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Table des matières

Actualités énergétiques régionales

Afrique du Nord – Moyen Orient

China, Asia, and the changing strategic importance of the Gulf and MENA region

Date: 15/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Oil, Supply

China's growing dependence on petroleum imports is making it steadily more vulnerable to any interruption or limits to the flow of petroleum exports out of the Gulf and through the Indian Ocean and Strait of Malacca. America's strategic partnerships in the MENA area – particularly in the Gulf – and the vulnerability of maritime traffic through the Indian Ocean and Strait of Malacca, give the US a key source of strategic leverage that can compensate in part for the geographic advantages China has near Taiwan and the South China Sea as well as provide a key source of stability and security for its partners.

Source(s): Center for Strategic and International Studies

Acheminement de pétrole iranien au Liban : Washington dénonce une opération de « communication » du Hezbollah

Date: 08/10/2021

Lebanon, Middle-East, Emerging markets, Oil, Supply

Les États-Unis ont dénoncé l'opération de communication du mouvement chiite libanais Hezbollah qui a acheminé à Beyrouth du pétrole iranien, sous sanctions internationales, alors que le Liban est en plein effondrement économique et confronté à de nombreuses pénuries.

Source(s): Connaissance des Energies

Arctique

Climat : l'Union européenne plaide pour laisser le gaz, le pétrole et le charbon sous terre dans l'Arctique

Date: 13/10/2021

European Union, Russia, Canada, United States, CIS, America, America, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Oil, Natural Gas, Reserves

L'Union européenne veut négocier un moratoire international pour interdire l'exploitation des gisements de gaz, de pétrole et de charbon dans l'Arctique et pourrait interdire l'achat des hydrocarbures extraits de cette région. Or la Russie a fait de l'exploitation des richesses arctiques - pétrole, gaz et minerais - une priorité stratégique. Leur rentabilité va dépendre en partie de la route maritime du nord, ou passage du Nord-Est. Cette voie arctique, moitié moins longue que celle du Canal de Suez, doit simplifier la livraison d'hydrocarbures à l'Asie du Sud-Est en reliant les océans Atlantique, Pacifique et Arctique.

Source(s): Connaissance des Energies

Méditerranée Orientale

Israël envisage de construire un nouveau gazoduc vers l'Egypte

Date: 21/10/2021

Egypt, Israel, Africa, Middle-East, Natural Gas, Projects, Interconnection (gas), Gas pipeline

Israël envisage de construire un nouveau gazoduc terrestre pour accroitre ses exportations de gaz naturel vers l'Egypte. Le gazoduc, d'un coût estimé à 200 M$ (172 M€), parcourrait le nord de la péninsule du Sinaï et pourrait être opérationnel d'ici deux ans. Israël, qui exploite deux gisements sous-marins, vend environ 5 Gm^3 de gaz naturel par an à l'Egypte depuis janvier 2020. Ce total pourrait être doublé grâce au nouveau gazoduc.

Source(s): Reuters

Egypt and Greece sign MoU on the EuroAfrica power interconnector

Date: 18/10/2021

Europe, Greece, Africa, Egypt, Electricity, Projects, Power grids, Interconnection (power)

The Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy and the Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build a 1 GW subsea high-voltage direct current (HVDC) line between Egypt, Cyprus and Greece (Crete and Attica). The phase 1 of the project is expected to cost €2.5bn. The interconnection between Egypt and Cyprus should be commissioned in December 2022, while Cyprus-Crete link could be operational in December 2023. The project developer received binding offers from two cable suppliers for the interconnection in September 2020. In March 2021, Greece, Cyprus and Israel signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build the EuroAsia Interconnector, a 1,000-2,000 MW subsea HVDC line between the three countries. The US$900m (€760m) project, with a length of about 1,500 km and a maximum depth of 2,700 metres, should be completed by 2024.

Source(s): Egyptian government, Reuters

Europe

Can Russia Really Solve Europe's Gas Woes on Its Own?

Date: 22/10/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Supply

Russia—which provides Europe with about 35% of all its gas, making it the biggest supplier—remains the only provider that could potentially influence the situation on the European gas market. However, Gazprom's current output is already close to full capacity, and on balance, it's unlikely that the company can plug the deficit in Europe single-handedly. Since independent producers can't increase production that quickly either, European gas prices will remain high this winter.

