



## **MINISTÈRE DES ARMÉES**

### **Observatoire de la sécurité des flux et des matières énergétiques**

**Revue de presse – 27 janvier 2021**



# Table des matières

Actualités énergétiques régionales	3
Afrique du Nord – Moyen Orient	3
Arctique	3
Europe	4
Asie	6
Afrique	8
Autres	9
Stratégies d'entreprises	11
Stratégies	11
Investissements et acquisitions	12
Juridique et institutionnel	13
Innovations technologiques	15
Energies renouvelables et biocarburants	15
Stockage d'électricité et batteries	16
Hydrogène	17
Transports	18
CCS	18

## Actualités énergétiques régionales

### Afrique du Nord – Moyen Orient

#### Egypt's quest for a nuclear future

**Date:** 21/01/2021

Egypt, Africa, Nuclear, Electricity, Projects, Companies, Power plants, Rosatom

After five decades of discussions about constructing a nuclear power plant in Egypt, the project is now officially in progress, with the aim to achieve energy self-sufficiency amid increasing demand and a growing population. In 2015 Egypt signed an agreement with Rosatom to build a nuclear power plant at Al Dabaa.

**Source(s):** [South African Institute of International Affairs](#)

#### Iraq signs 5-year 130 kb/d oil supply deal with China's ZhenHua Oil

**Date:** 04/01/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Middle-East, Iraq, Oil, Crude oil, Trade, Contract, Supply

Iraq, through the state-owned oil trading company State Organization for Marketing of Oil (SOMO), has signed a US\$2bn prepaid oil deal with China's ZhenHua Oil, an affiliate of the Chinese state-owned defence firm Norinco. This is the first prepayment deal, in which oil is effectively used as security for a loan. Iraq offered to supply 130,000 bbl/d for a period of five years. In 2019, Iraq produced 4.7 mb/d of oil and NGL and exported 4 mb/d. In 2020, its oil export revenues halved over the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

**Source(s):** [Middle East Eye](#)

### Arctique

#### Rusnano and Enel Russia may engage in 12 kt/year H2 project (Russia)

**Date:** 26/01/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Hydrogen, Companies, Projects, Technology, Enel

Rusnano and Enel Russia plan to invest US\$320m to jointly develop a green hydrogen production plant with a capacity of 12 kt/year to export hydrogen to Europe, using renewable electricity from a 201 MW wind power plant under construction in the Murmansk region (Russia) and expected to be commissioned in December 2021. The hydrogen project should be implemented by 2024. There are no main gas pipelines in the Murmansk region, and the issue of transporting hydrogen by sea over long distances has not yet been resolved. The option of railroad tank carriage remains, but costs may be high. The hydrogen project should be part of a larger partnership between Rusnano and Enel Russia. They intend to create a joint fund to participate in the selection for a new program to support green generation in the Russian Federation in 2025–2035.

**Source(s):** [Komersant \(Russian\)](#)

## Rosatom to build small-scale land-based Arctic nuclear plant by 2028

**Date:** 26/01/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Nuclear, Electricity, Projects, Companies, Power plants, Rosatom

The Russian state nuclear corporation Rosatom plans to build a small-scale (50 MW) land-based nuclear plant near the community of Ust-Kuyga in the eastern Russian Arctic, by 2028. Rosatom also plans to build another small-scale nuclear plant to power the operations of the Suroyamskoe iron ore mine in the Chelyabinsk region of central Russia.

**Source(s):** [Radio Canada International](#)

## Rosneft's great move of North Siberian oil towards Arctic coast is taking shape

**Date:** 15/01/2021

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

Rosneft is preparing to start building infrastructures for its Vankor oil project in northern Siberia (Russia). The new Arctic project should contribute to Russia's strategy to ship 80 Mt of goods on the Northern Sea Route in 2024, producing and exporting 30 Mt/year of oil by 2024, 50 Mt/year in 2027 and 115 Mt/year in 2030. The project will tap resources from 15 fields in the Taymyr region, including the Vankor resources, the Payakha fields, and the East Taymyr cluster where Rosneft cooperates with BP. Over the last few months, Rosneft has consolidated its control over the Vostok Oil assets, including the Payakha resources. It has also signed an agreement with Singapore-based oil trader Trafigura that is reported to have acquired a 10% stake in the project.

