364.2 Mtpa of additional regasification capacity – doubling the current export capacity and increasing the current import capacity by 17.1%.[21] These 63 planned export terminal projects could contribute to the release of over 10 gigatonnes (Gt) of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) by 2030.[22] The climate impacts of these emissions can be compared to the total CO2e emissions from operating coal plants worldwide, which are responsible for 12 Gt of CO2e each year.[23]

This massive new LNG export development primarily takes place in Canada, Mexico, and the US, which together will account for half of the increase in export capacity. On the import side, South and Southeast Asia, driven by China, India, and Vietnam, will account for 25% of the expected increase of import capacity, while Europe is expected to cover 21% of the increase in import capacity.

The planned LNG buildout could not proceed without international banks and investors backing LNG developers. For the past two years, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has projected an end to new LNG export terminals in its Net Zero Emissions by 2050 (NZE) scenario. Any additional LNG infrastructure threatens our ability to keep global warming within tolerable limits and increases the risk of stranded assets. Numerous energy reports also emphasize the potential for overcapacity in import terminals,[24] especially in Europe, where gas consumption is declining. Moreover, each of these projects undermines the Paris Agreement and will perpetuate long-term reliance on fossil fuels, obstructing the transition to low-carbon economies. In this context, financial institutions could be expected to stop supporting the development of new LNG terminals. This is especially true as the main Canadian banks and investors, along with many other financial institutions, have committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 in line with a 1.5°C pathway.

This briefing aims to take stock of the situation and evaluate the support for LNG expansion, while highlighting the responsibility of Canadian financial institutions in this growth. Building on an analysis of the financial flows to LNG expansion of the 400 biggest banks and 400 investors, we assess whether Canadian banks and investors have adopted consistent climate pledges that effectively curb their support for LNG expansion, and how they compare to other international financial institutions.

CANADA'S MAIN BANKS AND INVESTORS POUR BILLIONS INTO LNG EXPANSION

Between 2021 and 2023, the 400 international banks analyzed in our research provided US$213 billion in support of LNG expansion by the top 150 LNG developers,[25] which account for over 90% of the global pipeline for planned new LNG capacity by 2030 (proposed, under construction, or commissioning).[26] As for the 400 investors analyzed, they had a US$252 billion exposure to LNG expansion in May 2024, further fueling the LNG boom. US$16.7 billion of the overall financing came from nine Canadian banks and 21 investors have US$15.8 billion exposure to LNG expansion.

Of all the financing to LNG expansion from Canadian banks between 2021 and 2023, 97% was granted by six Canadian banks: RBC (US$6.1 billion), Scotiabank (US$5.5 billion), CIBC (US$1.9 billion), TD (US$1.4 billion), National Bank of Canada (US$1.2 billion) and BMO (US$656 million). While Canada ranks as the fourth largest supporter of LNG expansion globally through its banks (see Annex 1), with the US, Japan, and China holding the top three positions, two Canadian banks (RBC and Scotiabank) are among the top 20 global supporters of LNG expansion (see Annex 2).

The responsibility of Canadian financial institutions in the expansion of LNG is even more striking when it comes to investment, as Canada ranks second among countries most exposed to LNG expansion through their investment companies (see Annex 3), behind the United States. Two Canadian investors, Brookfield Asset Management and Sun Life Financial, are among the 30 investors that invest the most in LNG expansion globally (respectively eight and 29th – see Annex 4). Among the previously mentioned banking groups, RBC is the one that supports most the development of new LNG terminals through its asset management branch, which held US$1.3 billion in assets of the top LNG developers as of May 2024 to support LNG expansion. But the Canadian investor with the highest exposure to LNG expansion is Brookfield Asset Management: on its own, it holds one third of all bonds and shares contributing to gas expansion held by all 21 Canadian investors in scope of the research (US$5.3 billion out of a total of US$15.8 billion). 99% of Brookfield's bonds and shares have been issued by Cheniere Energy, which makes the Canadian investor the most exposed globally to the US-based LNG developer, ahead of Blackstone, Vanguard or BlackRock.

