

# Global LNG Market

## Implications for Alaska

**Senate Resources Committee**  
**5<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Nicholas Fulford**

Senior Director, LNG and Energy Transition, GaffneyCline<sup>™</sup> energy advisory

# Agenda

## Topics to be covered

- Evolution of the LNG Industry
- Supply and Demand
- LNG project evolution
- LNG Economics
- Enabling legislation
- Selected LNG Case Studies



# Evolution of the LNG Industry

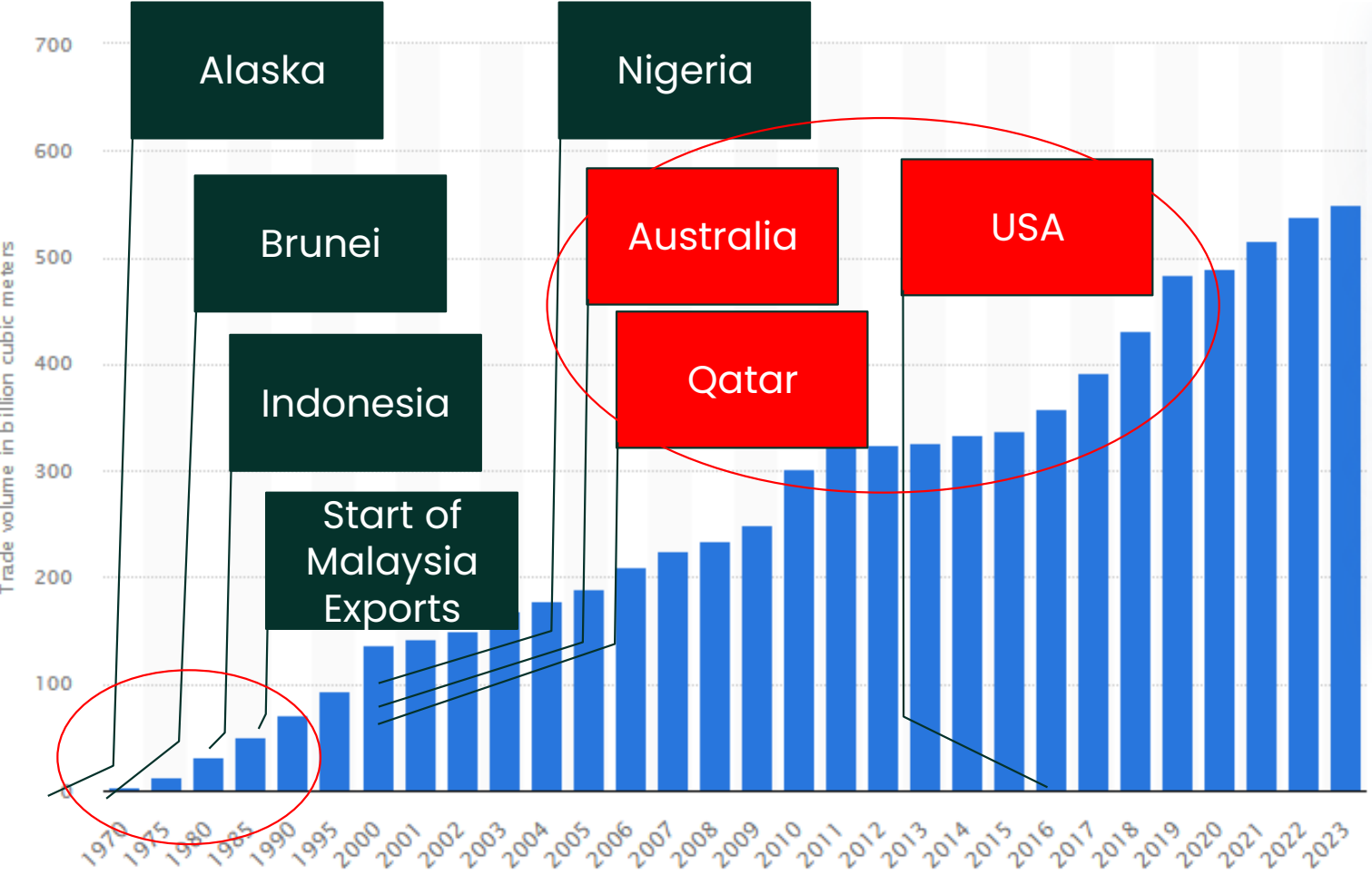
# Historical Growth in LNG Trade

**1970's – 2000's**  
**PIONEER PHASE OF THE**  
**LNG INDUSTRY**

**2000 – 2015**  
**INCREASE IN LNG**  
**FACILITIES WORLDWIDE**  
**DRIVEN BY LNG MARKET**  
**DEMAND**

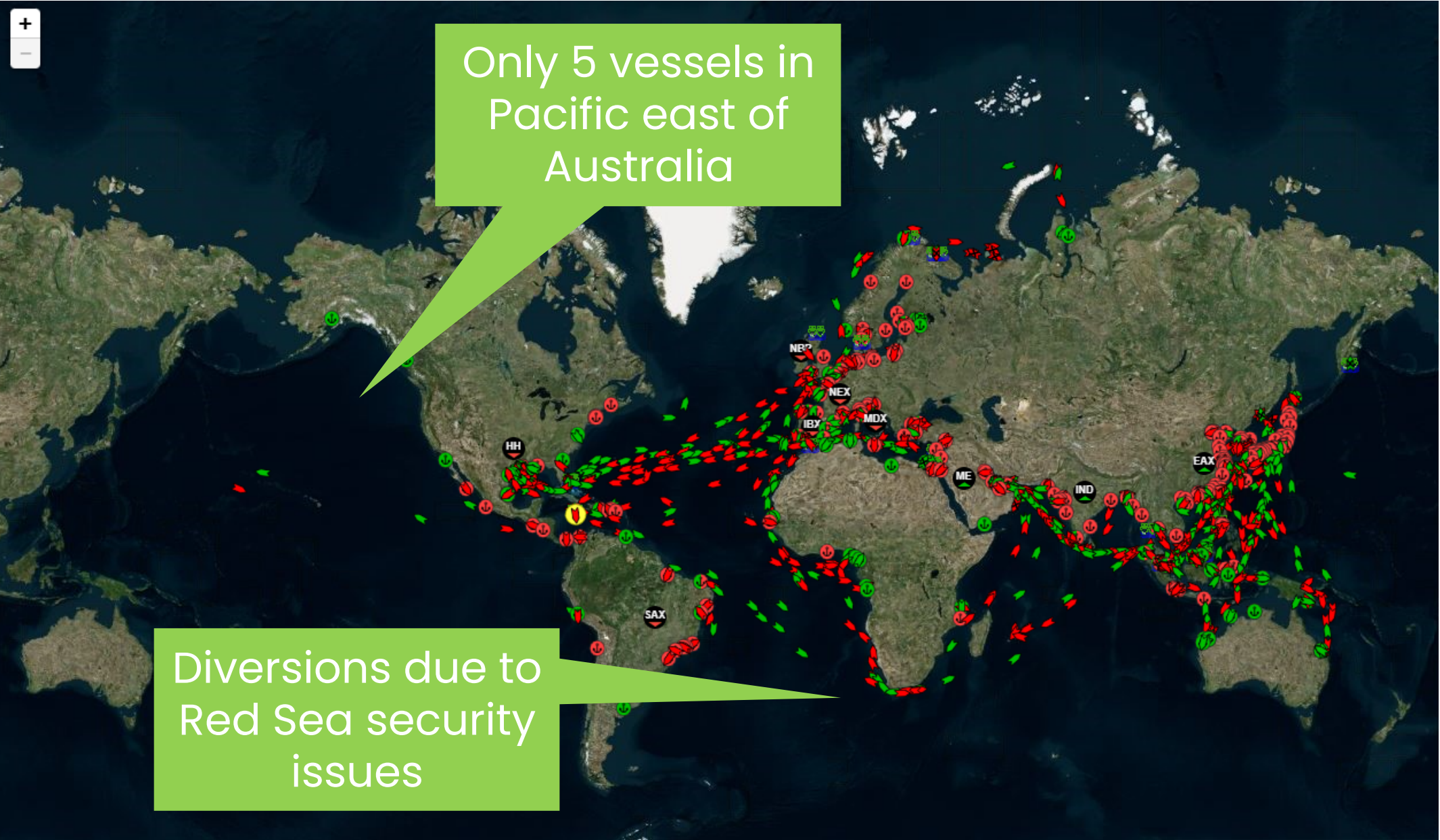
**2016 – 2020**  
**IMPACT OF**  
**UNCONVENTIONAL SHALE**  
**AND COAL GAS BOOM**