**Source(s):** [The Barents Observer](#)

## Europe

### Hungary extends gas supply contract with Russia's Gazprom

**Date:** 27/01/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Europe, Hungary, CIS, Russia, Natural Gas, Companies, Supply, Trade, Gazprom

Hungary and Russia have agreed to extend a long-term gas supply agreement which was due to expire in October 2021. Hungary, which imported 8.6 bcm of Russian gas in 2020 (-18%), is expected to import 6.2 bcm in 2021. A 15 km gas pipeline between Hungary and Serbia, with a capacity of 6 bcm/year, is scheduled to be completed by October 2021 and will enable Hungary to receive Russian gas through the Turkstream gas pipeline. In January 2020, Russia and Turkey officially commissioned the 31.5 bcm/year TurkStream gas pipeline stretching 930 km across the Black Sea and that will supply 15.75 bcm/year to Turkey and 15.75 bcm/year to Bulgaria, Serbia and Hungary. Russian gas is now brought via Bulgaria's national gas transmission system to Serbia, where it is distributed among consumers in Serbia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Gazprom started to export natural gas to Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina through the TurkStream gas pipeline in January 2021.

**Source(s):** [Gazprom](#), [Neftegaz](#)

## Europe's energy independence: Opportunities for the Biden Administration

**Date:** 22/01/2021

Europe, United States, America, G8, Oil, Policy

In 2021 there are four opportunities for the new US Administration to help Europe become more energy independent from Russia: building a Trans-Caspian gas pipeline to raise gas supplies to Europe bypassing Russia; killing off the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline; continuing US support to the Three Seas Initiative (3SI); and investing in regional energy and infrastructure projects to build peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia and make the South Caucasian route safe for energy imports.

**Source(s):** [Middle East Institute](#)

## Armées - Italy's Mediterranean Belt and Road

**Date:** 21/01/2021

Italy, China, Russia, Europe, Asia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Policy

Italy is seeking out synergies with Russia and China, which have been making concerted efforts to expand their influence in the wider Mediterranean region. Eni is cooperating with Rosneft and Gazprom in upstream projects, and Italy signed the Belt and Road memorandum with China in March 2019.

**Source(s):** [Foreign Policy](#)

## Bulgaria will use Russian technology for unit 7 of Kozloduy nuclear plant

**Date:** 21/01/2021

Europe, Bulgaria, Electricity, Nuclear, Projects, Power plants

Bulgaria intends to use the Russian equipment provided for the Belene nuclear power project for a 7th nuclear reactor at the Kozloduy nuclear power plant. The country already paid equipment worth BGN1.3bn (€665m) for the Belene nuclear project. In October 2020, the government was considering selecting US technology for the Kozloduy-7 project, but those plans have been shelved. Westinghouse would now support Bulgaria for the construction of the Kozloduy-7 project with the existing equipment initially planned for Belene. The tender for the Belene nuclear plant, which was due to take place in April 2020, has been delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. In December 2020, Bulgaria selected Rosatom (through Atomenergoprom), China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) and Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power (KHNP) to file binding offers as strategic investors in the project. In addition, Framatome (previously Areva NP) and General Electric were invited to send offers for equipment and funding. With this decision to use Belene equipment at Kozloduy, the project is now frozen again. The 1.9 GW Kozloduy nuclear power plant accounts for around 1/3 of Bulgaria's power generation. It is the only nuclear power plant in Bulgaria, with two reactors operational (unit 5 and unit 6). The first four units were decommissioned in 2002 and 2006. Unit 5 was granted a new 10-year operational licence in 2017, following its renovation by a consortium of Rosatom and EDF, which extended its lifetime until 2047. In October 2019, the Nuclear Regulatory Agency of Bulgaria granted a new 10-year operational license to the unit 6 of the Kozloduy nuclear power plant. The Soviet-made reactor, which was modernised by Russia's Rosatom, can now operate until 2051.

**Source(s):** [Novinite](#), [Reuters](#), [Connaissance des Energies](#)

## Athens welcomes Sino-Greek cooperation in green transition

**Date:** 19/01/2021

Greece, China, Europe, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

As Greece has made significant progress in supporting investments in renewables, the country warmly welcomes technological solutions, know-how and capital from China. State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) is a strategic investor in the Greek power transmission grid operator IPTO and Shenhua Group has signed a €3bn agreement with the Copelouzos Group to cooperate in renewables.