a. Canadian banks and investors pose risks to the climate and communities through LNG expansion

The clients of banks headquartered in Canada mainly consist of two types of companies[27] driving the expansion of LNG:

A majority of midstream companies primarily focused on developing export facilities: Venture Global LNG, Sempra, NextDecade Corporation and Cheniere Energy all figure among the largest LNG developers worldwide[28] and they account for 76% of all financing provided by Canadian banks to LNG expansion between 2021 and 2023. These four firms were RBC's and Scotiabank's best clients over this period. Canada-based midstream company Fortis was also an important client, as it is the only one financed by all six biggest Canadian bankers of LNG expansion over these three years, including by BMO.

Box - LNG, a false solution with dire consequences for the climate

What is LNG?

LNG is fossil gas (commonly known as natural gas) that has been cooled to about -162°C (-260°F), condensing it into a liquid form. LNG primarily consists of methane, along with smaller amounts of other hydrocarbons. The gas is produced from fossil gas fields, carried to export terminals where it is liquefied and loaded onto LNG carriers for transportation by sea to import terminals where it is regasified.

Who are the LNG stakeholders?

On the liquefaction side, LNG export terminals are usually operated by specialized companies (such as Venture Global LNG) or integrated oil and gas companies (majors such as BP or TotalEnergies, or National Oil Companies (NOCs) (such as ADNOC or Petrobras). On the regasification side, specialized and integrated oil and gas companies are also involved in LNG import terminals along with utilities (such as Engie). LNG terminals are made possible thanks to the support of financial institutions, including banks and investors.

What are the climate impacts of LNG?

Existing LNG export capacities are sufficient to satisfy both current and future demand in a 1.5°C-aligned pathway, as shown by the IEA in its Net Zero Emissions by 2050 (NZE) scenario since 2022. The IEA's NZE update in the World Energy Outlook 2024 further emphasized that no new gas fields should enter into production. And yet, the development of LNG facilities is currently intensifying upstream fossil gas expansion by connecting fossil gas fields to far away demand and creating gas dependency in new countries. Once a terminal is constructed, new gas fields could enter into production to maintain its utilization rate, despite the need to halt upstream gas expansion. With long term gas infrastructure connected to fossil gas fields on the export side, and distribution networks on the import side, LNG facilities are leading the energy sector to remain stuck into fossil fuels.

In addition, the projected peak in oil and gas demand by 2030 alongside renewable energy growth and electrification could render new oil and gas investments stranded assets in the near future,[29] particularly in Europe[30] which represents 21% of the global planned LNG import capacity. Indeed, three-quarters of Europe's LNG import capacity could be unused by 2030, according to IEEFA.[31]

Moreover, the liquefaction process is highly energy intensive, consuming approximately 10% of the fossil gas that is processed – for example, it is used to power heat pumps. The other stages of the process also add to the LNG carbon footprint, with greenhouse gas emissions occurring during transportation and during storage and regasification – the liquefied gas is reheated by combustion at import terminals to convert it back to gas.

Another significant aspect of LNG processing is the high level of associated methane (CH4) emissions. LNG is composed of methane, a greenhouse gas over 80 times more powerful than CO2 over 20 years.[32] Methane leaks can occur throughout the LNG value chain,[33] and they are particularly relevant in the upstream phase[34] due to additional upstream gas expansion permitted by LNG, that is then transported to liquefactions terminals for export. Although LNG is often presented as an alternative to coal, these leaks negate the "climate benefits" of fossil gas and may even worsen the situation. This is especially true for gas from the US – the world's leading LNG exporter – where liquefaction terminals are connected by a network of pipelines to shale gas fields where methane leakage is widespread.[35] Upstream and midstream methane emissions stemming from leaks in the production and transport of LNG represent the largest portion of the LNG footprint (38% of total LNG emissions, based on Global Warming Potential (GWP20)). When CO2 emissions from the energy used to produce LNG are factored in, upstream and midstream emissions together contribute, on average, 47% of the total greenhouse gas footprint of LNG. Other significant emissions are the liquefaction process (8.8% of the total, on average, using GWP20) and carrier transportation (5.5% of the total, on average, using GWP20).[36]

