

Gazprom prepares to ship gas to Rabaska LNG terminal

In an effort to further promote the Shtokman project, Russia's Gazprom will become in the near future a partner in Canadian Rabaska LNG terminal project. Canada's Gaz Metro and Enbridge and Gas de France have parts in the project. The 5 billion cubic meters terminal to ship LNG from the Shtokman field will have been constructed by 2014.

Gazprom's participation in Rabaska will facilitate the gas giant's operation on the Northern American LNG market where the United States is the major importing country. The US accounted for 8% of the world's liquefied methane imports in 2006.

It would be wrong to say that Gazprom can easily conquer the Northern American market. At present, the US' major liquefied gas supplier is Trinidad and Tobago. Besides, Egypt, Algeria and Nigeria delivered methane to the US. As transportation charges greatly influence LNG prices and distances from Russia and Africa to the US do not differ much, Gazprom will likely have competitors.

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