**Source(s):** [Xinhua Net](#)

## Russia-Belarus agreements on 2021 hydrocarbon prices

**Date:** 05/01/2021

Belarus, Russia, CIS, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Policy

After several months of negotiations, Belarus and Russia have agreed on contracts for crude oil and gas supplies in 2021: Russian oil companies have pledged to supply Belarus with 18 Mt of crude oil in 2021 and the price of gas will be comparable to that of 2020 (US\$127/1,000m<sup>3</sup>). However, the Belarusian authorities did not manage to obtain any concessions. Belarus' near total dependence on supplies of Russian raw materials will remain significant for the country's energy security and for its budget revenues.

**Source(s):** [The Polish Institute of International Affairs](#)

## Postcards from Europe

**Date:** 23/12/2020

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

China's investments in Greece, which were mainly directed at the Piraeus port and thermal power, are shifting towards renewables. China has been key to driving down the cost of Spain's transition to renewables and electric mobility, while the Netherlands sees climate action as a rare opportunity to work closely with China. Italy hopes accelerating climate action will lead to cooperation with China but has concerns over competing with China in the green economy.

**Source(s):** [China Dialogue](#)

## Asie

### Bangladesh grants permit for the 1,320 MW Payra coal-fired power project

**Date:** 21/01/2021

Emerging markets, Asia, Bangladesh, Electricity, Thermal, Coal-fired power gen., Projects, Power plants

Bangladesh has awarded overall operation certification to the first 660 MW phase of the 1,320 MW Payra ultra-supercritical coal-fired project, which was invested, built, and operated by China's state-owned China General Technology. The project, which will produce 8.5 TWh/year, is part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor. Coal-fired capacity, which was multiplied by 4.5 over 2017-2019 (from 250 MW to over 1.1 GW), accounts for 6% of Bangladesh's installed capacity (2019).

**Source(s):** [SASAC](#)

## Saudi Arabia pips Russia to be China's biggest oil supplier in 2020

**Date:** 20/01/2021

Russia, China, Saudi Arabia, CIS, Asia, Middle-East, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Oil, Supply

In 2020, Saudi Arabia was China's top crude oil supplier (+1.9% to 1.69 mb/d), followed by Russia (+7.6% to 1.67 mb/d). US crude oil imports more than tripled in 2020 to 394 kb/d; overall, US energy exports to China amounted to US\$9.8bn in 2020, 39% of the US\$25bn target set out in the Phase 1 trade agreement.

**Source(s):** Reuters

## China's ban on Australian coal drives diversification, but can it fill the gap?

**Date:** 17/01/2021

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

China is seeking to diversify its coal supplies, amid a diplomatic spat with Australia, its largest coal supplier (57% of thermal coal imports and 40% of coking coal imports). The country has started to import thermal coal from Colombia and South Africa and could turn to regional suppliers such as Indonesia and Mongolia. China may also seek to boost its domestic production and to decarbonise its economy. In the long term, it can shift away from Australian thermal coal, but reducing coking coal imports might prove more difficult.

**Source(s):** South China Morning Post, Reuters

## Construction of southern section of China-Russia east natural gas pipeline starts

**Date:** 13/01/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects, Transmission (gas), Gas pipeline

PipeChina has started building the southern section of China-Russia East natural gas pipeline, between the Hebei Province and Shanghai, which is expected in 2025. The northern section (Heilongjiang-Jilin) and the middle section (Jilin-Hebei) were commissioned in 2019 and 2020, respectively. The China-Russia East natural gas pipeline will be able to transfer 38 bcm/year of Russian gas to China.

**Source(s):** SASAC

## Taiwan starts receiving US LNG from Cheniere Energy

**Date:** 12/01/2021

G8, Taiwan, Asia, Natural Gas, LNG, Trade, Contract, Supply

The Taiwanese state-owned energy group CPC Corporation has started receiving LNG cargoes from the US company Cheniere Energy. In August 2018, Cheniere Energy signed a 25-year purchase and sale agreement with CPC Corporation to supply 2 Mt/year of LNG on a delivered basis starting from 2021, with a price pegged to the Henry Hub monthly average, plus a fee. The deal is not linked to a particular project or liquefaction train. Around a third of Taiwan's power was generated from LNG in 2019. The share of LNG in the island's electricity mix is expected to reach 50% in 2025, as Taiwan moves to phase out nuclear power.