Image - Distribution of greenhouse gas emissions in the LNG lifecycle[37]

Integrated companies active in both export and import terminals such as BP, featured in the top five clients of TD and CIBC. TotalEnergies is also among the 10 companies most financed by RBC, and Equinor is among CIBC's 10 best clients.

Venture Global LNG is the largest LNG developer worldwide, with 68 Mtpa of new liquefaction capacities under development, including 47 Mtpa that will be operational before 2030. Among the five projects planned by 2030 by the North American company, we find Delta LNG or Plaquemines LNG, two projects located on the West coast of the United States. It is estimated that Venture Global LNG's new export facilities will contribute to emit more than 0.8 Gt of CO2e into the atmosphere by 2030. Support from RBC and Scotiabank has been crucial over the past years for Venture Global LNG, as the two banks respectively rank sixth and ninth biggest bankers of the US company. All four LNG giants have proposed or approved projects that participate in worsening climate chaos: Corpus Christi for Cheniere, Sabine Pass for Sempra, and Rio Grande for NextDecade. Together, these three companies will be adding more than 1.5 Gt of CO2e emissions in the near future. Despite the six biggest Canadian bankers of LNG expansion having committed to align their activities with a 1.5°C pathway and to the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 as members of the Net Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA), they all granted substantial amounts of financing to LNG, at odds with the spirit of net zero.

These big developers plan new export terminals in the United States and Mexico. However, Canada is also a hotspot of LNG export development, with eight proposed or approved export terminal projects as of 2024. Fortis, the Canadian company supported by all the six main Canadian bankers of LNG expansion, is carrying out the expansion of the Tilbury terminal. Five of these six banks (all except National Bank of Canada) have also supported Pembina Pipeline Corporation, the company responsible for the Cedar LNG project, also located in Canada, with a revolving credit facility granted in May 2023.

Even though heavily focused on the financing of LNG liquefaction, Canadian banks somehow also hinder the transition to low-carbon economies by financing companies active in LNG import activities that could lock in long-term reliance on fossil fuels and risk becoming stranded if not operated as planned. This is particularly true in Europe, where gas consumption is following a downward trend that is expected to continue.[38] LNG imports to Europe decreased by 20% in the first half of 2024, and the utilization rate of European import terminals fell from 63% in the first half of 2023 to 47% in the same period of 2024. Three-quarters of the continent's LNG import capacity could be unused by 2030 according to IEEFA.[39]

Indeed, despite this context, Canadian banks have maintained their support for companies developing new LNG import terminals in Europe, such as European oil and gas major integrated companies. Several of them have continued to finance TotalEnergies (RBC), Shell (RBC), BP (TD, CIBC) and Equinor (CIBC) over the past years, all of which plan to develop new regasification capacities in the next years.

Shell is also a stakeholder in the LNG Canada export project, the largest in Canada with 14 Mtpa of additional liquefaction capacities.

b. Rising financial support with no end in sight

One would expect Canadian banks and investors that have pledged to align with a 1.5°C trajectory to have implemented measures to end support for new LNG assets. In fact, there is a stark discrepancy between the net zero commitments made by Canada's largest banks, all of which are part of the NZBA, and their ongoing financing of LNG expansion, which, for some of them, saw a significant rise in 2023 compared to 2021. The two biggest Canadian bankers of LNG expansion, RBC and Scotiabank, both increased the amount of financing provided to export gas development, with respectively 164% and 59% of increase between 2021 and 2023. This increase is even more spectacular for National Bank of Canada, as it multiplied by over 100 its financing to LNG expansion from 2022 to 2023. This growth sets the three banks apart from most of their 400 counterparts, whose LNG financing rose, on average, by 25% between 2021 and 2023.

