

GOLAR LNG LTD  
Form 6-K  
March 02, 2009

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 6-K**

**REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER**  
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

**For the month of March 2009**

**Golar LNG Limited**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**Par-la-Ville Place,  
14 Par-la-Ville Road,  
Hamilton,  
HM 08,  
Bermuda**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):82-\_\_\_\_\_

**Item 1. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 6-K REPORT**

Attached as Exhibit 99.1 is a copy of the press release of Golar LNG Limited dated March 2, 2009.

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**Exhibit 99.1**

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**PRELIMINARY FOURTH QUARTER AND FINANCIAL YEAR 2008 RESULTS**

**Highlights**

**Golar reports operating income of \$13.9 million and a net loss of \$57.7 million, which includes Other Financial Items loss of \$57 million largely relating to non cash interest rate swap valuation losses and foreign currency exchange retranslation losses  
Spot traded vessel earnings performance improved over the quarter although spot market softening moving into the first quarter 2009  
The FSRU Golar Spirit entered regasification service after smooth commissioning period  
Floating LNG cooperation with PTTEP now focusing on identified opportunities  
Golar signs Heads of Agreement with LNG Limited covering project participation in (40%) and sole LNG off-take from the Gladstone LNG project  
Continued strong market inquiry for FSRUs  
Golar suspends dividend payment to strengthen balance sheet in advance of near term project opportunities**

**Financial Review**

**Results**

Golar LNG Limited ( Golar or the Company ) reports a net loss of \$57.7 million and operating income of \$13.9 million for the three months ended December 31, 2008 (the fourth quarter ). Net income has been negatively impacted by other financial items loss of \$57 million largely relating to non-cash interest rate swap valuation losses and foreign currency exchange retranslation losses.

Revenues in the fourth quarter were \$59.5 million increased from \$58.1 million for the third quarter of 2008 (the third quarter ). Headline spot charter rates retained the improvement from the third quarter for the early part of the fourth quarter but began to fall toward the end of the fourth quarter. Average utilisation increased from 83% in the third quarter to 84% in the fourth quarter. Fourth quarter average daily time charter equivalent rates ( TCEs ) improved to \$46,407 per day compared to \$43,443 per day during the third quarter.

The Golar Spirit was employed throughout the fourth quarter on charter to Petrobras, whilst the Golar Winter entered the shipyard for FSRU conversion at the end of the third quarter and will remain in the yard until the second quarter of 2009. The newly chartered in vessel Ebisu went on hire soon after delivery at the end of the third quarter and will remain on hire through the first quarter of 2009.

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There were no dry dockings performed during the fourth quarter. The Hilli and the Gandria have not been employed throughout the fourth quarter and are not expected to have earnings throughout 2009. Measures remain in place to minimise operating costs on these vessels until chartering or project opportunities arise.

Voyage expenses, which largely relate to fuel costs associated with commercial waiting time and vessel positioning, decreased marginally from \$11.0 million in the third quarter to \$10.2 million for the fourth quarter, aided by the decline in fuel costs and slightly improved utilisation. Vessel operating expenses were higher at \$16.0 million for the fourth quarter as compared to \$14.6 million for the third quarter whilst administrative expenses were lower at \$4.1 million as compared to \$4.7 million last quarter.

Net interest expense for the fourth quarter was \$11.9 million, up slightly from \$11.4 million for the third quarter.

Other financial items were a loss of \$57.0 million in the fourth quarter compared to a loss of \$23.1 million for the third quarter. Long-term interest rates fell dramatically during the fourth quarter, although have recovered to some extent since December 31, 2008, and the US dollar has also strengthened significantly during the fourth quarter. Both these events, if sustained, are beneficial to the Company in the long-term but create non-cash accounting losses in the short-term.

The largest contribution to this loss relates to non-cash interest rate swap valuation losses which gave rise to a loss to the income statement of \$23.4 million during the fourth quarter. In addition to the \$23.4 million charge a realised loss of \$9.0 million has been incurred as a result of refinancing a loan during the quarter that had a fixed rate of interest. However, the Company immediately entered into an interest rate swap for a similar amount of the new debt at an interest rate approximately 1.1% lower than the rate on the fixed rate debt. As of October 1, 2008 the Company commenced hedge accounting for some of its interest rate swaps and as a result a further \$26.0 million loss, which would have been taken to the income statement, has been accounted for through other comprehensive income (reserves).

Foreign currency exchange losses, amounting to \$12.8 million, relate to the retranslation of net lease obligations denominated in British Pounds, valuation losses in respect of foreign currency forward contracts associated with FSRU capital commitments and other foreign currency retranslation losses primarily relating to foreign currency deposits acquired under forward contracts to settle foreign currency capital commitments.