**Source(s):** Reuters, Focus Taiwan

## Does China need more gas from Russia and Central Asia?

**Date:** 12/01/2021

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

China's commitment to full carbon neutrality by 2060 means that the country needs to reduce the consumption of all fossil fuels, including gas. Such plans jeopardize the future of large-scale gas pipeline projects to bring natural gas from Russia (Power of Siberia 2) and Central Asia (Line D) to China.

**Source(s):** [Carnegie Moscow Center](#)

## Energy China signs its first large-scale pumped storage power project in Philippines

**Date:** 31/12/2020

Emerging markets, Asia, Philippines, Electricity, Renewables, Hydro, Large-hydro, Projects, Power plants

A consortium including Energy China Group has signed a contract to develop the 500 MW Mapanuepe pumped-storage hydropower plant in the province of Zambales in the Philippines. The project is the first large-scale pumped-storage power project contracted by Energy China in the Philippines. As a result of the Belt and Road Initiative the project will boost construction of the shared future of the China-ASEAN community.

**Source(s):** [SASAC](#)

## Afrique

### China-backed dam project powers Kenya vision for tech city

**Date:** 21/01/2021

Kenya, Africa, Large-hydro, Hydro, Renewables, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

China Gezhouba is building the Thwake multipurpose dam in Kenya, which will provide water for a 23 MW hydropower plant and for an irrigation system for the Konza Technology City, which the government approved as a development project in 2008.

**Source(s):** [China Daily](#)

## Nucléaire : l'engouement africain aiguise les appétits

**Date:** 19/01/2021

Africa, Egypt, Electricity, Nuclear, Uranium, Supply, Projects, Power plants

Alors qu'une dizaine de pays africains projettent de se tourner vers le nucléaire civil et ont annoncé leur intention de se doter d'une centrale, la Chine et la Russie se positionnent sur le marché et multiplient les projets, tandis que les États-Unis tentent de rentrer dans la course.

**Source(s):** [Jeune Afrique](#)



## Tema LNG receives FRU for its 1.7 Mt/year LNG import project (Ghana)

**Date:** 11/01/2021

Africa, Ghana, Natural Gas, LNG, Projects, LNG facilities, LNG regasification

Ghana has received a floating regasification unit (FRU), built by Jiangnan Shipbuilding, a subsidiary of China State Shipbuilding Corporation, for its 1.7 Mt/year Tema LNG import terminal project. The Tema terminal, whose construction started in 2018 (construction led by China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC)), includes a floating regasification barge (FRU), floating storage unit, and a pipeline, which will be connected to the domestic grid. The terminal will then be transferred to GNPC and the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) after the 12-year initial period.

**Source(s):** [Temal LNG](#), [Reganosa](#), [Engineering News](#), [Reuters](#), [Xinhua](#)

## Energy China Group to contribute to Uganda's hydropower development

**Date:** 08/01/2021

Africa, Uganda, Electricity, Renewables, Hydro, Large-hydro, Projects, Power plants

China Energy Engineering Group (Energy China Group) will build the 400 MW Kiba hydropower plant project in Uganda. The project is one of the nine large-scale cascade hydropower stations over the Nile initiated by the government of Uganda.

**Source(s):** [SASAC](#)

## Autres

### Chinese-built wind power projects launch commercial operation in Argentina

**Date:** 24/01/2021

Argentina, America, Emerging markets, Onshore, Wind, Renewables, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

China Power Construction has officially commissioned the first and third phases of the Loma Blanca wind power projects (100 MW) in Argentina. So far, four of the five projects have entered commercial operations. When fully operational, the 5 parks will generate 1.6 TWh/year.

**Source(s):** [Xinhua](#)

## The year ahead for China, Latin America and the environment

**Date:** 14/01/2021

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

China is investing in renewable projects in Mexico: State Power Investment Corp (SPIC) recently took over Mexico's leading renewable company Zuma Energia and Ganfeng Lithium will build a lithium battery recycling plant in Sonora. Since Peru joined China's Belt and Road initiative (BRI) in April 2019, no other Latin American country has joined the group and the four largest economies – Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and Argentina – have resisted Chinese overtures to join.