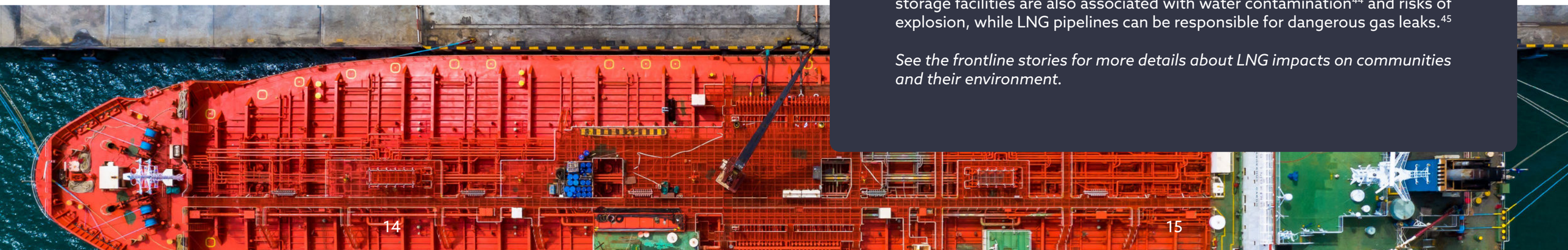
Box - The hidden toll of LNG: how it impacts communities and ecosystems

The development of LNG facilities often leads to violations of rights, such as forced displacements and the loss of livelihoods. This is the case at the Calcasieu Pass LNG terminal[40] in the US and the Donggi-Senoro LNG terminal in Indonesia's Uso Village.

Several LNG projects developed in areas of conflict are associated with human rights violations that have led to lawsuits. In Yemen, for example, TotalEnergies is facing legal action from a local NGO over allegations of torture by Emirati forces at the Balhaf LNG export terminal.[41] Another legal action has been initiated against the French company in Mozambique and journalistic investigations have revealed serious human rights violations.[42]

LNG expansion also dramatically affects ecosystems and biodiversity and pose risks to the health of communities, such as high levels of air pollution through fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and ozone (O3), a pollutant damaging for human health, ecosystems and crops.[43] LNG processing and storage facilities are also associated with water contamination[44] and risks of explosion, while LNG pipelines can be responsible for dangerous gas leaks.[45]

See the frontline stories for more details about LNG impacts on communities and their environment.



To complete these aggregated numbers, it is worth noting that Royal Bank of Canada completed no fewer than 51 transactions with LNG developers in 2023 alone, whereas Scotiabank completed 46 that same year. National Bank of Canada was involved in 16 transactions in 2023 alone, more than twice as much as in 2022 (seven). Each one of these transactions is a step further in the wrong direction for these financial institutions.

This was made possible by the fact that, although all six main Canadian bankers of LNG expansion have adopted a policy for the oil and gas sector, they consist in some of the most limited commitments among international banks. RBC, Scotiabank, TD, BMO and National Bank of Canada all exclude only the dedicated financing of oil and/or gas production projects in the Arctic region, some of them choosing to adopt a very restrictive definition of the area, like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. CIBC has a corporate-level restriction for companies operating in the Arctic, but its outreach is also very limited. Obviously, in addition to being inefficient when it comes to containing upstream expansion, these measures do not concern LNG at all. In contrast, banks like ING and some European banks have begun limiting their support for LNG, in addition to the restriction of financing for conventional oil and gas production by some French institutions. In other words, Canadian banks continue to strongly support fossil gas expansion, both at the upstream and midstream levels. This position cannot be justified from a climate or energy perspective, given that the IEA treats new fossil gas projects, including LNG export terminals, the same as new oil fields, excluding all of them from its NZE scenario. Regarding Canadian investors, none of them has adopted restrictions regarding investment in oil and gas companies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nearly three-quarters of future LNG export and import capacity has yet to be constructed.[46] This means that Canadian banks and investors can still act to put an end to the unrestrained support they offer to the companies responsible for LNG expansion.