The balance of other financial items charge relates to equity swap valuation losses, investment impairment and the write off of various financing related expenses.

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2008 Golar reports a net loss of \$10 million, operating income of \$132 million and operating revenues of \$229 million as compared to, net income of \$136 million, operating income of \$121 million and operating revenues of \$225 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. The decrease in net income is largely accounted for by a \$36 million decrease in the level of gains on sale of assets and investments in 2008 and an increase in other financial items loss in 2008 of \$74 million.

## Financing, corporate and other matters

The value of cash has significantly increased over recent months and the Board believes that market sentiment has shifted somewhat from giving full appreciation to dividend flow to focus on the strength of Company balance sheets. The Board also believes that the development of FSRU and FLNG project opportunities will lead to attractive near term investment opportunities for the Company. Taking this into account and the current squeeze in credit markets the Board has decided to suspend the dividend payment for at least the next 2 quarters or until financial market conditions normalise.

As previously reported the Company drew-down on a new \$285 million revolving credit facility during the fourth quarter. The facility refinanced the existing debt in respect of the Methane Princess and the Golar Spirit and provided additional financing of approximately \$80 million. Golar's ability to complete this financing during the current turmoil in the debt markets demonstrates the continued good standing the Company has with its banks.

The Company's remaining un-financed capital commitments in respect of its FSRU conversion projects amount to approximately \$80 million in respect of the Golar Freeze project. The current level of debt associated with the Golar Freeze is approximately \$30 million and its charter as an FSRU will generate total revenues over 10 years of around \$450 million. The Company has had positive discussions and responses from a number of banks in connection with the refinancing of the Golar Freeze and the Board therefore remains confident that the Company will be able to refinance the Golar Freeze and improve the company's liquidity position even in today's difficult market conditions. In the unlikely event that a refinancing is not achievable in the current credit market the Board believes that alternative sources of short-term financing will be available in order to meet capital commitments in respect of the Golar Freeze.

Currently approximately 67% of the Company's debt and net capital lease obligations are effectively swapped to a fixed rate. The Company's current total debt and net capital lease obligations are approximately \$1 billion. The total current cost of this debt based on the Company's swap rates, 3 month Libor and average margin is approximately 4.5%.

## Operational Review

### Shipping

Trading performance of the Company's vessels operating in the spot/short term market was slightly improved over the quarter. Rates held up for the early part of the quarter however began to soften toward year end. Further deterioration has occurred into the first quarter of 2009 although activity is just now beginning to again increase.

Granatina, now renamed Golar Arctic, was redelivered from a 12 month charter with Shell in January and the vessel's technical management has been transferred to Golar. The Golar Arctic will continue to maintain the Company's presence in the spot/short term market in the period following the delivery of Golar Frost in June 2009 to OLT-O for the Livorno FSRU project. Golar Frost was redelivered from its 4 month charter to Morgan Stanley in November 2008 and will continue to be available for short term charters until redelivery to OLT-O in June 2009.





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Nothing contained in this press release shall constitute an offer of any securities for sale.

February 26, 2008  
The Board of Directors  
Golar LNG Limited  
Hamilton, Bermuda

Questions should be directed to:

Golar Management (UK) Ltd - +44 207 517 8600:

Gary Smith: Chief Executive Officer  
Graham Robjohns: Chief Financial Officer







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<b>Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash</b>	<b>(32,791)</b>	<b>58,443</b>	<b>(129,625)</b>	<b>129,123</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period</b>	<b>88,905</b>	<b>127,296</b>	<b>185,739</b>	<b>56,616</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>56,114</b>	<b>185,739</b>	<b>56,114</b>	<b>185,739</b>

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### Notes

1. The financial information included in this interim report has been derived from information prepared by the Company in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
2. The number of shares outstanding as of December 31, 2008 was 67,226,866 (September 30, 2008: 67,226,866). The weighted average number of shares outstanding (net of 350,000 treasury shares) for the fourth quarter and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2008 were 67,226,866 and 67,214,126 respectively, and was 65,282,637 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007.
3. The comparative financial information for 2007 reflects adjustments from the Company's previously reported results for year ended 31 December 2007 which relate to the Company's equity in net earnings of Korea Line Corporation, Liquefied Natural Gas Limited and OLT Offshore Toscana S.p.A. The adjustments decrease reported net income for the year ended 31 December 2007 by \$0.6m.
4. The financial information for the year ended December 31, 2007 has been extracted from the Company's audited financial statements.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Golar LNG Limited

(Registrant)

Date: March 2, 2009

By: /s/ Graham Robjohns

Graham Robjohns  
Chief Financial Officer

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