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Jamaica LNG: Game changer for Caribbean energy

After fifteen years of false starts and setbacks, this month Jamaica finally commissioned into service its first gas-fired power station, thus realising its longstanding goal of becoming a natural gas consumer. The Caribbean island nation of 2.7 million inhabitants will import its gas as LNG. But with short-term domestic demand growth expected at a modest 0.2 mtpa to 1 mtpa, the US company that put Jamaica's LNG concept together – with a 145 Mcm floating storage unit (FSU) at its heart – has not shied away from saying it has regional ambitions. But why did it take Jamaica so long to finally import LNG? And is Jamaica's foray into the LNG market the beginning of a new era for Caribbean energy? LNG Business Review investigates.

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