

Why Europe Needs Nord Stream 2

Nord-stream2, March 12, 2019

The Nord Stream 2 Pipeline will transport natural gas into the European Union to enhance security of supply, support climate goals and strengthen the internal energy market.

The EU's domestic gas production is in rapid decline. To meet demand, the EU needs reliable, affordable and sustainable new gas supplies. The Nord Stream 2 Pipeline will provide this by transporting gas from the world's largest reserves in Russia to the EU internal market.

The Gas Market at a Glance

Explore our interactive map of European gas infrastructure and key market data.

Europe's gas demand is expected to remain stable, but domestic gas production is declining.

Meeting Future Gas Demand

A Key Fuel in the Energy Mix

The Shortest Route from Gas Field to Consumer

Securing Gas Supply in a Changing Global Market

Higher Efficiency, Lower Emissions

Consumers Benefit in a More Competitive Market

Natural gas is a lower-carbon fuel that can replace other fossil fuels in the energy mix and deliver a reliable output to complement intermittent renewable energy. Nord Stream 2 will enhance the EU's security of supply and complement, not replace, existing gas supply options.

Looking for more information? Find answers to the top 10 questions about the Nord Stream 2 project [here](#).

Nord Stream 2 is widely discussed, but who will ultimately authorise its construction?

The permission to build Nord Stream 2 needs to be granted from the authorities of the countries through whose waters the pipeline will pass.

Is the Nord Stream 2 pipeline subject to EU energy market regulation?

The EU's internal gas market laws only regulate pipelines within the internal market – Nord Stream 2 lies outside of the internal market.

Will the pipeline pose a risk to the sensitive Baltic Sea environment?

The first Nord Stream project demonstrated that the impacts of construction were limited, local and temporary.

Is Nord Stream 2 in line with the EU's energy goals?

Nord Stream 2 clearly meets the three core goals of EU energy policy: competitive, secure, and sustainable.

With climate goals and the shift to renewable energy, does natural gas still fit?
Clean-burning gas can also help the EU to meet its climate targets.

Does this pipeline increase Europe's dependency on Russia?

European gas companies will buy gas where they find the best deal.

Will the pipeline make other transport systems redundant?

Nord Stream 2 complements the existing natural gas import routes to the EU.

Will the pipeline have a negative impact on supply security for Eastern Europe?

Nord Stream 2 improves supply security and creates a stronger internal market for all.

Is the new pipeline compatible with the EU's diversification strategy?

Nord Stream 2 supports Europe's security of supply. It provides a separate pipeline system along the Baltic Sea route and increases supply capacity.

Does Europe really need additional natural gas pipelines?

Gas production in the EU is forecast to decrease 50 per cent in the next 20 years. Russian gas is the best option to compensate.

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