Source(s): Carnegie Moscow Center

China's influence in southeastern, central, and eastern Europe: Vulnerabilities and resilience in four countries

Date: 13/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Policy

China's presence has brought socioeconomic opportunities to Georgia, Greece, Hungary, and Romania. China's sprawling Belt and Road Initiative promised commercial and investment opportunities in areas like infrastructure, transport, and energy. Yet it has exacerbated governance shortfalls, undermined elements of political and economic stability, and complicated the European Union's ability to reach consensus on key issues.

Source(s): Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

'Unacceptable': China blasts US politicization of Russian gas deliveries to EU

Date: 11/10/2021

Russia, United States, China, CIS, America, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Policy

Beijing opposes Washington's politicization of gas supplies from Russia to the European Union. According to China, the American authorities are pushing a deliberate policy of exerting pressure on Russian energy projects in Europe.

Source(s): TASS

Kosovo shelves US-backed gas pipeline project

Date: 05/10/2021

Europe, Natural Gas, Projects, Gas pipeline

Kosovo has cancelled the development of a gas pipeline project. Gas was supposed to come from Greece and North Macedonia via the Trans-Adriatic Pipeline. The US had earmarked a US$200m grant through its Millennium Challenge Corp. (MCC) and its branch Millennium Foundation Kosovo (MFK).

Source(s): Balkan Green Energy News

Asie

Can Russia and Mongolia replace Australia's coal supply to China?

Date: 20/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Coal, Coal/Lignite, Supply

China is currently seeking imports of coal from Indonesia, Russia, and Mongolia after a trade spat with Australia. Russia, a major energy exporter, is already playing an integral part for both Mongolia's and China's energy sectors. Given Mongolia's abundance of coal and China's heavy manufacturing industry, Mongolian coal is more than a band-aid solution for China's domestic energy shortage. As the global coal price continues to hike, steep transportation costs and tariffs are a major dealbreaker for the Chinese, further incentivizing sourcing coal closer to home.

Source(s): The Diplomat

What does China’s energy crisis mean for Russia?

Date: 14/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Asia, China, Natural Gas, Coal/Lignite, Coal, Supply, Trade

China is currently facing an energy crisis, due to surging energy commodity prices (such as coal) on global markets in a context of post-coronavirus recovery, reduced coal production capacities, mandatory energy consumption limitations issued by some provinces to comply with environmental recommendations, and rising electricity demand in industry. Electricity shortages have forced several provinces to effectively introduce power rationing and the Chinese authorities asked the Russian power generator Inter RAO to increase supplies to China in late September 2021. Russia is also a major supplier of coal, gas and LNG to China. The current energy crisis shows how paradoxical the transition to green energy in China will be. On the one hand, the country needs to guarantee the country’s energy security, and therefore buy more coal. On the other hand, it needs to reduce its dependency on coal-fired energy and move over to gas-powered electricity plants. Both imperatives create new opportunities for Russian exporters of energy commodities.

Source(s): Carnegie Moscow Center

China’s influence in South Asia: Vulnerabilities and resilience in four countries

Date: 13/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Policy

Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka showcase the diversity of China’s engagement strategies in a very multidimensional region but also make clear that influencers across South Asia are learning from each other’s experiences with Chinese money and power.

Source(s): Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Vietnam to Indonesia: the Asian countries hit hardest by China’s clampdown on new coal-fired power plants overseas

Date: 09/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Coal-fired power gen., Thermal, Electricity, Policy, Power plants

China will no longer build coal-fired power plants overseas, leaving projects across Asia at risk of cancellation. Countries that have included significant new coal capacity in their near-term national power supply plans are likely to be hit hardest. Among these countries are Vietnam, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

Source(s): South Morning China Post

Gazprom says China gas exports continue despite fire at Amur plant

Date: 08/10/2021

Russia, China, CIS, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects

Russian pipeline gas exports to China continued despite a fire that led to a halt in operations at the Amur gas processing plant in Russia's Far East. The gas plant plays an important role in Russian gas exports to China, which has been hit by electricity shortages and power rationing.

Source(s): Reuters

China turns to stranded Australian coal to combat power crunch -trade

Date: 06/10/2021

Australia, China, Asia, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Supply

China would be releasing Australian coal from bonded storage, uncleared by customs after a nearly year-long unofficial import ban on the fuel, as it scrambles to ease a national power crunch stemming from a coal shortage.

Source(s): Reuters

Deliveries from Russia softened problem with electricity shortage — China State Grid

Date: 06/10/2021

Russia, China, CIS, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Electricity, Supply

An increase in electricity supplies from Russia to China over the Amurskaya-Heihe power transmission line made it possible to soften the situation with power shortage in China. The 750 MW interstate overhead power transmission line was built to increase the electricity export to China. It was commissioned in 2012.