1. Reclaim Finance urges Canadian banks to adopt comprehensive policies to:

- End all financial services, including advisory services and project financing, to new LNG facilities and the expansion of LNG facilities, especially export terminals. Priority should be placed on the exclusion of export terminals, the development of which directly contradicts all credible climate scenarios. Support to import terminals should also be phased out considering both the high probability of these becoming stranded assets and the hindrance their development presents to the energy transition.
- Exclude all corporate financing, mostly in the form of loans and bonds issuance, to LNG export developers that continue to develop new LNG export projects. This exclusion should be extended to LNG import developers that fail to waive their LNG expansion plans in the near future.

2. Reclaim Finance urges Canadian investors to adopt comprehensive policies that:

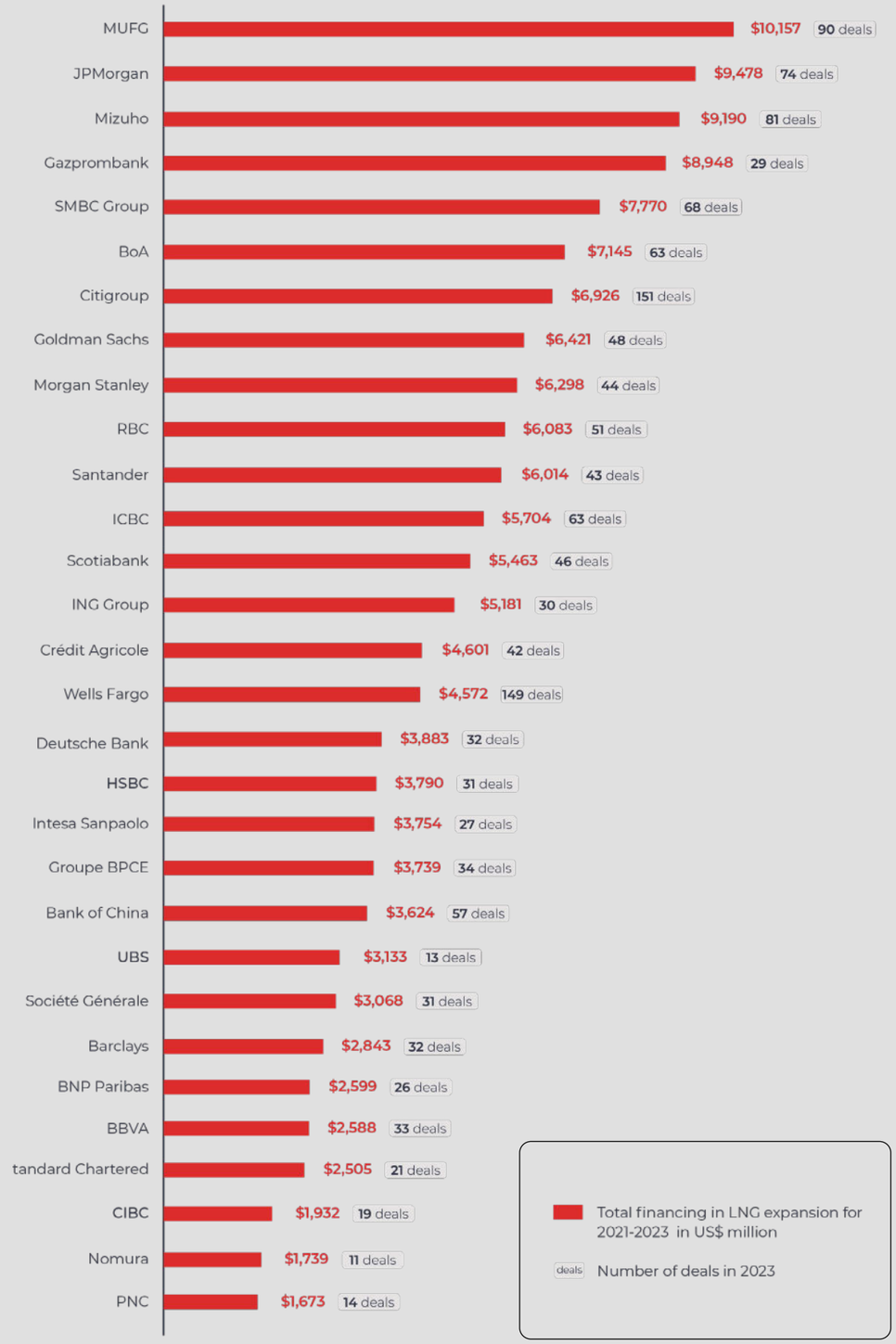
- Expect LNG developers in their portfolios to stop LNG expansion immediately.
- Stop new investments in companies developing new LNG export terminals, and that use existing holdings to engage and vote against strategic management-proposed items (for example, the re-election of directors, remuneration, and financial statements).
- Reclaim Finance urges both banks and investors to require LNG import terminal developers to adopt transition plans based on a 1.5°C-aligned pathway with no or low overshoot, no new import terminals, and that relies on minimal negative emissions — such as the IEA's NZE scenario.[47]