**2020 to Date**  
**RUSSIAN/UKRAINE CRISIS**  
**AND GROWTH IN LOW**  
**CARBON LNG**



Source: Statista/GaffneyCline Analysis

# Global Trade Routes (snapshot from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March)



Diversions due to Red Sea security issues

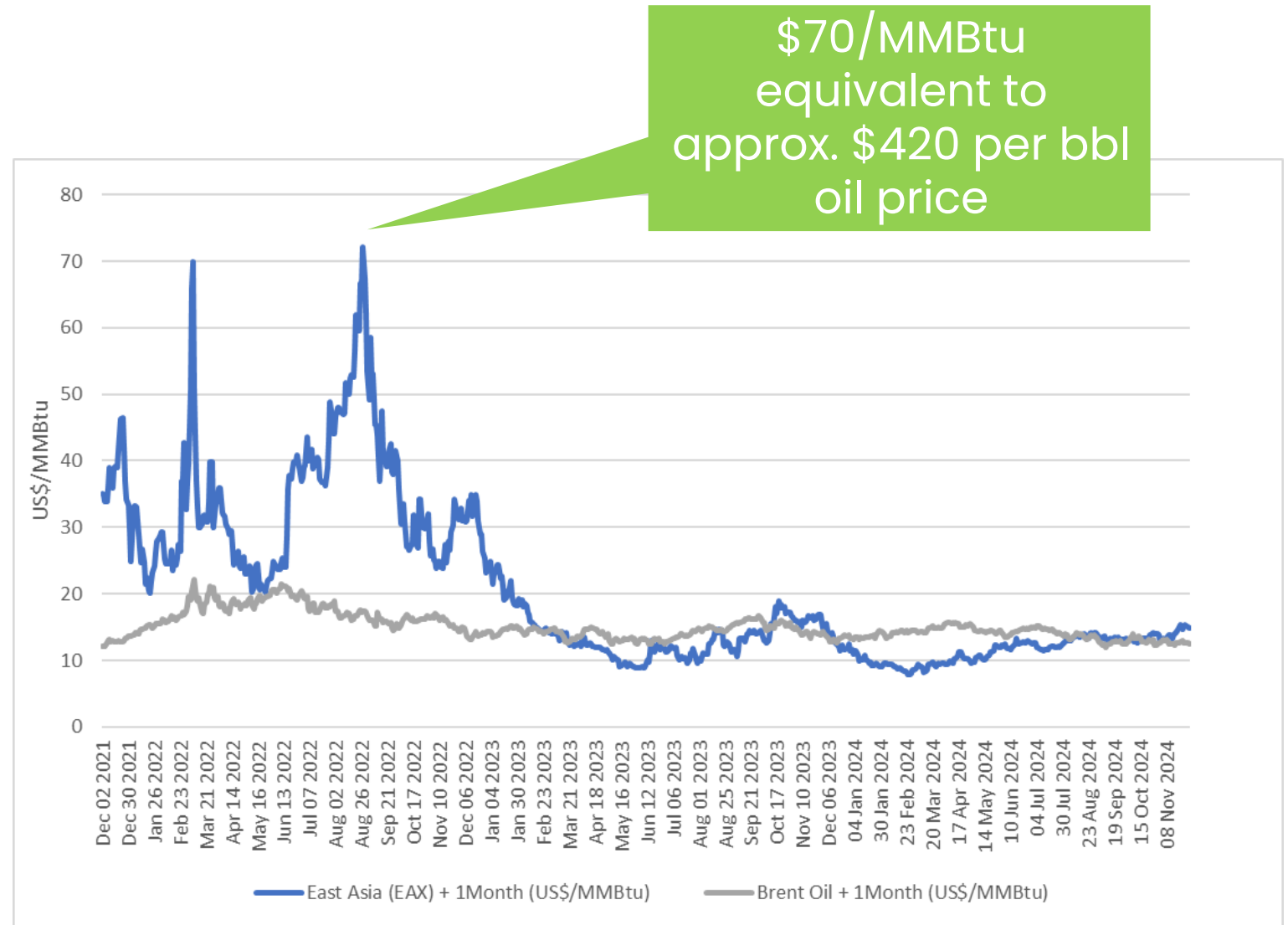
Only 5 vessels in Pacific east of Australia

