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‘Everyone with an LNG portfolio is looking for new outlets:’ Snam

For Italy’s natural gas grid operator, Snam, bringing LNG supply even closer to the country’s points of consumption, as well as reducing its overdependence on imported volumes for the mobility sector, are top goals in its small-scale LNG strategy, Elio Ruggeri, the company’s senior vice president, global LNG, tells LNG Business Review in this exclusive interview.

Part of Snam’s small-scale strategy is the development of two micro-liquefaction plants – one in the north-east and another in the south of Italy, with a capacity of 50,000 tpa each. The authorisation process for the two plants is due to start soon, with their start-up scheduled for 2022, according to Ruggeri.

Also, Snam is planning to upgrade the Panigaglia regas terminal in Liguria, north-west Italy, which is owned and operated by Snam subsidiary GLN Italia. The aim for this is to enable the loading of LNG onto trucks to supply the transport, residential and industrial segments, as well as onto barges for bunkering operations. Currently, Italy’s three regas terminals – with Panigaglia being the only onshore one – do not offer LNG bunkering, reloading or truck loading services. In total, Snam’s planned small-scale LNG projects will have a capacity of 250,000 tpa.

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