



## New Industry Anticipated to Heighten Demand for Natural Gas in Alabama

# TORP Technology's Bienville Terminal Offers Balanced Solution

New industry is making Alabama its home, and that means billions of dollars will be pumped into Alabama's economy. It also means increased demand for natural gas from new and existing industries located in Alabama who use natural gas as fuel or a feedstock in their production processes.

While the state does offer natural gas fields in Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, Alabama remains a net importer of gas. As elsewhere, the demand for natural gas in Alabama exceeds the domestic supply, and, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the gap between supply and demand is only going to increase.

Most experts agree the best way to narrow the gap is through the importation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from countries that have vast excess reserves of natural gas such as Trinidad and Tobago, Australia and Qatar. LNG is transported by specially configured ships, and upon arrival is regasified into natural gas that can be used by industry, the residential sector, for the generation of electricity or in the commercial and transportation sectors.

In Alabama, TORP Technology's Bienville Terminal facility can fill the gap, helping meet demand and alleviating the upward trend of wholesale natural gas prices. TORP's proposed LNG re-gas facility, to be lo-

cated off the coast of Alabama, differs substantially from any other LNG project previously proposed.

First, the location of the Bienville Terminal was chosen with great care. In deep water over the horizon, the Bienville Terminal is much more remote than proposed locations for previous terminals and in a far less dense marine community.

Situated 63 miles offshore, Bienville Terminal will not be visible from shore. The terminal will be located in 450 feet of water, away from regular shipping lanes and will use 27 miles of offshore pipeline tied into four existing offshore pipelines, eliminating the need for any new near-shore pipeline.

Secondly, the design and technology of Bienville's unique HiLoad technology is less invasive than other proposed facilities. More than seven years and 30,000 man-hours have gone into the design and engineering of the Bienville Terminal. Rather than a large, gravity-based structure that sits on the sea-bed and takes up several acres, the Bienville Terminal consists of two



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Each HiLoad unit is tethered to the floor of the Gulf and ties in to a pipeline that runs to the support platform (similar in design to other oil or gas platforms located in the Gulf), where the natural gas will be metered and, if necessary, compressed before being sent into existing offshore pipelines.

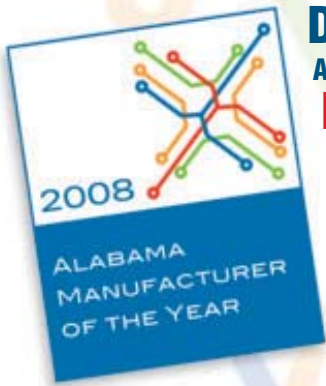
Finally, TORP's use of a renewable energy source (warm seawater) and shell and tube vaporizers offers lower air emissions than other proposed facilities.

Over the past two years TORP representatives have met with numerous citizens groups, conservationists, marine biologists, sport fishermen and others to gain insight and feedback about the design of the project. As a result of these meetings and other efforts, the Bienville Terminal's Environmentally Conscientious Open Loop (ECO Loop) technology is designed to minimize impact on marine life while using the natural warmth of Gulf water to regasify LNG.

TORP is committed to monitoring marine life on site both prior to construction and start-up and during the life of the project, as well as mitigating any identified impacts. TORP believes its Bienville Terminal balances concern for both marine and air impacts and is in keeping with the Environmental Protection Agency's call for use of best available technology.

The economic impact on Alabama of the Bienville Terminal during construction is estimated to be \$166.5 million, employing almost 1,200 and generating tax revenues of \$5 million. Annual economic impact once Bienville Terminal begins operation is estimated at \$33.2 million with employment of 359 people and annual tax revenues of \$800,000.

Alabama needs alternative sources for natural gas, and TORP Technology's Bienville Terminal can be the answer. The permitting application and approval process for the Bienville Offshore Energy Terminal is in progress. To learn more about Bienville Terminal, visit [www.BienvilleLNG.com](http://www.BienvilleLNG.com).



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