Source: ICIS

# Supply and Demand

# Market Turbulence 2022-23

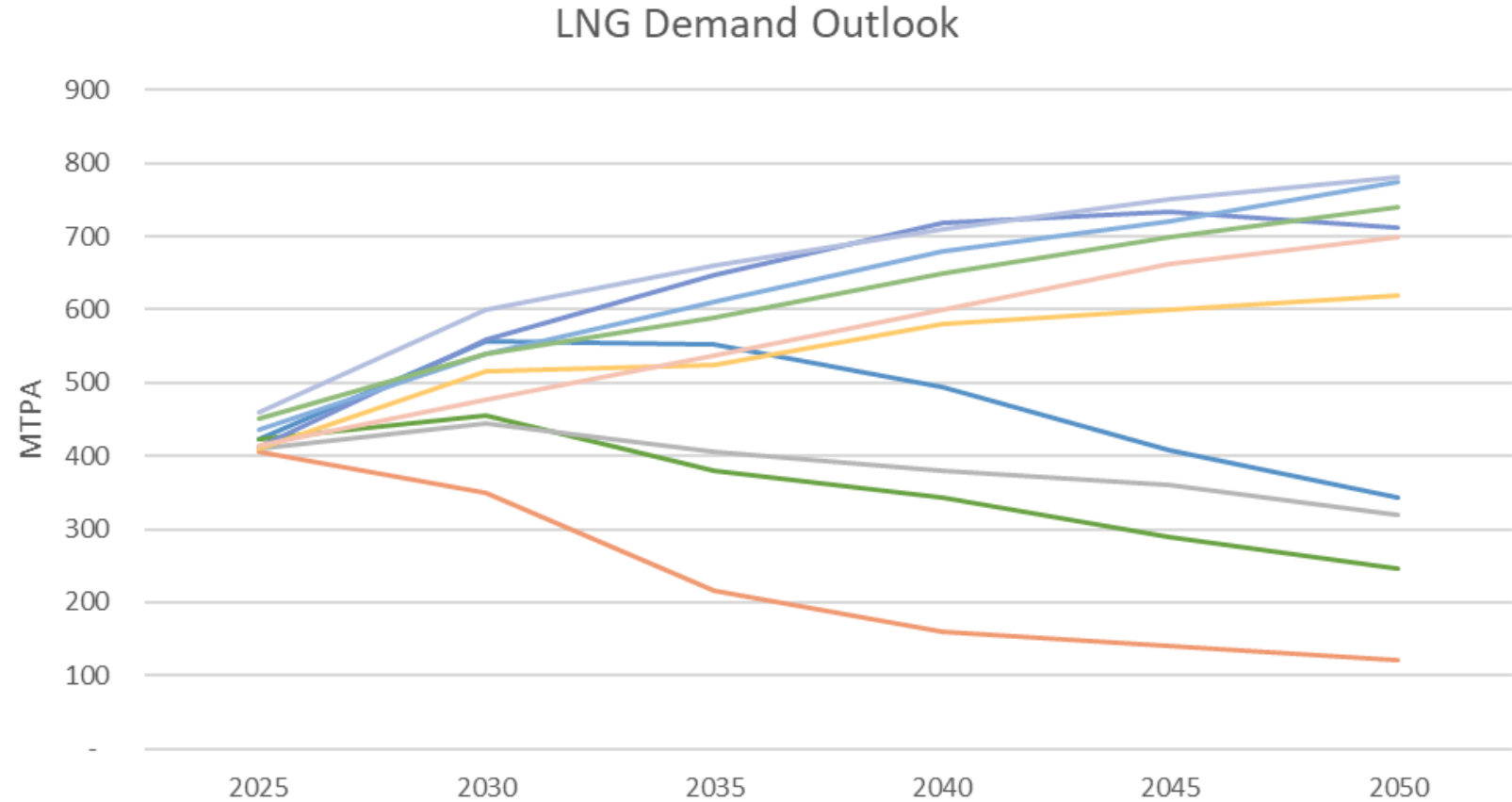
- Demand slump and oversupply in 2018-2020
- Rapid reversal into undersupply and unprecedented prices
- LNG market proved to be resilient and flexible
- Security of supply and supply diversity now key elements in procurement strategy



Source: GaffneyCline analysis, ICIS

# LNG Demand Uncertainty

- Forecasts range from a doubling in demand to a 75% reduction by 2050
- Lower demand forecasts based on rapid decarbonization, electrification, and switch to renewables/hydrogen
- Market signals suggest growth in LNG continues to be the core assumption
- Many IECs are basing their future growth plans on major LNG focus



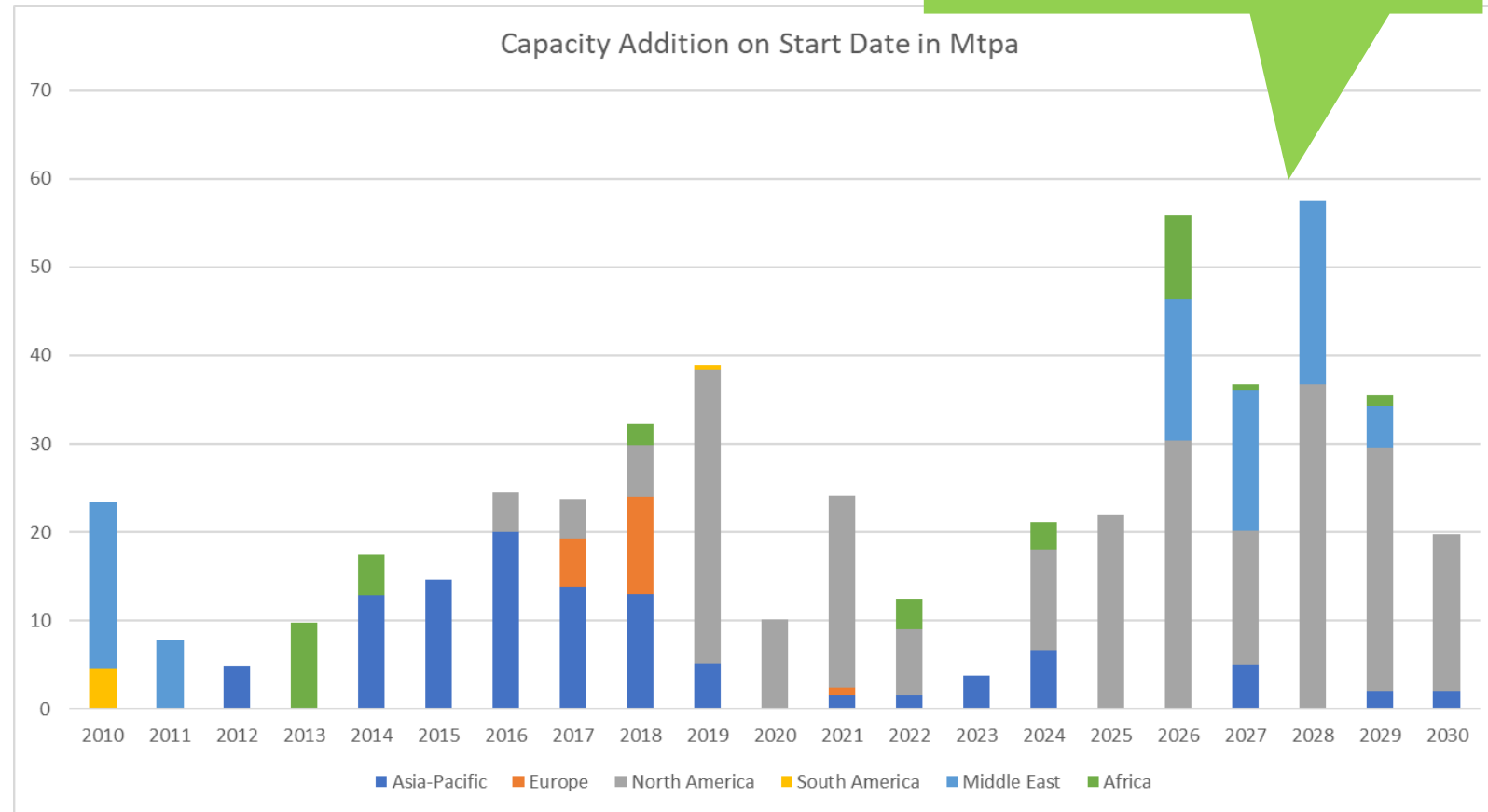
Source: GaffneyCline analysis of a sample of ten demand forecasts in 2024