Source(s): TASS

Afrique

La coopération Chine-Afrique dans les secteurs de l'énergie et de l'industrie est la clé de la reprise après la pandémie

Date: 26/10/2021

China, Africa, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets

Le forum hybride organisé par le groupe de réflexion panafricain basé à Nairobi, l'Africa Policy Institute et l'Institut de recherche économique et technologique de la China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC-ETRI), a réuni des décideurs politiques de haut niveau, des cadres de l'industrie et des universitaires de Chine et d'Afrique. Ils estiment que la coopération sino-africaine dans les secteurs de l'industrie manufacturière et de l'énergie est essentielle. La Chine encouragera ses entreprises à mener une coopération plus étroite avec leurs partenaires africains dans le domaine des énergies propres telles que l'énergie photovoltaïque, l'énergie éolienne, le nucléaire, l'hydrogène et la biomasse.

Source(s): Forum sur la Coopération Sino-Africaine

Rwanda appoints members to Atomic Energy board for power plant set up

Date: 23/10/2021

Rwanda, Africa, Nuclear, Electricity, Companies, Projects, Power plants

Rwanda is going ahead with plans to set up a nuclear power plant with Rosatom. An inter-government agreement was signed with Rosatom in 2018 and the contract for the feasibility studies should be signed by the end of 2021.

Source(s): The East African

Un partenariat entre les Etats-Unis et la Namibie, pour des enjeux de développement des énergies propres et de la crise climatique

Date: 05/10/2021

United States, Namibia, America, Africa, G8, Renewables, Electricity, Investments

La Namibie et les Etats-Unis explorent les possibilités de coopération bilatérale pour faire face aux impacts climatiques, renforcer la résilience, intensifier le développement des énergies propres et accroître l'ambition climatique mondiale avant la COP26. Les discussions avec les parties prenantes ont également porté sur l'initiative Mega Solar, un projet qui devrait générer jusqu'à 5 GW d'énergie solaire pour la Namibie et le Botswana.

Source(s): Afrique Economie

Autres

Using Cape Town as a launchpad, Russia boasts of supergiant oil fields in Antarctic wilderness

Date: 25/10/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Oil, Projects

The Russian geological exploration holding company Rosgeo has completed explorations of the geological structure and oil and gas potential of the Antarctic shelf. The company discovered three large sedimentary basins underneath the Southern Ocean, possibly holding 70 Gtoe in hydrocarbon resources. Despite restrictions, and outlawing activities such as prospecting and extraction, the 1998 mining ban may be changed from 2048.

Source(s): Daily Maverick

China signs 3 deals to import 5 Mt/year of LNG from the United States

Date: 21/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, America, United States, Asia, China, Natural Gas, LNG, Trade, Contract, Supply, LNG facilities, LNG liquefaction

The Chinese state-owned oil and gas company Sinopec has signed two 20-year agreements with the US LNG group Venture Global LNG for a combined 4 Mt/year of LNG. One contract is for the supply of 2.8 Mt/year of LNG on a free-on-board (FOB) basis and the other for 1.2 Mt/year of LNG sold on a delivered at place unloaded (DPU) basis. LNG will come from the proposed 20 Mt/year (27 bcm/year) Plaquemines LNG export terminal in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (United States), that Venture Global is developing in two 10 Mt/year stages. A final investment decision on the LNG export terminal project is expected by the end of 2021, with a phased operational startup in mid-2023 and full operations by mid-2024. In addition, Venture Global has signed a third LNG supply agreement with Unipec, the trading arm of Sinopec, to deliver 1 Mt/year of LNG from its proposed 10 Mt/year Calcasieu Pass LNG project in Cameron Parish, Texas (United States), over a 3-year period starting in March 2023. Calcasieu Pass LNG is currently under construction and expected to be commissioned in 2022. In 2018, China became the world's 2nd largest LNG importer in the world behind Japan. LNG imports amounted to 90.5 bcm in 2020 (+12%). Australia is the largest LNG supplier (44%), followed by Qatar (12%) and Malaysia (9%).

Source(s): Venture Global LNG, Reuters

Climate change and international responses increasing challenges to US national security through 2040

Date: 21/10/2021

G8, America, United States

The US Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) has released a National Intelligence Estimate on climate change. The increasing physical effects of climate change are likely to exacerbate cross-border geopolitical flashpoints as states take steps to secure their interests. The reduction in sea ice already is amplifying strategic competition in the Arctic over access to its natural resources. Elsewhere, as temperatures rise and more extreme effects manifest, there is a growing risk of conflict over water and migration, particularly after 2030, and an increasing chance that countries will unilaterally test and deploy large-scale solar geoengineering—creating a new area of disputes.