**Source(s):** [Diálogo Chino](#)

## PowerChina-contracted hydropower project in Honduras goes into operation

**Date:** 31/12/2020

America, Honduras, Electricity, Renewables, Hydro, Large-hydro, Projects, Power plants

Power Construction Corporation of China (PowerChina) has commissioned the Patuca III hydropower plant in Honduras. It is the largest hydropower plant project in the country in the last 30 years and the first China-financed project in a country that hasn't established diplomatic relation with China. It is expected to produce 326 GWh/year of power, which will help relieve power shortages in the country.

**Source(s):** [SASAC](#)

## Stratégies d'entreprises

### Stratégies

#### The Global energy agenda

**Date:** 18/01/2021

World, Oil, Policy

The Atlantic Council has surveyed hundreds of leaders in the energy field, and this report summarizes their responses. The energy agenda for 2021 should be to realize the opportunities created by COVID-19 to build a more sustainable energy system.

**Source(s):** [The Atlantic Council](#)

#### Shanghai Electric continues strengthening position in Middle East

**Date:** 17/01/2021

Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, Asia, Middle-East, Emerging markets, Coal-fired power gen., Solar, Thermal, Electricity, Renewables, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

Shanghai Electric has been strengthening its ties in the Middle East in recent years. In the United Arab Emirates, Shanghai Electric is currently involved in the 950 MW CSP/PV hybrid power generation project, comprising 700 MW CSP and 250 MW PV, which is the fourth phase of the Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park in Dubai. In addition, the company has signed an agreement on the fifth phase of 900 MW as an engineering, construction, and procurement (EPC) contractor. The company is also building the Thar coal block-1 2 x 660 MW power plant project in Pakistan.

**Source(s):** [Utilities Middle East](#)

#### Russian energy and grand strategy

**Date:** 15/01/2021

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

This Policy Brief presents the most recent data on the performance of the Russian energy sector and discusses its strategic importance in the current setting. Russia, as the number one global exporter of energy, faces the challenge of security of demand: the country must export almost 50% of the energy it produces, as domestic demand remains limited.

**Source(s):** [Norwegian Institute of International Affairs](#)

#### Biden's focus on climate change could turn up the pressure on China's mega infrastructure program

**Date:** 14/01/2021

United States, China, America, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CO2 emissions, Policy

China's massive Belt and Road Initiative has been criticized for financing and building infrastructure projects that harm the environment. The Biden administration could work with partners and allies to offer countries participating in BRI an alternative source of financing for cleaner projects. Such attention from the Biden administration could turn the Belt and Road Initiative into a "point of contention" in US-China relations.

**Source(s):** [CNBC](#)

## Investissements et acquisitions

### China's CEEC and TVHB sign deal for a 2.1 GW coal-fired plant in Vietnam

**Date:** 27/01/2021

Vietnam, Asia, Emerging markets, Coal-fired power gen., Thermal, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

The state-owned conglomerate China Energy Engineering Corporation (CEEC) and Toyo Ventures Holdings Bhd (TVHB) have signed an investment and development agreement for the 2,120 MW (2 x 1,060 MW) Song Hau 2 coal-fired power plant in Hau Giang province, southern Vietnam. The US\$3.2bn power plant project has already obtained feasibility study approval and environmental assessment permits, and has signed franchise rights, government guarantees, land leases and power purchase agreements with the Vietnamese government. Coal accounts for 35% of Vietnam's installed capacity, with 20 GW (2019). More than 10 GW of coal projects are currently under construction and 24 GW under development.

**Source(s):** TVHB, SASAC (Chinese)

### SPIC builds the Hunutlu coal-fired power plant project in Turkey

**Date:** 26/01/2021

Emerging markets, Europe, Turkey, Electricity, Thermal, Coal-fired power gen., Projects, Power plants

China's State Power Investment Corporation (SPIC) is building the 1,320 MW Hunutlu coal-fired power plant project in the Adana province of Turkey. The project is Turkey's first non-chimney power plant equipped with advanced environmental protection and ultra-supercritical coal-fired power generation technologies. The plant, a key project linking the Belt and Road Initiative with Turkey's "Middle Corridor" - a development vision of Turkey - is expected to produce about 9 TWh/year of power upon completion. In recent years, SPIC has developed overseas projects in 46 countries including Brazil, Chile, Malta, Pakistan and Australia, with a total installed capacity of 6.1 GW.