APPENDICES

Annex 1 : The countries behind the banks giving the most support to LNG expansion

Annex 3: The countries behind the investors giving the most support to LNG expansion

Annex 2: The 30 banks supporting the most LNG expansion[48]



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1. Calculation made by Reclaim Finance using January 2024 Enerdata LNG database. See our methodology for more information.
2. Calculation made by Reclaim Finance using 2023 Global Oil and Gas Exit List (GOGEL) extended database. See our methodology for more information.
3. The IEA highlighted in its World Energy Outlook 2022 and World Energy Outlook 2023 that existing LNG export capacities are sufficient to meet future demand. Its October 2024 update further states: *"In the NZE Scenario, utilisation rates fall to less than 60% in 2030 and LNG demand through to 2050 can be met entirely by projects existing today. In this latter scenario, we estimate that the sponsors of around 70% of LNG export projects currently under construction would struggle to recover their invested capital."* (World Energy Outlook 2024, page 53).
4. Reclaim Finance, Why gas isn't a transition energy?, November 2024
5. The financial services of banks include project financing as well as corporate and equity financing to the top 150 LNG developers, adjusted to represent LNG activities in the company's business strategy. Investor financial support includes bond and equity investment. See our methodology for more information.
6. Throughout the report, each time we will mention the financial flows granted by the banks to the LNG developers, we will refer to the share of the total amounts going to LNG expansion.
7. Top 150 developers represent 90.1% of the total terminal capacity commissioning, under construction and proposed. They represent 95.0% of the total export capacity and 84.1% of the total import capacity planned according to the 2023 Global Oil and Gas Exit List.
8. Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), Scotiabank, Toronto-Dominion Bank (TD), Canada Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), Bank of Montreal (BMO), National Bank of Canada, Desjardins, Casgrain, Colliers International.
9. Brookfield Asset Management, Sun Life Financial, Manulife Financial, Royal Bank of Canada, Power Corporation of Canada, Toronto-Dominion Bank, BMO Financial Group, CIBC, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, CI Financial, Scotiabank, AGF Management, Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec (CDPQ), Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan, British Columbia Investment Management, National Bank of Canada, Mawer Investment Management, Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System, Connor, Clark & Lunn Financial Group, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, Public Sector Pension Investment.
10. Through their involvement in the Net Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA).
11. *"In the NZE Scenario, declines in demand are sufficiently steep that no new long lead-time conventional oil and gas projects are required, and no new coal mines or coal mine lifetime extensions are needed either. As a result, fossil fuel investment in the NZE Scenario falls by more than 75% to 2035."* (WEO 2024, page 239).
12. More details can be found in Reclaim Finance's recommendations to the financial institutions.
13. Representing 100% of the total amount of the 2024 Banking On Climate Chaos report.
14. Robert W. Howarth, The greenhouse gas footprint of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exported from the United States, Energy Science & Engineering, September 2024
15. Cautionary statement on emissions figures
    The estimation of emissions induced by LNG terminals is based on a peer-reviewed study by an internationally recognized researcher.
    However, while Howarth et al. (2024) studies the case of American natural gas, here the geographical scope includes all export and import terminals existing or planned to be operational in the next five years.