# Supply Outlook

- Significant new capacity under construction in US Gulf Coast
- However, regulatory delays and legal challenges appear to be growing.
- Qatar is undergoing major expansion later this decade
  - Very low-cost LNG due to oil/condensate revenues

Majority of new capacity comes from US and Qatar

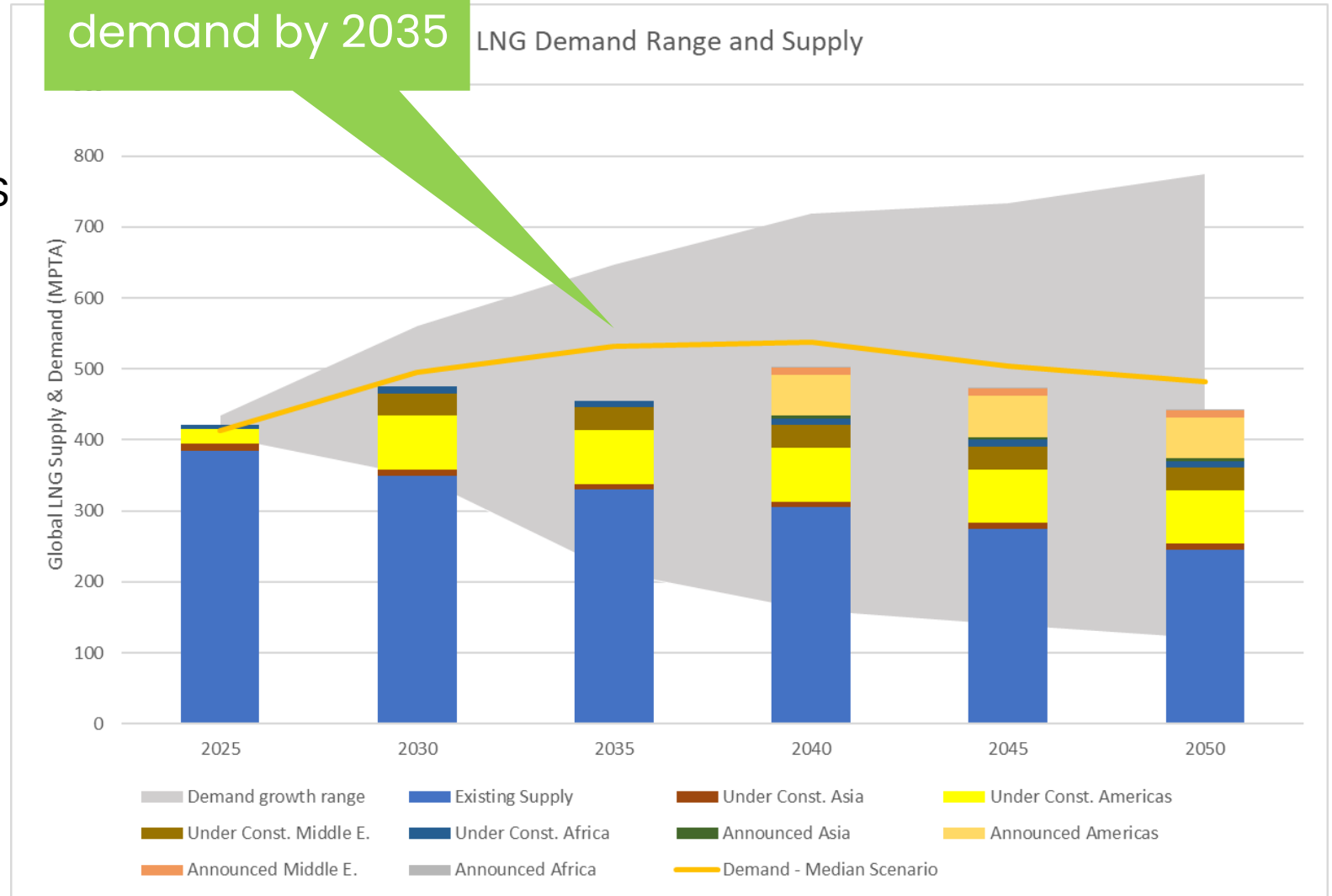


Source: GaffneyCline analysis, ICIS

# Demand /Supply

- Competition for 2035 supply will come largely from announced US Gulf Coast projects
- Reaching FID is a key milestone
- Alaska could benefit from existing permits

