

## Shell idles Russian ships to avoid sanctions

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Shell has decided to idle two liquefied natural gas (LNG) vessels, The **SCF Barents** (IMO 9864746) and **SCF Timmerman** (IMO 9870525) that it had chartered from a Russian company, despite not (yet) being so legally obliged.

Shell decided in March to take the ships out of service and to bear the economic cost, reported Bloomberg, citing unnamed individuals with knowledge of the matter. The ships are primarily used to ferry LNG within Asia and are not directly under sanctions, but the company decided to idle them as a precaution.

The vessels have been anchored off the coast of Singapore for several weeks, according to ship-tracking data. The ships are owned by Sovcomflot but were under long-term charter to Shell. "We can confirm that the two mentioned SCF LNG ships are now idling," said Shell.

The EU has started to strengthen its sanctions against Russian vessels, with EC president Ursula von der Leyen stating last week that the EU was proposing to ban most Russian ships and trucks from entering the bloc.

2020-built, Liberia-flagged, 116,779 gt SCF Barents is owned by Heliconia Maritime SA care of manager ShellTankers Singapore Pte Ltd of Singapore. ISM manager is SCF Management Services of St Petersburg, Russia. It is entered with UK Club on behalf of Heliconia Maritima SA. As of April 11th, it was at Nipa Anchorage, Indonesia, off Singapore.

2021-built, Liberia-flagged, 116,779 gt SCF Timmerman is owned by Headliner Maritime SA and has a similar management and P&I insurance structure. As of April 11th, it was also at Nipa Anchorage.