Source(s): US Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)

Nuclear to support mining expansion in Armenia

Date: 08/10/2021

CIS, Armenia, Electricity, Nuclear, Projects, Power plants

Armenia is preparing to launch a joint development in which a new nuclear power plant will support an expansion of copper mining in a collaboration between the country and the Russian company GeoProMining

Source(s): World Nuclear News

China looks to Kazakh coal amid energy crisis

Date: 08/10/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, CIS, Kazakhstan, Asia, China, Coal/Lignite, Coal, Supply

China has been buying more thermal and coking coal from Kazakhstan since the start of the year, as power cuts have become more frequent and coal supplies dwindle. Yet, trade quantities remain unclear.

Source(s): Eurasianet

Stratégies d'entreprises

Stratégies

MingYang wins turbine order for a 375 MW offshore wind project in Vietnam

Date: 26/10/2021

Emerging markets, Asia, Vietnam, Electricity, Renewables, Wind, Offshore, Projects, Power plants

The Chinese wind turbine manufacturer MingYang Smart Energy has won an order for 75 MySE 5.0-166 turbines from PowerChina for the 375 MW Ca Mau offshore wind project in southern Vietnam. The project will be constructed in two phases, with the first batch of turbines to be delivered in the first quarter of 2022. Wind account for around 1% of Vietnam's installed capacity, with 600 MW (2020). As part of the draft PDP VIII, the government aims to substantially develop wind capacity to over 11-12 GW in 2025 and to over 18-19 GW in 2030 (12% of total capacity in 2025 and 13% in 2030).

Source(s): MingYang Smart Energy

GE released a white paper on how to decarbonise Gulf countries

Date: 22/10/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Renewables, Companies

The US energy equipment group General Electric (GE) has released a white paper highlighting pathways for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (namely: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)) to accelerate their decarbonization efforts. GE expects the installed capacity in the GCC region to increase by 27% between 2020 and 2030 (from 215 GW to 273 GW). Most of the increase should come from renewables, which should account for 22% of the capacity in 2030 (mainly solar), and from gas (from 159 GW, i.e. 74% of the installed capacity, to 170 GW, i.e. 62%). GCC countries account for around 40% of the global CO2 emissions from fuel combustion attributable to electricity and heat production. Each country has different renewable targets: Bahrain aims to reach 5% of renewable power generation by 2025 and 10% by 2035, Kuwait 15% by 2030, Oman 20% in 2030 and 35-39% in 2040, Saudi Arabia 50% by 2030 (the remainder should be generated by gas-fired power plants). Qatar has not set any objective regarding its renewable generation in the future but aims to cut 25% of its GHG emissions by 2030 (compared to 2019). Finally, the UAE is the first country in the Middle-East and North Africa (MENA region) that has announced its intention to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. GE has set a scenario in which Saudi Arabia could become a leader in renewable installations in the GCC region reaching 59 GW of renewables installed in 2030 (from around 400 MW in 2020), followed by the UAE with 30 GW (up from around 2.5 GW in 2020). In addition, GE suggests the use of gas to switch away from liquid fuels, as it would allow to reduce CO2 emissions without compromising the reliability of electricity supplies. GE also considers gas turbine upgrades and converting simple cycle power plants to CCGT to decarbonize the power sector in the short term, as well as introducing CCS technologies and developing the use of hydrogen for power generation.

Source(s): GE, GE White Paper

GE released its position paper on Japan's energy transition

Date: 07/10/2021

G8, Emerging markets, Asia, Japan, Companies, Power plants

GE has released its position paper "Building a low-carbon power society" providing recommendations on how Japan's power needs could be addressed with the combination of renewables and gas-fired power plants on its energy transition path. According to GE, investments in gas-fired power generation would be necessary to secure capacity value and support the introduction of renewables. In addition, GE recommends the use of hydrogen as a fuel for gas turbines and CCUS technologies as a pathway to enabling decarbonisation. Japan recently launched its 6th Strategic Energy Plan with the aim to diversify its energy mix by 2030, with larger shares for renewables, the restart of nuclear power, and hydrogen/ammonia. The national plan also aims to enhance the efficiency of fossil fuel use and to increase energy conservation efforts. In 2020, Japan's power generation reached 1,011 TWh, with its largest share generated from gas (36%), followed by coal (32%), renewables (wind/solar and geothermal, 10%), oil (9%), nuclear (5%) and biomass (5%). In the country's Energy White Paper (2020), Japan aims to raise the share of renewables in the power mix to 22-24% (including hydropower) in 2030, with plans to make renewables Japan's main power source by 2050 (18% in 2020).

