

LNG

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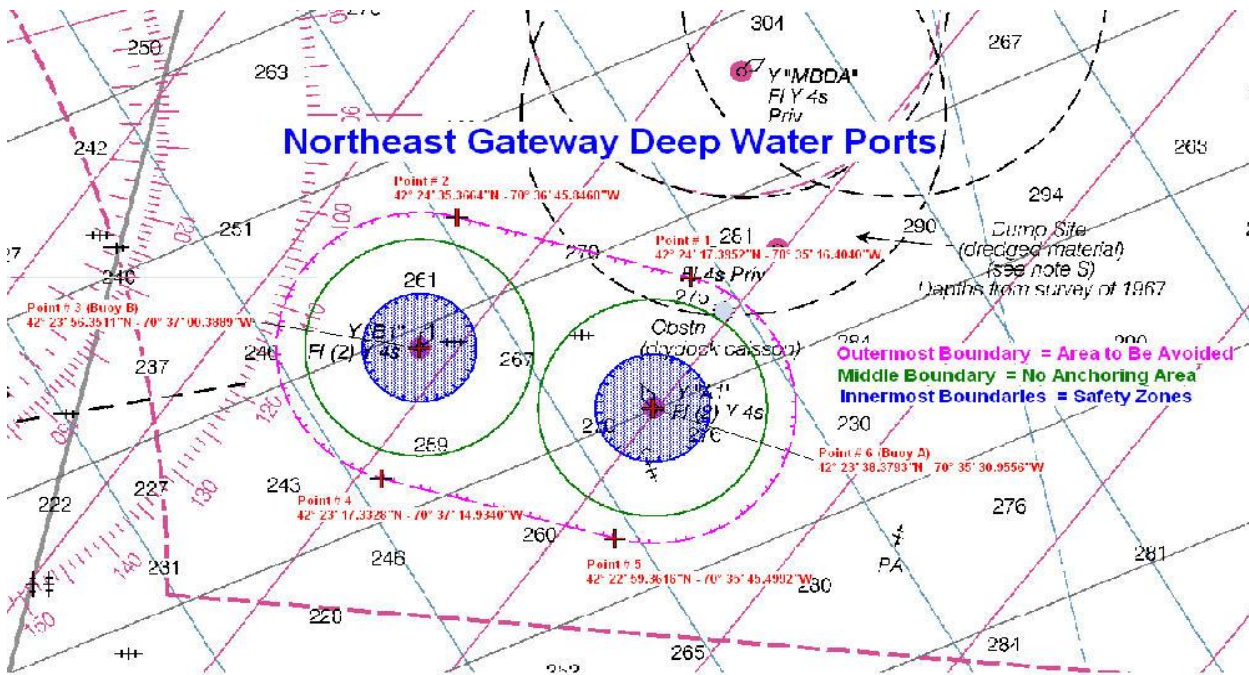
You may have noticed large light green tankers moored on Board Sound, off Nahant, from time to time. These are liquefied natural gas (LNG) tankers. They offload at Constellation's Everett LNG Facility, which is what is known as a peak shaving facility and has been receiving LNG since 1971. The purpose of this is to keep the gas flowing at times of high usage when the main pipelines cannot handle the load. There are satellite peak shaving tanks located around New England. You can see examples of these in Salem, Lynn and Dorchester. These are serviced by truck from Everett.



The LNG tankers come from Trinidad. Even though the United States is an exporter of LNG, domestic LNG cannot be brought here due to the [Jones Act](#). The Act requires that all commerce between US ports be carried in US built, owned, flagged, and crewed ships. There are no LNG tankers that meet these requirements.

Back in the early 2000's, the price of domestic natural gas was increasing and two offshore terminals were built off the North Shore to import cheaper foreign gas. Then, with fracking, the price of domestic natural gas plummeted. Therefore, these offshore terminals have seen little use. The Neptune Deepwater Port has not been used since it was proofed in 2009.

The Northeast Gateway Deepwater Port is rarely used and is guarded around the clock by the workboats Gateway Endeavour or Scarlett Isabella. If you get in the security zone, you at least might get wet from a deluge water cannon or you might wind up with a hefty fine. The zone is shown below, from Chart 13267. The no anchor zone is a 1000 meter radius and the safety zone is a 500 meter radius. This offshore terminal feeds into the high pressure Algonquin Hubline that runs from Weymouth to Salem.



When an LNG tanker is moored in Broad Sound the Coast Guard will issue a Security that tells you to not come within 500 yards of the tanker without permission of the Captain of the Port of Boston (Sector Boston). You can see full details in [33 CFR 165.110](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-33/chapter-I/subchapter-B/part-165/subpart-165.110). The bottom line is just stay away from them.