Potential for new demand by 2035

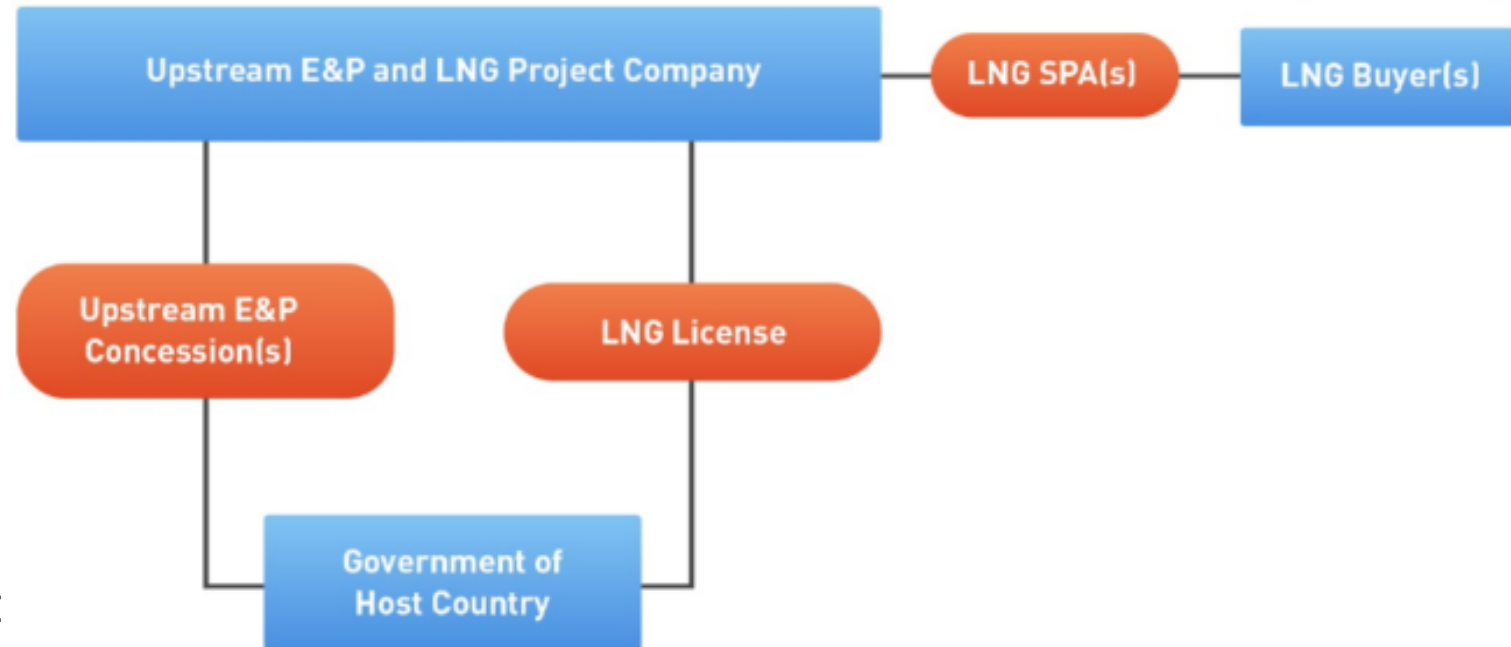


Source: GaffneyCline analysis, ICIS

# LNG Project Evolution

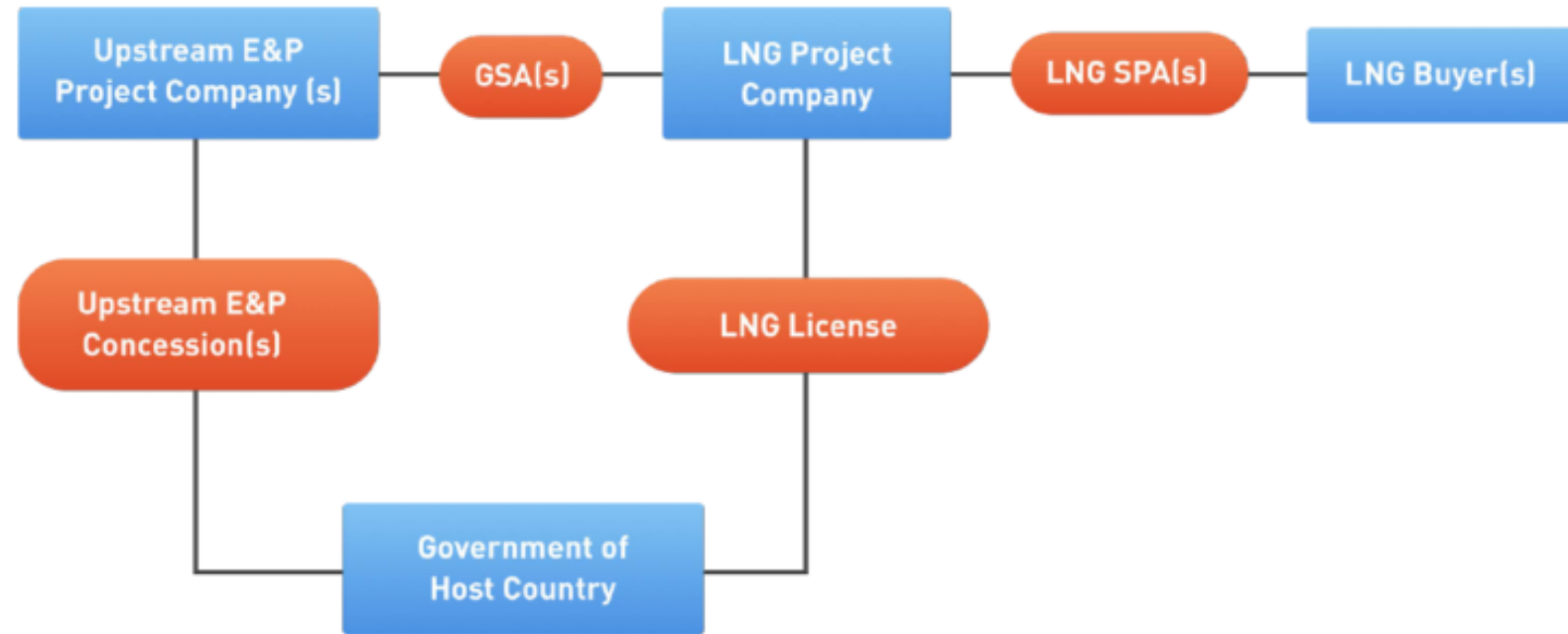
# Project Commercial Structure Choices (integrated model)

- Equity participation from wellhead to vessel loading
- Creates strong alignment between parties
- Transfer pricing largely driven by fiscal arrangements
- Examples in Qatar, Sakhalin, Northwest Shelf, Darwin and Tangguh
- Model followed by AK LNG in 2014/15 timeframe (assuming state exercised TAG and RIK)



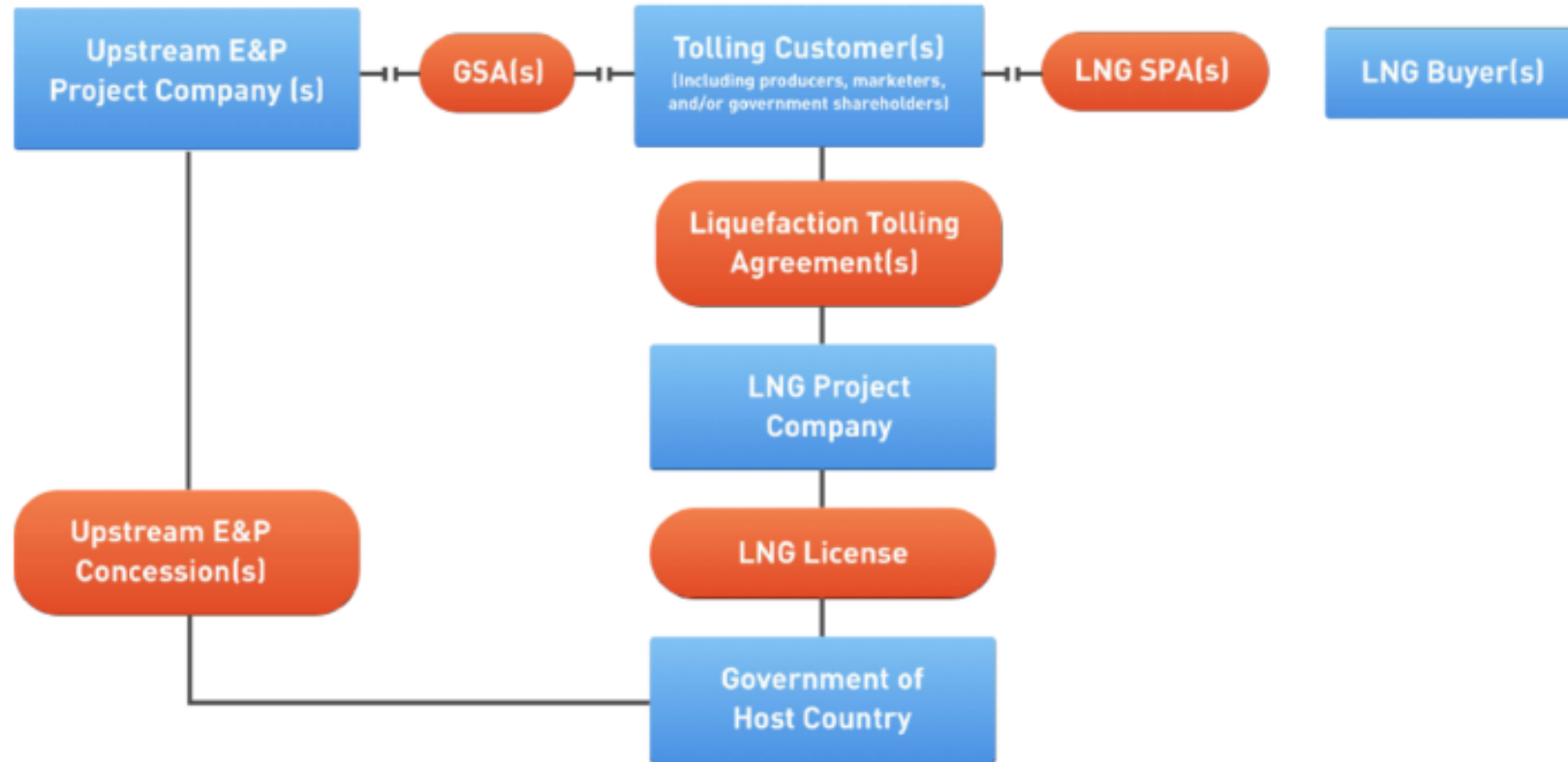
# Project Commercial Structure Choices (merchant model)