**Source(s):** SASAC

### CGN to take stake in Kazakh U mining company

**Date:** 05/01/2021

Kazakhstan, CIS, Uranium, Nuclear, Electricity, Acquisition/sale, Companies, China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN)

China General Nuclear (CGN) could acquire a 49% stake in Ortalyk, a wholly owned subsidiary of Kazakh uranium producer Kazatomprom, by mid-2021. The transfer of the stake was part of cooperation agreements signed between CGN and Kazatomprom in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

**Source(s):** World Nuclear News

### Red Rock Power acquires a 50% stake in the Överturingen wind plant (Sweden)

**Date:** 28/12/2020

Europe, Sweden, Electricity, Renewables, Wind, Onshore, Companies, Acquisition/sale, Power plants

Red Rock Power, an affiliate of the Chinese state-owned group SDIC, has acquired a 50% stake in the 241 MW Överturingen onshore wind plant in central Sweden. The 56-turbine wind project reached commercial operation earlier in December 2020. The wind power plant will generate approximately 805 GWh/year and will sell most of its power generation to Norsk Hydro, a Norwegian aluminium company, under a 29-year power purchase agreement (PPA); NEAS Energy has a 10-year PPA for

the remaining generation. This is Red Rock Power's first project outside of the United Kingdom. In November 2020, Red Rock Power created a 50:50 joint venture with the Irish power utility Electricity Supply Board (ESB) to develop the 1 GW Inch Cape offshore wind project off eastern Scotland (United Kingdom). In July 2020, Red Rock Power received approval from the Scottish government to increase the capacity of the project from 700 MW to 1 GW by replacing existing turbines by newest and larger turbines.

**Source(s):** [Red Rock Power](#)

## Juridique et institutionnel

### Trump administration imposes sanctions against Russia, Venezuela

**Date:** 20/01/2021

Russia, United States, Venezuela, CIS, America, America, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Policy

The Trump administration imposed new sanctions against Russia and Venezuela on its last day in office. The United States had blacklisted Russia-based entity KVT-RUS and the vessel Fortuna for their involvement of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project. In a separate statement, the US government also announced designations against multiple individuals, entities and vessels for their ties to a network attempting to evade US sanctions on Venezuela's oil sector.

**Source(s):** [Xinhua](#)

### U.S. sanctions on CNOOC and Xiaomi, and other moves

**Date:** 14/01/2021

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

The United States Commerce Department has announced sanctions on Chinese state-owned enterprises and military officials and added Chinese oil giant CNOOC to a blacklist, accusing them of using coercion against states with rival claims in the South China Sea.

**Source(s):** [SupChina](#)

### US extends waiver to sanctions on Iranian imports (Iraq)

**Date:** 06/01/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Iraq, Policy

The US has extended for 3 months a waiver allowing Iraq to import Iranian electricity and natural gas despite US sanctions. With this, Iraq is permitted to engage in financial transactions to meet its immediate energy needs without suffering sanctions from the US. The last extension was established in November 2020 for 45 days. These waivers have been systematically granted since November 2018 when unilateral sanctions on Iranian imports were re-instated by the US. Although the US continues to advise Iraq to reduce energy dependency on Iran the governments agreed to cooperate on the Naft Shahr and Khorramshahr shared oil fields in April 2019. This agreement is seen as a step to wider cooperation between the two countries in various sectors such as gas, electricity and oil amidst plans to boost bilateral trade from the current US\$12bn to US\$20bn. Iran has agreed to help Iraq with engineering and technical services in the oil sector. Iran would also help its neighbour develop mutual fields, rebuild refineries and build a gas transmission network.

**Source(s):** [Economic Times of India](#)

## **Nord Stream 2 : le groupe norvégien DNV GL se retire du projet face au risque de sanctions américaines**

**Date:** 04/01/2021

Europe, Germany, G8, Natural Gas, Projects, Interconnection (gas), Gas pipeline

Le groupe norvégien DNV GL va mettre fin à ses travaux de vérification et de certification du projet de gazoduc Nord Stream 2 entre la Russie et l'Allemagne face au risque de sanctions de l'administration américaine.