Source(s): GE

GNA starts building a 1.7 GW LNG-to-power project in Brazil

Date: 06/10/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, America, Brazil, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Projects, Power plants

Gás Natural Açu (GNA), the joint venture of Prumo Logística, BP, Siemens and SPIC Brasil (the Brazilian unit of China's State Power Investment Corporation), has started building the 1.7 GW GNA II LNG-to-power project in São João da Barra, in northern Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Commissioning is scheduled in 2023. The Açu Gas Hub consists of an LNG import and regasification terminal with a total capacity of 21 mcm/d (7.7 bcm/year) that will supply gas to two CCGT power plants, the 1.3 GW LNG-to-Power project GNA I, which entered commercial operations in September 2021, and the GNA II project. The estimated total planned investment in the GNA gas and power complex is approximately US$5bn. GNA plans to expand the gas-fired power project and to double its generation capacity to up to 6.4 GW. SPIC acquired a 33% stake from Prumo in August 2020 and agreed to participate in future expansion projects GNA III and GNA IV.

Source(s): Agencia Brasil (Portuguese)

Making sense of China's pledge to stop building coal-fired power plants abroad

Date: 04/10/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Coal-fired power gen., Thermal, Electricity, Policy

China's decision to stop funding coal plants abroad could lead to the cancellation of 44 coal-fired power plants worth a combined US$50bn (200 MtCO2/year) but it is unclear whether this ban also includes financing, whether "new" projects include those where financing has closed but construction has not yet begun, and whether China will offer green alternatives to those countries that had committed to a Chinese-built coal-fired power plant. This decision is an important step, but real progress will require phasing out coal at home.

Source(s): Council on Foreign Relations

Russia targets an LNG production of 140 Mt/year in 2035

Date: 01/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Kazakhstan, Russia, Natural Gas, LNG, Nuclear, Electricity, Supply, Production, Projects, Forecasts, Power plants, LNG facilities, LNG regasification

The Russian government targets an LNG production level of 140 Mt/year in 2035, down from a previous target of 160 Mt/year by 2035. The country has a liquefaction capacity of over 28 Mt/year (2020), with 6 trains: 2 in Sakhalin 2 (total capacity 10.8 Mt/year since 2009), 3 in Yamal LNG (total capacity of 16.5 Mt/year), and a smaller one in Cryogaz-Vysotsk (0.66 Mt/year). Fifteen LNG projects are planned for a total capacity of over 95 Mt/year, including the 19.8 Mt/year Arctic LNG 2, which consists of three liquefaction trains of 6.6 Mt/year capacity each, and that could later be expanded by 20 Mt/year, and the 10 Mt/year Baltic LNG project. Russia produced 53 bcm of LNG in 2020 (+4% compared to 2019).

In addition, the Russian government has offered the country's participation in nuclear power plant construction in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is currently studying the possibility of developing a nuclear power plant. A feasibility study will be conducted by the government and the Samruk-Kazyna National Fund. Kazakhstan's Strategy 2050 targets 1.5 GW of nuclear capacity by 2030 and 2 GW by 2050. In 2014, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Rosatom and NAC Kazatomprom concerning the construction of a nuclear power plant with a capacity up to 1,200 MW near Lake Balkhash. The project is currently frozen.

Source(s): TASS, TASS

China's Goldwind will supply 626 MW of wind turbines in Ukraine

Date: 28/09/2021

CIS, Ukraine, Electricity, Renewables, Wind, Onshore, Projects, Power plants

The Chinese wind turbine manufacturer Goldwind has signed contracts for the 338 MW Zophia and 288 MW Ochakov wind power projects in Ukraine. The two projects, which will comprise 75 units of GW155-4.5MW and 60 units of GW155-4.8MWwind turbines, should be commissioned in 2022 and should produce 2.2 TWh/year of electricity. Ukraine's installed wind capacity has increased from around 500 MW in 2015 to 1.4 GW in 2020 and wind covered 1.4% of the power mix in 2020. Around 3 GW of wind projects are under development in the country.