- Equity participation can differ along the LNG value chain
- Often used where upstream partners do not all participate in midstream and downstream
- Transfer price into LNG facility typically heavily negotiated
- Examples in Trinidad (1-3), Angola, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea and Malaysia
- Potential use for AK LNG



# Project Commercial Structure Choices (tolling model)

- Fee for service model
- LNG plant returns can be isolated from commodity price fluctuations
- Akin to a toll road, airport, or other infrastructure based on long term revenue from service contracts
- Examples include many of the US Gulf Coast projects, Trinidad 4, Damietta and Bontang.
- Potential use for AK LNG



# Contracting model evolution

- The LNG trading profit center has become significant for many players
- Using an LNG marketing affiliate to purchase offtake (fob) moves economic rent to LNG marketing, but provides credit for financing
- Equity marketing has become a popular model where large LNG buyers or portfolio players are also project investors.

## Pre-2000 model (destination clauses)

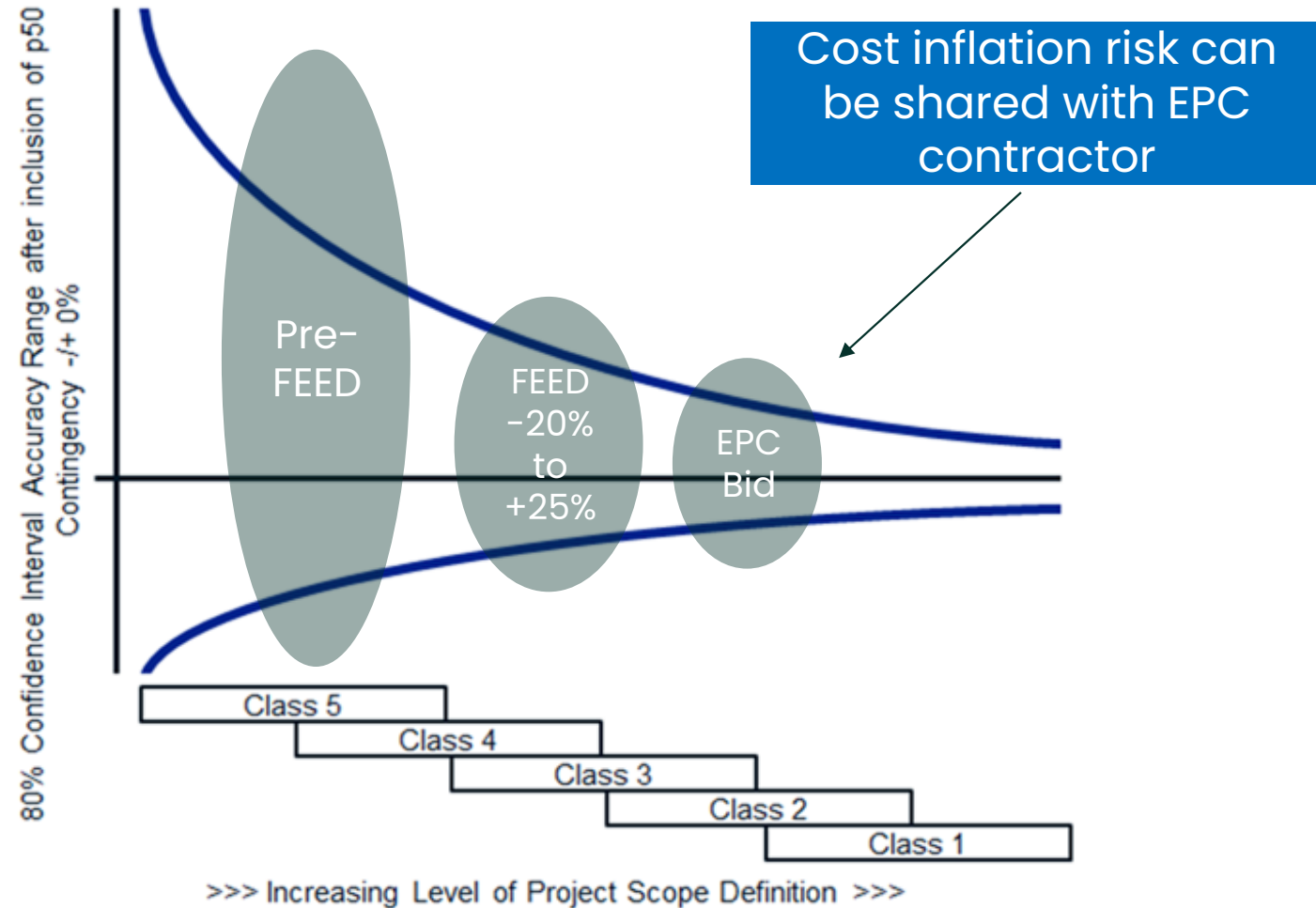


## Portfolio based model (equity marketing no destination restrictions)



# Evolution of Cost Estimates

- Cost estimates for AK LNG are currently in the Class 5 range
- FEED would bring cost uncertainty into a range of -20% to +25%
- Following bid negotiations with EPC contractors cost uncertainty will improve
- Given scale of project, limited scope for cost guarantees from EPC contractor.



