



Press Release

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**BBG has become the second most-used regasification terminal in Spain**

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- **Its production is equivalent to 50 times the annual domestic consumption of all Basque homes**
- **A total of 58 liquefied gas carriers unloaded 7.6 million cubic metres of LNG, which was 33% more than in 2005.**

**Bahía de Bizkaia Gas (BBG) produced 18% of the natural gas for the Spanish gas supply system in financial year 2006. In this way, Bahía de Bizkaia has not only become consolidated as one of the most important gas entry gateways into the gas supply system, but has also become the second most-used regasification terminal in Spain as a whole, providing an important assurance of energy supply security to the Basque Country, the Atlantic coast region and the rest of Spain.**

Between 8 August 2003, the date of arrival of the first liquefied gas carrier, and the end of financial year 2006, BBG had unloaded a total of 18.9 million cubic metres of LNG, equivalent to 125,893 GWh of production, enough to supply 50 times the annual household consumption of all homes in the Basque Country. Since it came into operation, BBG has gradually increased the use of its capacity as a gas supplier, operating at 36% of its capacity in 2004, 46% in 2005 and 61% in 2006 -a rise of 32% over the figure for the previous year- and converting BBD into the second most-used regasification terminal in the whole of Spain, just behind Saggas. The terminal is expected to operate at 68% of its capacity in the current financial year, 2007.

A total of 58 liquefied gas carriers unloaded at BBG in 2006, while another vessel berthed in order to be cooled, an important process that all LNG tankers must undergo before coming into service. Unloading these liquefied gas carriers involved the entry of a total of 7.6 million cubic metres of LNG, 33% more than in 2005, into the Spanish gas supply system. Moreover, when these LNG tankers dock at BBG, it gives an important boost to shipping activity and currently represents almost 13% of all goods traffic handled by the Port of Bilbao. BBG produced a total of 50,524 GWh, an increase of 31% over the figure for 2005.

Bahía de Bizkaia is co-owned by four partners: BP, the Basque Energy Board (Ente Vasco de la Energía – EVE), Iberdrola and Repsol YPF, each with a 25% stake. The total investment in the BBG and BBE project was some 600 million euros. The four partners in Bahía de Bizkaia are well known in the energy sector. BP is one of the largest companies in the world in energy and chemical related activities; EVE is the public body appointed by the Basque Government to develop the Basque energy policy; Iberdrola is one of the two most important



electrical companies in Spain and Repsol YPF is the leading Spanish petrol, oil and fuel supply company.

	<i>Number of gas tankers unloaded</i>	<i>Millions de m<sup>3</sup> of LNG</i>	<i>Production in Millions of GWh</i>	<i>% use of plant capacity</i>
<b>2003</b>	11	1.3	7,245	8.70%
<b>2004</b>	37	4.3	29,871	35.55%
<b>2005</b>	45	5.7	38,562	46.38%
<b>2006</b>	59	7.6	50,524	61.25%

2003. Only 3 months of commercial operation

For further information:

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