Source(s): Goldwind

Investissements et acquisitions

Rio Grand do Sul (Brazil) will privatise 13 hydropower plants totalling 920 MW

Date: 25/10/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, America, Brazil, Electricity, Renewables, Hydro, Policy, Tender, Companies, Power plants, State Power Investment Corporation (SPIC)

The state government of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) plans to privatise the last assets of the state-owned regional power company CEEE, whose transmission and distribution assets have already been sold, and to proceed with the sale of its power generation assets. The company owns and operates 13 hydropower plants with a total capacity of 920 MW. The government has set the minimum price to concession power plants owned by CEEE at BRL1.7bn (US$300m). The Brazilian company CPFL and the Chinese electricity group SPIC have already expressed interest in the assets. Hydroelectricity accounts for 61% of Brazil's installed capacity (109 GW at the end of 2020, of which 2/3 in plants above 1 GW).

Source(s): Valor Investe (Portuguese)

ExxonMobil board debates dropping giant projects in Vietnam and Mozambique

Date: 22/10/2021

Vietnam, Mozambique, Asia, Africa, Emerging markets, LNG, Natural Gas, Projects

ExxonMobil's board of directors would be debating whether to continue with several major oil and gas projects that have high projected emissions profiles, including a US$30bn LNG development in Mozambique and another multibillion-dollar gas project in Vietnam (Blue Whale), as the supermajor reconsiders its investment strategy in a fast-changing energy landscape.

Source(s): Energy Voice

Rosneft launches petrochemical production program in India

Date: 20/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Asia, India, Oil, Refined products, Companies, Projects, Rosneft

Rosneft has launched a large-scale petrochemical production development programme in India with investments of around US$750m at the currently implemented stage. Rosneft holds a 49% stake in Nayara Energy, the owner of a 20 Mt/year refinery in Vadinar (India), while Indian companies are investing in Rosneft's oil projects in Russia, including the Vankor oil and gas condensate field, the Central Block of Srednebotuobinskoe Field and the Kurungsky License Area, and the Sakhalin-1 oil and gas project.

Source(s): TASS, Rosneft

China's CITIC Group will build and operate a 3.2 GW oil-fired project in Iraq

Date: 13/10/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Middle-East, Iraq, Electricity, Thermal, Oil-fired power gen., Projects, Power plants

The Chinese state-owned conglomerate CITIC Group, through its affiliate CITIC Construction, has won the bid for the first and second phases of the 3.2 GW Al Khairat heavy oil-fired power project in Iraq. The project is located in the Karbala Province in south-central Iraq, about 100 km away from Baghdad, and consists of eight 400 MW power units, which will be commissioned in two phases of four units. CITIC Construction is responsible for designing, procurement, construction, installation, commissioning and operation and maintenance of the project for a period of ten years. The contract value of the project is about US$5.7bn. The Karbala refinery located nearby will provide its by-product heavy oil for the power plant as fuel. Electricity capacity in Iraq has more than tripled since 2010, from 12 GW to 39 GW in 2020 (1.2 GW installed in 2020). Gas represents 63% of this capacity, oil 30% and hydro 6% (end of 2020).

Source(s): CITIC Construction

Lukoil increases its share in the Shah Deniz project in the Caspian Sea

Date: 07/10/2021

CIS, Azerbaijan, Oil, Companies, Acquisition/sale, Lukoil

Lukoil has acquired a 15.5% interest in the Shah Deniz gas project in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea from Petronas, for US$2.25bn. Following completion of the sale, which is subject to fulfilment of conditions precedent, including approval by SOCAR, the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic, Lukoil's interest in the project will increase from 10% to 25.5%; the other parties to the project are bp (operator, 28.8%), TPAO (19%), SOCAR (10%), NICO (10%), and SGC (6.7%). Increasing its share in the Shah Deniz project creates new opportunities for synergy in future-oriented economy sectors of Caspian countries.

Source(s): Lukoil

China's CNOOC wants to buy Buzios oilfield stake for $2.1 bln, says Petrobras

Date: 30/09/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, America, Brazil, Asia, China, Oil, Acquisition/sale

The Chinese oil and gas firm CNOOC wants to exercise an option and acquire an additional 5% stake in production rights for the Buzios oilfield in Brazil for US$2.08bn. Buzios is owned by Petrobras (90%), in partnership with Chinese state-run oil companies CNOOC and CNODC (5% each acquired in 2019, down to 3.7% currently).

Source(s): Reuters

Banking on the Belt and Road: Insights from a new global dataset of 13,427 Chinese development projects

Date: 29/09/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Investments

Over the last two decades, China has provided record amounts of international development finance and established itself as a financier of first resort for many low- and middle-income countries (LMICs); however, its grant-giving and lending activities remain shrouded in secrecy. With annual international development finance commitments hovering around $85 billion a year, China now outspends the U.S. and other major powers on a 2-to-1 basis or more. China’s state-owned commercial banks have assumed an increasingly important role during the BRI era by organizing lending syndicates and other co-financing arrangements that make it possible to undertake bigger-ticket infrastructure projects.

