



Rio Grande LNG Facility

The Rio Grande LNG facility is a 24/7 operation that receives pipeline gas and cools it down to -260 degrees Fahrenheit to convert it into liquid. The cooling process is accomplished using stages of cooling with refrigerants and the use of special valves called JT (Joules Thompson) valves that cause a reduction in temperature as the pressure is reduced across the valve. The facility utilizes complicated digital control systems for centralized operations to maintain safe efficient 24/7 operations.



Operations

The production operations team provides 24/7 operation and monitoring of the facility working a rotating 12-hour schedule. Some of the key roles and responsibilities include:

- **Field Operator (multiple levels)** – monitors various equipment and systems in the plant, supports the control room operators in preparing equipment for start-up and shut-down. Completes system walkdowns, operates manual valves and performs minor maintenance. Lower levels of this position are the starting point for those without LNG plant experience.
- **Field Supervisor** – provides direction and guidance to the field operators. Has extensive related field operator experience.
- **Control Room Operator** – monitors various equipment and systems from a central control room. Adjusts processes and production, starts and stops equipment as needed in coordination with the field operator. Extensive training and related experience are required for this role.
- **Control Room Supervisors** – provides direction and guidance to the control room operators. Has extensive LNG control room experience.

A typical career path begins with related technical, or university training followed by an entry level field operator position. After becoming competent as a field operator, the next step of progression can be either to the field supervisor role or a control room operator.

For those with experience in plant operations at other facilities the starting role may be a higher-level field operator position or entry level control room operator based on amount of related experience.