**Source(s):** [Connaissance des Energies](#)

## Innovations technologiques

### Energies renouvelables et biocarburants

#### China added 120 GW of new wind and solar capacity in 2020

**Date:** 22/01/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Electricity, Supply, Capacities, Data, Power plants

According to the National Energy Administration (NEA), China added nearly 72 GW of wind power capacity and 48 GW of solar capacity in 2020. The growth in wind capacity additions accelerated in 2020 - from 26 GW added in 2019 - and exceeded 2019 global wind capacity additions by 12 GW. Part of this increase was linked to an earlier announcement of China ending subsidies for new onshore wind projects as of 2021. As well, solar capacity additions recovered after two years of slowdown (+44 GW in 2018 and +30 GW in 2019). Hydropower capacity increased by 13 GW in 2020. At the end of 2020, China had 282 GW of wind capacity and 253 GW of solar capacity. The country intends to increase its installed wind and solar capacity to 1,200 GW in 2030. China's power generation grew by 2.7% in 2020. Electricity consumption rose by 3.1% in 2020, despite the negative impacts of the coronavirus pandemic that disrupted industrial activity. Electricity consumption in industry rose by 2.5% and by 1.9% in the tertiary sector.

**Source(s):** [Renews](#), [Reuters](#)

#### Minerals and materials for energy: We need to change thinking

**Date:** 22/01/2021

United States, America, G8, Electricity, Policy

The United States should focus on the availability of advanced materials that can drive the performance of both legacy and alternative energy fuels and systems and ensure sustainable footprints.

**Source(s):** [Baker Institute for Public Policy](#)

#### Renewables will account for 70% of new US capacity in 2021 and BESS for 11%

**Date:** 15/01/2021

G8, America, United States, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Renewables, Solar, Wind, Supply, Capacities, Forecasts, Electricity storage

According to the US EIA, the planned power generation capacity to be installed in 2021 in the US should reach 39.7 GW. Renewables will account for 70% (39% for solar and 31% for wind), gas for 16%, electricity storage (BESS) for 11% and nuclear for 3%. Regarding renewable, additional solar power capacity will reach 15.4 GW and 12.2 GW of wind power plants are scheduled to come online in 2021. 6.6 GW additional capacity of gas-powered power plants is expected for 2021; CCGT will account for 3.9 GW, while the rest will be combustion-turbine generators. Electricity storage capacity is expected to more than quadruple with 4.3 GW additional capacity to come online in 2021.

**Source(s):** [US EIA](#)

## Time to update America's energy security programs

**Date:** 13/01/2021

United States, America, G8, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

Despite "self-sufficiency," the US still imports significant quantities of oil and natural gas, as well as solar panels and wind turbine components and energy security remains a strategic and economic challenge. The US and its allies have a cooperative system for dealing with oil supply disruptions, including a large domestic strategic crude oil stockpile, but there is no similar domestic or international framework for dealing with other, emerging risks.

**Source(s):** [Baker Institute for Public Policy](#)

## Chinese firms step up investments in climate-friendly power projects in Southeast Asia as costs fall, policy shifts

**Date:** 11/01/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Renewables, Electricity, Investments, Power plants

Supported by solar equipment makers, Chinese investors are in a strong position in terms of cost-competitiveness in renewable project tenders in Southeast Asia. There is an increasing shift in focus since 2018 to invest in renewable projects.

**Source(s):** [South China Morning Post](#)

## U.S. agency created to counter China's soft power pledges US\$2bn to renewable energy push

**Date:** 23/12/2020

United States, America, G8, Renewables, Electricity, Investments, Power plants

The US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) is committing up to US\$2bn to address energy scarcity across the world. The DFC, launched in December 2019 as an investment vehicle for American soft power to counter China's massive Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), will partner with The Rockefeller Foundation to expand access to electricity in developing countries.

**Source(s):** [Yahoo! Finance](#)

## Stockage d'électricité et batteries

### China tightens rare-earth regulations, policing entire supply chain

**Date:** 16/01/2021

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

China will strengthen regulation over the rare-earth metals industry, from mining to exports, in what some see as its latest response to ongoing tensions with the US. The new rules would give Beijing greater control over the supply of materials that have become vital for high-tech manufacturing around the world. China accounts for more than 60% of global rare-earth production, and its exports sank to a five-year low in 2020.