    Consequently, average assumptions are taken on most segments of the value chain to calculate lifecycle emissions, with estimates on upstream / midstream leakage rates calculated for each export country.
    It should therefore be noted that the calculated emissions figures cannot in any case constitute precise projections and are only intended to show orders of magnitude of the climate impact of these infrastructures.
16. IEEFA, Global LNG Outlook 2024-2028, April 2024
17. These countries accounted for 60% of LNG supply worldwide during the first quarter 2024. See IEA, Gas Market Report, Q1-2024
18. Calculation made by Reclaim Finance using January 2024 Enerdata LNG database. See our methodology for more information.
19. Urgewald, The 2024 Global Oil & Gas Exit List: More Loss and Damage Ahead, November 2024
20. Calculation made by Reclaim Finance using 2023 Global Oil and Gas Exit List extended database. See our methodology for more information.
21. According to the 2023 Global Oil & Gas Exit List (GOGEL) and taking into account the terminals that are expected to be commissioning before 2030 or which have their FID before 2028.
22. GHG emissions are calculated on scope 1, 2 and 3 using methodology developed by Robert Howarth. See our methodology for more information.
23. Global Energy Monitor, Global Coal Plant Tracker, October 2024 update
24. Reclaim Finance, Why gas isn't a transition energy?, November 2024
25. Each time there is a reference to LNG developers or LNG expansion later in the report, it will refer to the 150 largest developers taken from the Global Oil & Gas Exit List (GOGEL).
26. Top 150 developers represent 90.1% of the total terminal capacity commissioning, under construction and proposed. They represent 95.0% of the total export capacity and 84.1% of the total import capacity planned according to the 2023 Global Oil and Gas Exit List.
27. Utilities are almost absent from the financing record of Canadian banks.
28. See Urgewald, Global Oil and Gas Exit List, 2024
29. IEA, World Energy Outlook 2023, October 2023
30. IEA, The Oil and Gas Industry in Net Zero Transition, November 2023, figure 1.19, page 46
31. IEEFA, European LNG import terminals are used less as demand drops, September 2024
32. See the series of articles published on the Reclaim Finance website in October 2023 about the threat of methane, the need to decrease its emissions, and the role of financial institutions in doing so: Methane: an imminent threat for climate, Human-caused methane emission must decrease, driven by cuts in the fossil fuel industry, Finance can push fossil fuel firms to cut their methane emissions at no net cost
33. Reclaim Finance, Methane: an imminent threat for climate, October 2023
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35. Environmental Defense Fund, New Data Show U.S. Oil & Gas Methane Emissions Over Four Times Higher than EPA Estimates, Eight Times Greater than Industry Target, July 2024
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37. Solutions For Our Climate, *Fueling the Climate Crisis: South Korea's Financing of Oil and Gas*, 2021
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48. The amounts have been adjusted to only reflect the share of the financing going to LNG expansion.

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FROZEN GAS, BOILING PLANET:
How Canadian financial support for LNG is fueling a climate disaster

Reclaim Finance is an NGO affiliated with Friends of the Earth France. It was founded in 2020 and is 100% dedicated to issues linking finance with social and climate justice. In the context of the climate emergency and biodiversity losses, one of Reclaim Finance's priorities is to accelerate the decarbonization of financial flows. Reclaim Finance exposes the climate impacts of financial players, denounces the most harmful practices and puts its expertise at the service of public authorities and financial stakeholders who desire to bend existing practices to ecological imperatives.

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