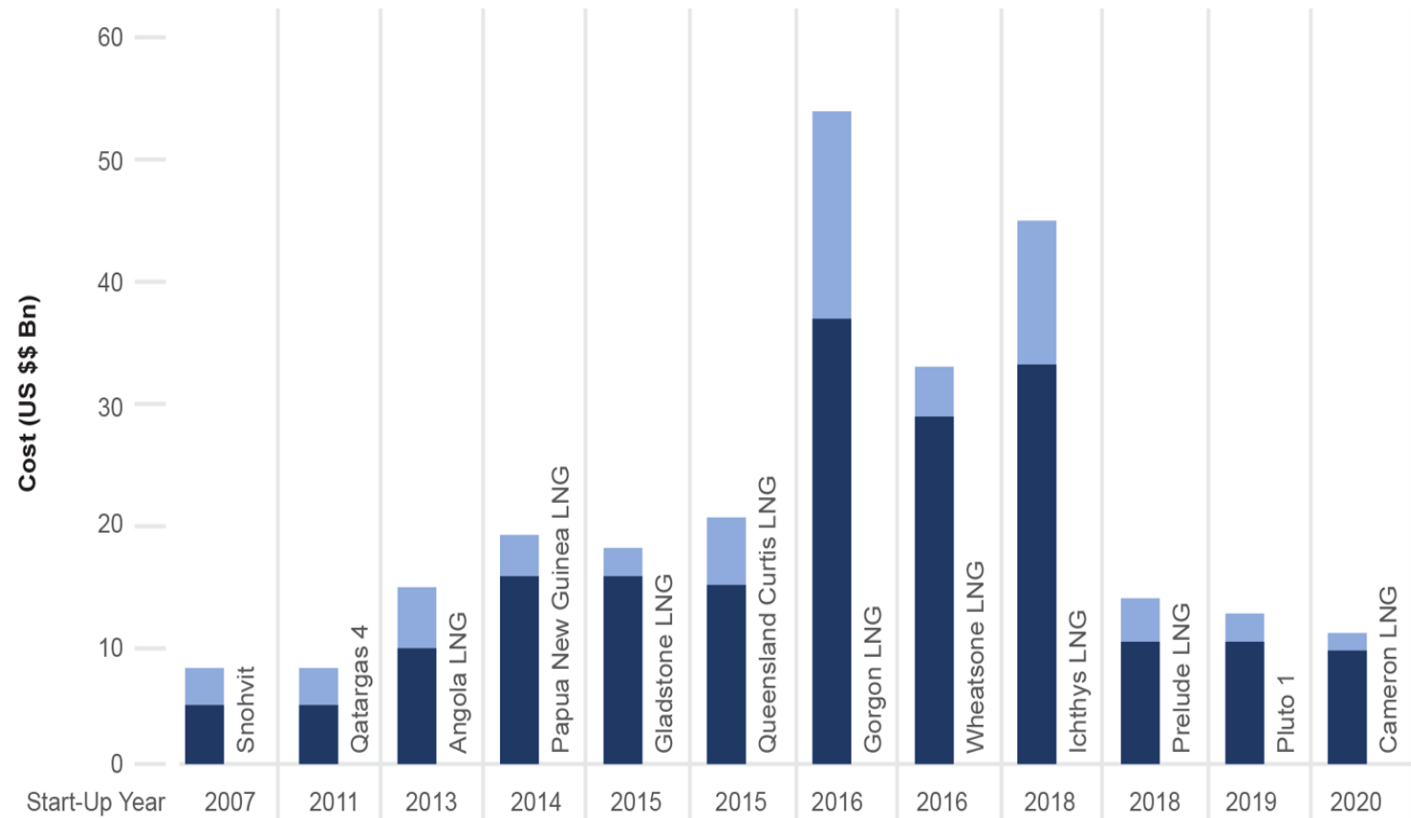


# Comparison of cost performance

(select LNG mega projects that achieved between 2007 and 2020)

- In general, costs have been higher than budgeted
- Actual capacity is higher than performance guarantee
- De-bottlenecking can add another 10-15%

\*USGC – US Gulf Coast  
Sources:  
SPE-180134-MS  
Various



■ Sum of Cost at Sanction (US \$ Bn)      ■ Sum of Estimated Overrun (US \$ Bn)

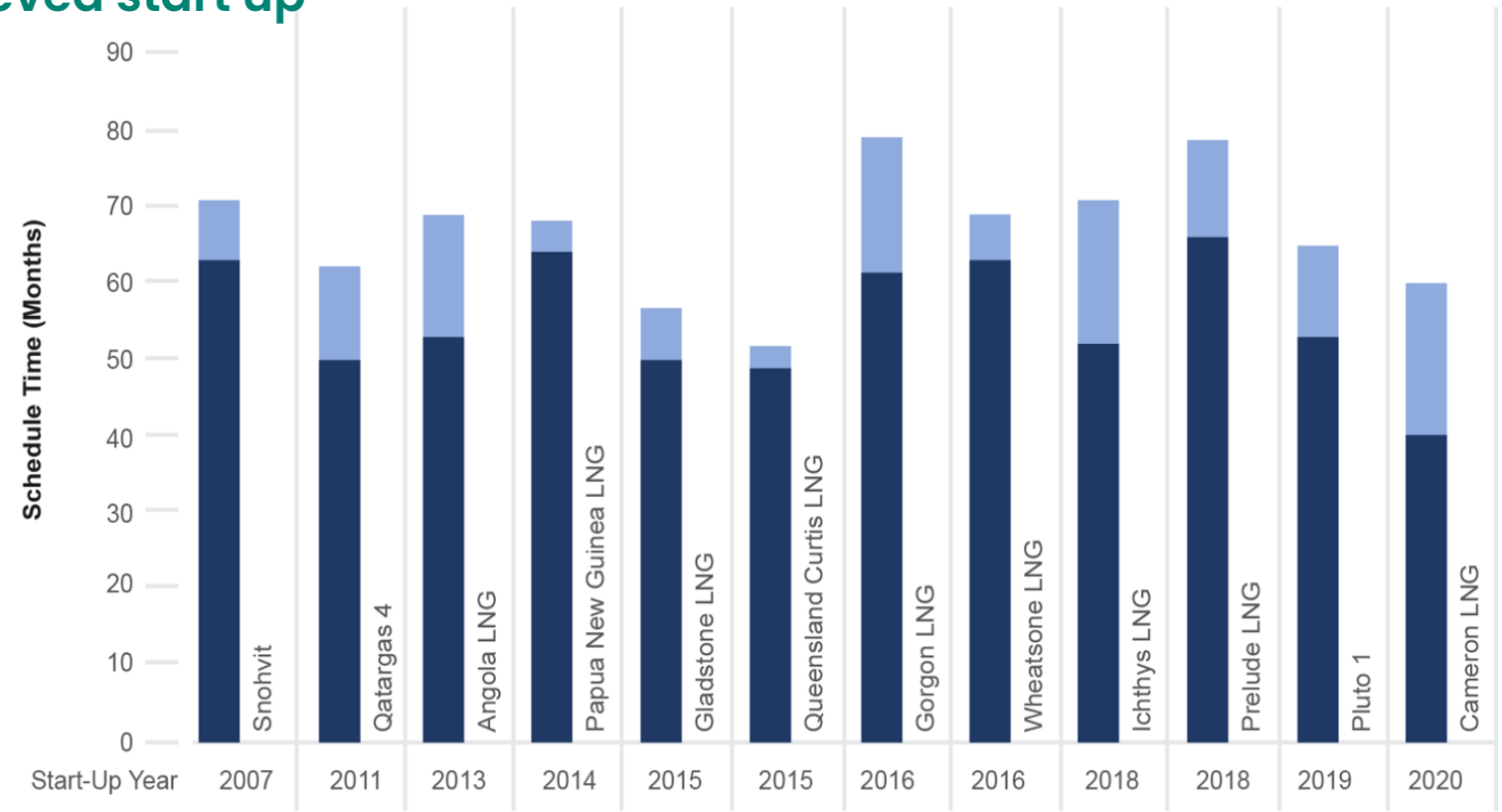
#Trains	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
Total Mtpa – Planned	4.2	7.8	4.3	5.2	6.9	7.8	8.5	15.6	8.6	3.6	8.9	12.0
Total Mtpa –Actual	4.2	7.8	4.9	5.2	8.3	7.8	8.5	15.6	8.9	3.6	8.9	13.5