**Source(s):** [Nikkei Asia](#)



## Hydrogène

### US DoE announced US\$160m funding for H2 technology development

**Date:** 19/01/2021

G8, America, United States, Hydrogen, Technology, Investments

The US DoE of Fossil Energy has announced plans to make US\$160m in federal funding available to develop technologies for the production, transport, storage, and utilization of fossil-based hydrogen (US). Seven program areas are presented for application: the net-zero or negative carbon hydrogen production from modular gasification and co-gasification of mixed wastes, biomass, and traditional feedstocks; the solid oxide electrolysis cell technology (SOEC) development; carbon capture; advanced turbines; natural gas-based hydrogen production; hydrogen pipeline infrastructure; and the subsurface hydrogen storage program. Successful applications will be of different monetary values and project durations. Projects will be managed by the National Energy Technology Laboratory.

**Source(s):** [US Department of Energy](#)

### The heralds of hydrogen: The economic sectors that are driving the hydrogen economy in Europe

**Date:** 14/01/2021

Europe, Hydrogen, Market

The hydrogen transition has already begun in Europe, but it needs continued policy support and political commitment. Carbon-intensive industries such as steel and chemicals are interested and willing to invest billions but need policy support to avoid carbon leakage to high-carbon competitors before they commit. The gas grid is ready, and many operators and utility companies are eager, but they need clearance to experiment with blending in hydrogen. Hydrogen road vehicles still face many regulatory hurdles. There are several clusters that can serve as models and nuclei for the future European hydrogen economy, in different parts of Europe. However, these nuclei will need more public funding and regulatory support for them to grow.

**Source(s):** [Oxford Institute for Energy Studies](#), [Oxford Institute for Energy Studies](#)

### Sinopec collaborates with 4 Chinese companies on green H2 projects (China)

**Date:** 13/01/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Hydrogen, Companies, Projects, Technology

Sinopec (China) will collaborate with four Chinese solar energy companies to work on green hydrogen projects to achieve its goal of peak CO2 emissions by 2030 and to become carbon neutral by 2060. Areas of potential cooperation include building up a green hydrogen supply chain, raw materials research to improve solar energy conversion efficiency at lower costs, greater usage of solar energy within Sinopec Group, and using its fuel stations network to distribute green hydrogen. Sinopec is currently investing in the whole supply chain, including hydrogen production, fuel cell manufacturing, and refuelling stations. The group operates four hydrogen stations in Guangdong, Zhejiang, and Shanghai, with eight more to be completed in early 2021. Sinopec produced over 3 Mt of hydrogen from its oil refineries in 2019, around 14% of China's total. It operates some 30,700 fuel stations in the country.

**Source(s):** [South China Morning Post](#)

## Will China do for hydrogen what it did for solar power?

**Date:** 12/01/2021

China, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Hydrogen, Technology

China has already accelerated the adoption of solar power around the world, and now there is hope that it could do the same for hydrogen. The country is already the world's largest producer of hydrogen power, but much of this production is tied to fossil fuels, raising the question of whether China can ever fully embrace green hydrogen.

**Source(s):** [Utilities Middle East](#)

## Transports

### Boeing set to fly with aircraft using sustainable fuels

**Date:** 25/01/2021

G8, America, United States, Biomass, Liquid biofuels, Projects

Boeing is committing to fly with 100% sustainable aviation fuels by 2030. The group has conducted successful test flights replacing petroleum jet fuel with 100% sustainable fuels that could reduce CO2 emissions by up to 80% over the fuel's life cycle with the potential to reach 100% in the future. In order to meet aviation's commitment for reducing carbon emissions by 50% from 2005 levels by 2050, aircraft need the capability to fly on 100% sustainable aviation fuels well before 2050. In 2018, the Boeing ecoDemonstrator flight-test programme made the world's first commercial airplane flight using 100% sustainable fuels with a 777 freighter.

**Source(s):** [Biofuels International](#)

## CCS

### Chevron invests in a CCUS start-up (US)

**Date:** 21/01/2021

G8, America, United States, CO2 emissions, Companies, Technology, CCS, Investments, Chevron

Chevron will invest in Blue Planet Systems Corporation, a US start-up that manufactures and develops carbonate aggregates and carbon capture technology intended to reduce the carbon intensity of industrial operations. The companies will collaborate on potential pilot projects and commercial development in key geographies.

**Source(s):** [Chevron](#)