Source(s): AidData

PetroVietnam and AES will form a JV for the Son My LNG terminal (Vietnam)

Date: 28/09/2021

Emerging markets, Asia, Vietnam, Natural Gas, LNG, Companies, Projects, LNG facilities, LNG regasification

Vietnam's national oil and gas company PetroVietnam has signed a joint venture agreement with AES Corporation to establish and operate the 3.6 Mt/year Son My LNG import terminal in the central province of Binh Thuan (Vietnam). The project's capacity could be expanded to 9 Mt/year at a later stage. Commissioning is scheduled in 2025-2026. The terminal will receive, process, and supply reprocessed LNG as fuel for the Son My 2 CCGT project (2.2 GW), operated by AES, which should also enter operations in 2025. AES received approval for the power plant project in September 2019. The power plant will have a 20-year contract with the government.

Source(s): PVN, Vietnam Investment Review (VIR)

Juridique et institutionnel

U.S. suspends authority to ship nuclear materials to China's CGN

Date: 05/10/2021

United States, China, America, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Nuclear, Electricity, Policy, Power plants

The US nuclear power regulator has suspended the shipment of radioactive materials and a hydrogen isotope (deuterium) used in reactors to China's largest state-owned nuclear company, CGN, reflecting Washington's concerns about the country's buildup of atomic weapons. CGN was placed on a U.S. blacklist in August 2019 for allegedly making efforts to acquire advanced U.S. technology and material for diversion to military uses in China.

Source(s): Reuters

Innovations technologiques

Energies renouvelables et biocarburants

Green giants? China's National Oil Companies prepare for the energy transition

Date: 29/09/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Oil, Companies

China's NOCs are demonstrating support for China's 30-60 targets (peak in GHG emissions in 2030 and carbon neutrality before 2060). Sinopec, already China's largest hydrogen producer, seeks to shift away from producing hydrogen from fossil fuels toward producing hydrogen from renewable energy sources. CNOOC, which has decades of offshore engineering experience, has identified offshore wind as the renewable source of energy that is most compatible with the company's business. CNPC, which plans to increase its investment in renewables and hydrogen, is restructuring its corporate headquarters to reflect the higher priority it attaches to preparing for the energy transition.

Source(s): Center on Global Energy Policy

Stockage d'électricité et batteries

Huawei will help build the 1.3 GWh BESS Red Sea project (Saudi Arabia)

Date: 21/10/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Saudi Arabia, Electricity, Renewables, Solar, Companies, Projects, Electricity storage, ACWA Power

The Chinese technological company Huawei Digital Power has signed a contract with the Chinese power plant designer, builder and operator SEPCOIII to help build the Red Sea project in Saudi Arabia, including 400 MW of solar PV and a 1.3 GWh battery energy storage solution (BESS). The project is developed by ACWA Power, with SEPCOIII serving as the general EPC contractor.

Source(s): Zawya

US DOE invests US$27m in ESS R&D and to increase storage access

Date: 29/09/2021

G8, America, United States, Policy, Projects, Technology, Investments, Electricity storage

The US DOE has announced a US$18m funding for 4 R&D projects to scale up American manufacturing of flow battery and long-duration storage systems and a US$9m « Energy Storage for Social Equity Initiative » funding to assist as many as 15 underserved communities to provide them with the materials needed to expand the grid with new, clean energy sources, and deliver them affordable electricity (US). The US$18m investment is part of DOE's Energy Storage Grand Challenge aimed to help reduce the cost of grid-scale energy storage by 90% within the decade. The selected projects include : Largo Clean Energy's project to develop and demonstrate highly efficient manufacturing processes for affordable, grid-scale flow batteries; TreadStone Technologies' project to develop roll-to-roll technology for manufacturing metallic electrodes and bipolar plates; OTORO Energy's project to improve the cost, scalability, and performance of existing flow battery technology through a metal chelate flow battery system; and Quino Energy's project to strengthen the US domestic flow battery manufacturing ecosystem by developing and executing a scalable, cost-effective, and continuous process for producing aqueous organic flow battery reactants.

Source(s): US DOE, US DOE

Hydrogène

Russia will sign H2 agreements with France, Australia and South Korea

Date: 20/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Hydrogen, Policy

The Russian Prime Minister has unveiled its plan to sign cooperation agreements on hydrogen with France, Australia, and South Korea. Russia will allocate more than RUB9bn (US$127m) within the next three years to the development of competitive domestic technologies for the production, transportation and storage of hydrogen, the creation of testing grounds for technologies for hydrogen energy, including in the Arctic zone, among other things. The Russian Government recently signed an agreement with Gazprom aimed at developing hydrogen energy technologies and decarbonising Russia's industry and transport using natural gas. Through the agreement, Gazprom will draw a roadmap and submit it for approval to the Russian Government.