# Comparison of schedule (FID to Start Up)

(select LNG mega projects that achieved start up between 2007 and 2020)

\*USGC – US Gulf Coast  
Sources:  
SPE-180134-MS  
Various

- Construction schedule has typically slipped
- Delayed startup and cashflow have a disproportionate impact on NPV
- Use of prefabricated modules appears to have mitigated this risk
- Some Gulf Coast projects have achieved accelerated construction times



	2007	2011	2013	2014	2015	2015	2016	2016	2018	2018	2019	2020
#Trains	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
Total Mtpa – Planned	4.2	7.8	4.3	5.2	6.9	7.8	8.5	15.6	8.6	3.6	8.9	12.0
Total Mtpa –Actual	4.2	7.8	4.9	5.2	8.3	7.8	8.5	15.6	8.9	3.6	8.9	13.5

# LNG Economics

# Sources of Economic Return

1

## **Upstream Gas production**

- Smallest element of LNG value chain
- A facilitator for LNG
- Important for host country
  
- **Alaska:** 25% Royalty and Tax on upstream circa. \$250m annually

2

## **Investment in Infrastructure**

- Very large capital investment drives large cashflow
- Returns at risk
- Longer term cashflows are attractive.
  
- **Alaska:** 25% participation in project circa. \$2-\$3 bn free cashflow, once plant fully amortized. Upside potential.

3

## **LNG Trading**

- LNG trading profits are very material
- **ExxonMobil:** "By 2030, we anticipate the cash flow out of the LNG business will be around about \$8 billion per year."
- **ConocoPhillips** is looking to sign more LNG offtake deals and to secure additional regasification capacities, as it continues to expand its LNG portfolio.
  
- **Alaska:** Participation in global LNG trades not available.

# Delivered Cost Scenarios (note: for illustrative purposes only)

USCG  
Vulnerable to  
Henry Hub

	WM		WM+30%	
	Gulf Coast	Alaska	Gulf Coast	Alaska
Feedstock	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.15	\$ 4.30	\$ 1.50
Fuel charge	\$ 0.45		\$ 0.65	
Processing tariff		\$ 1.16		\$ 1.62
Pipeline tariff		\$ 1.40		\$ 1.82
Liquefaction*	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.91
Freight cost	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.76	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.76
<b>Total delivered</b>	<b>\$ 7.85</b>	<b>\$ 6.71</b>	<b>\$ 9.35</b>	<b>\$ 8.61</b>

Alaska  
Vulnerable to  
Capital  
inflation

- Alaska LNG has very high pre-productive capital needs
  - In addition to liquefaction circa. \$22bn of additional investment
    - GTP
    - Pipeline

- However, project has potential benefit of low cost feedstock and low freight charges

- If forecast Henry Hub increases materialise, and capital cost controls are achieved Alaska could become very competitive

Sources: WM 2022 report, ICIS and GaffneyCline analysis

# Delivered Cost Scenarios (note: for illustrative purposes only)

	WM		WM+30%	
	Gulf Coast	Alaska	Gulf Coast	Alaska
Feedstock	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.15	\$ 4.30	\$ 1.50
Fuel charge	\$ 0.45		\$ 0.65	
Processing tariff		\$ 1.16		\$ 1.62
Pipeline tariff		\$ 1.40		\$ 1.82
Liquefaction*	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.24	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.91
Freight cost	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.76	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.76
<b>Total delivered</b>	<b>\$ 7.85</b>	<b>\$ 6.71</b>	<b>\$ 9.35</b>	<b>\$ 8.61</b>

Synergies and tax revenue from Oil Economics

Tax credit from 45Q

Federal Loan Guarantee

# Value Enhancement from Low Carbon LNG Options

**Lower carbon intensity** natural gas production

- Control of fugitive emissions

Use of **lower emissions technology** for liquefaction and marine transportation

Potential for CO<sub>2</sub> Imports and Sequestration

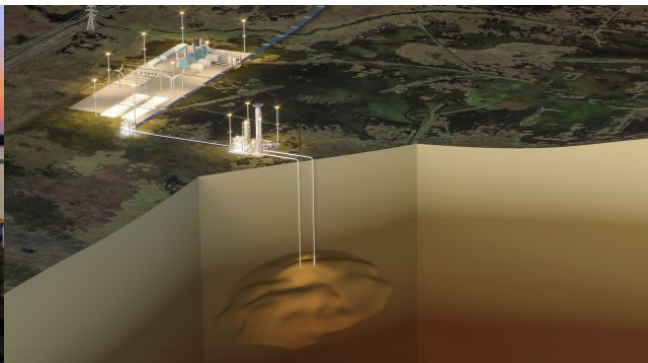
Incorporation of **carbon capture and sequestration (CCS)**

- Gas pre-treatment
- Post-combustion

Use of Alaskan credits to offset LNG

**Nature-based solutions** and voluntary carbon market

- Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)



# Enabling Legislation



# Features of Enabling Legislation

1

## ***Fiscal Stability Clause***

- LNG requires upfront major capital investment
- Subsequent tax changes are a major risk for investors
- Long term nature of fiscal stability guarantees can be complex
- Constitutional implications

2

## ***Scale usually requires tailor-made legislation***

- Can include upstream fiscal changes.
- Features can include:
  - Special income tax provisions
  - Mechanisms to provide “minimum return” for investors
  - Accelerated depreciation
  - Tax holidays

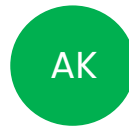
3

## ***Host country provisions***






- May include sliding scale of upside/downside risk sharing.
- Can involve a “carry” for host government, supported by major investors
- Sometimes features in government to government trade deals or treaties.

# Selected Case Studies

# Project Case Studies



Denotes low risk for Alaska

Project	Risk	Outcome	Comment
<b><i>Eastern Australia</i></b>	Reserves inadequacy	Gas feedstock challenge from coal seam gas (early in project)	Created upward cost pressures for AU economy 
<b><i>Ichthys (Aus) and Angola LNG</i></b>	Hostile environment	Technical cost and potential suspension	Design spec and choice of contractor 
<b><i>Mozambique LNG</i></b>	Host nation security	Force Majeure declared, construction halted.	Rovuma LNG has pursued floating LNG concept 
<b><i>Algeria US Exports</i></b>	Regulatory change	Take or Pay contracts dissolved	Focus on credit and default 
<b><i>Trinidad</i></b>	Reserves	Insufficient feedstock to extend LNG exports at capacity	Regional sources of gas being examined 
<b><i>Egypt</i></b>	Priority given to domestic supply over LNG	LNG exports suspended and curtailed	Need for clearly defined domestic supply rules 