Source(s): Russian Government (in Russian)

Novatek plans a 130 kt/year H2 plant in the Russian Arctic in 2027

Date: 19/10/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Hydrogen, Companies, Supply, Production, Projects, Novatek

Russia's gas producer Novatek plans to open a 2.2 Mt/ year ammonia and 130 kt/year hydrogen plant in the Russian Arctic in 2027. Novatek is planning to produce and export both blue and green hydrogen and is already negotiating with Repsol on hydrogen supply. In June 2021, Novatek and Severstal signed an MoU on cooperation in the field of alternative and hydrogen energy. The MoU provides for the implementation of a joint pilot project to produce blue hydrogen from natural gas.

Source(s): Reuters

Russia's Hydrogen Energy Strategy

Date: 14/10/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Hydrogen, Policy

As a major hydrocarbon producer, Russia is seeking to capitalize on its current infrastructure and technical strengths to manage the substantial risks it faces as many of its customers work to decarbonize their economies. Russia sees its resource endowment, large and mature gas industry, and scientific/academic expertise as suitable strengths to become a global leader in hydrogen. Its primary goal is to become a world-leading producer and exporter of hydrogen energy. Its official goals are to export 0.2 million metric tons by 2024 and 2 million by 2035. Much of Russia's current strategic documents are essentially calls to action. Russia has yet to firmly establish priorities, feasibility, and actual steps needed to develop its hydrogen sector.

Source(s): Center for Strategic and International Studies

The US DOE issued a funding opportunity for H2 deployment

Date: 13/10/2021

G8, America, United States, Hydrogen, Policy, Technology

The US Department of Energy's (DOE) has issued a funding opportunity to analyse the potential for streamlined regional clean hydrogen deployments, including production, delivery, storage, and

end-use of clean hydrogen across multiple applications or sectors. They should be implemented over the coming years. Projects of interest under this funding opportunity will study potential hydrogen producers, consumers, and infrastructure to quantify the impact each clean hydrogen deployment could have on multiple technical, economic, social, equity and environmental fronts.

Source(s): US DOE

Nucléaire

GE and BWXT collaborate on new BWRX-300 SMR launch

Date: 25/10/2021

G8, World, America, Canada, Electricity, Nuclear, Companies, Technology, Power plants

GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH, a nuclear alliance of GE and Hitachi) and BWXT Canada have entered into a teaming agreement to cooperate on engineering and procurement to support the design, manufacturing and commercialisation of the BWRX-300 small modular reactor (SMR). Under the agreement, if the BWRX-300 is selected for deployment at Ontario Power Generation's 3.5 GW Darlington nuclear power plant in Hampton (Canada), BWXT Canada could provide detailed engineering and design for manufacturability for BWRX-300 equipment and components and could supply certain key reactor components for the deployment of the BWRX-300 in Canada. The agreement builds on a MoU that GEH and BWXT Canada signed in June 2020. The BWRX-300 is a 300 MW water-cooled, natural circulation SMR with passive safety systems that leverages the design and licensing basis of GEH's US NRC-certified ESBWR.

Source(s): GE

CCS

US DOE awards US$20m for 4 CCUS research projects

Date: 20/10/2021

G8, America, United States, Technology, CCS

The US Department of Energy (DOE) has announced US$20m in funding to four projects working to accelerate the regional deployment of carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) (US$5m each). The funding was addressed through the «Regional Initiatives to Accelerate CCUS Deployment », an initiative designed to identify and address regional storage and transportation challenges facing the commercial deployment of CCUS. The selected organisations are: Battelle Memorial Institute (focusing on 20 Midwestern and Northwestern states); New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (15 Western states); Southern States Energy Board (15 Southeast states); and the University of North Dakota Energy and Environmental Research Center (13 Northwest states and four Canadian provinces).

Source(s): US DOE

CCS should reach 5,600 MtCO2/y in 2050 to comply with Paris Agreement

Date: 18/10/2021

World, Technology, CCS

Global CCS capacity would need to increase from less than 37 MtCO2/year currently to 5,600 MtCO2/year in 2050 to limit global warming to 2°C. In addition, between USD$655bn and USD$1,280bn of global capital investment would be needed to 2050 to reach the capacity objective.

Source(s): Global CCS Institute