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Actualités énergétiques régionales

Afrique du Nord – Moyen Orient

The Middle East – a conflict zone between China and Russia?

Date: 19/02/2021

Middle-East, Oil, Nuclear, Electricity

While Russia has been involved in the Middle East for a relatively long time, China's forays into the Middle East are comparatively recent, but are likely to become more expansive. Competition in the nuclear market could bring the two superpowers into conflict, as China is seeking to expand its nuclear export market, including in the Middle East, where Russia's Rosatom has built strong positions.

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

BRI: China's CNPC bags Kuwait rig supply deal

Date: 07/02/2021

Kuwait, Middle-East, Oil, Contract

Kuwait state-owned Kuwait Oil Company has awarded KWD350m (US\$1.15bn) of contracts for the supply of 31 oil rigs, with the largest contract (10 rigs) awarded to China National Petroleum Corp. (CNPC). Kuwait aims to raise its oil production capacity from the current 3 mb/d to 4 mb/d by 2040.

Source(s): [Zawya](#)

Arctique

Novatek signs a 3 Mt/year LNG supply contract with China's Shenergy Group

Date: 26/02/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Natural Gas, LNG, Companies, Trade, Contract, Supply, LNG facilities, LNG liquefaction, Novatek

Shenergy Group, a state-owned energy group owned by the Shanghai government (China), has signed a 15-year LNG sales and purchase agreement with the Russian oil and gas producer Novatek for more than 3 Mt/year of LNG from the Arctic LNG 2 project in Russia. The Arctic LNG 2 project will consist of three liquefaction trains of 6.6 Mt/year capacity each, with the first one expected to be commissioned in 2023, while the trains 2 and 3 are expected for commercial operation in 2024 and 2026, respectively. The liquefaction plant will be fed by output from the Utrenneye field in the hydrocarbon-rich Gydan peninsula in the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous District (Russia). Its reserves are estimated at 1,434 bcm of gas and 90 Mt of liquids (at the end of 2020). The project's partners are Novatek with a majority stake of 60%, Total, CNOOC, CNPC and Japan Arctic LNG holding (a consortium of Mitsui and JOGMEC) with 10% stakes each.

Source(s): [Novatek](#)

Igor Sechin (Rosneft) : New Arctic oil discoveries are world's biggest

Date: 16/02/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Oil, Companies, Rosneft

According to the Russian oil company Rosneft, it made the world's three largest oil and gas discoveries in 2020 in the Russian Arctic, namely the Zapadno-Irkinskoye field that would hold more than 500 Mt of oil, the Marshal Rokossovsky and Marshal Zhukov fields in the Kara Sea field. The three fields would have an average resource potential of 4 Gboe, that adds to the Vostok Oil resource potential estimated at 5 Gt of light oil. Rosneft bets on the development of these fields, which could meet an expected oil deficit due to the energy transition and reduced investments by international oil companies.

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

Appeals court halts construction at ConocoPhillips' Willow project in Alaska's Arctic

Date: 15/02/2021

United States, America, G8, Crude oil, Oil, Projects, Companies, ConocoPhillips

An US appeals court has blocked construction of ConocoPhillips' US\$2bn-plus Willow oil project in Alaska's western Arctic, putting on hold plans for one of the biggest oil projects in North Slope history over environmental concerns. Willow would be the North Slope's westernmost producing oil field, with 590 mbl of recoverable oil and a potential production of up to 160,000 bbl/d as of 2024.

Source(s): [Arctic Today](#)

Rosatom, Novatek join Arctic Economic Council

Date: 10/02/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Oil, Natural Gas, Nuclear, Electricity, Companies, Novatek, Rosatom

Rosatom, Russia's state-owned nuclear corporation, and Novatek, Russia's second-largest gas producer, are both joining the Arctic Economic Council, an independent business forum launched by the Arctic Council. Since Rosatom was appointed in 2018 to manage the Northern Sea Route, its emphasis on the use of nuclear power for shipping, infrastructure development and fossil fuel extraction is likely to become more prevalent in the Arctic region.

Source(s): [Arctic Today](#)

Méditerranée Orientale

ExxonMobil eyes partnerships in Egypt's offshore Mediterranean

Date: 31/01/2021

Egypt, Africa, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Companies, ExxonMobil

ExxonMobil, which has recently acquired three exploration blocks in Egypt's Mediterranean offshore (including the Northeast El Amriya block), would be seeking partners to continue its East Mediterranean expansion. The US major would be in talks with Shell, Equinor and Qatar Petroleum, after failed discussions with BP and Petronas (Malaysia).

Source(s): [Energy Egypt](#)

Europe

Gas geoeconomics: a strategy to harden European partners against Russian energy coercion

Date: 12/02/2021

Europe, Natural Gas, Supply

The United States could take advantage of the expiration of long-term gas supply contracts binding Central and Eastern European countries to Russia to provide strategic financial support for specific key gas infrastructure projects, including vital pipeline interconnections and LNG import terminals. This would help diversify their gas supply, accelerate their gas market liberalisation and improve their resilience against "Russian energy coercion", while generating new opportunities for private firms, including those from the United States.

Source(s): Baker Institute

Kozloduy demonstrates confidence in Westinghouse

Date: 04/02/2021

Bulgaria, Europe, Nuclear, Electricity, Contract, Power plants

Nuclear Power Plant and the US nuclear group Westinghouse Electric Company have signed a VVER-1000 nuclear fuel licensing contract for the Kozloduy power plant in Bulgaria. Westinghouse VVER-1000 fuel is in operation in six nuclear reactors in Ukraine and has an ongoing licensing process in the Czech Republic at the Temelin VVER-1000 plant.

Source(s): Westinghouse

Russia's losing bet on China in a post-COVID world

Date: 03/02/2021

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

For the past decade, China has done more than any other economy to sustain Russia's oil export earnings and thus its economic model. Russia has implemented few crisis spending measures, betting on China and other economies to recover quickly. However, without strong external demand growth for oil and gas, Russia faces an economic decline, whereas China has shifted into a consumer economy, highlighting the limits of Russia's economic model.

Source(s): The Diplomat

Czechia will exclude CGNPC from bidding for the Dukovany-5 nuclear project

Date: 29/01/2021

Europe, Czechia, Electricity, Nuclear, Policy, Tender, Companies, Power plants, China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN)

The Czech government, which is currently finalising conditions for the upcoming tender to build a new 1,200 MW unit at the Dukovany nuclear power plant, has reached a consensus with all political parties to exclude Chinese companies (China General Nuclear Power (CGNPC)) from the tender to due to security concerns. However, they have not decided yet whether to allow Russian companies (Rosatom) to take part in the tender. In July 2020, the Czech government signed agreements with the Czech state-owned power utility ČEZ for the development of a new 1,200 MW reactor at Dukovany. The agreement encompassed the overall general framework of the €6bn project and its initial phase and called for a tender to select a construction company. ČEZ would have a preferred

list of suppliers (by 2022) and would sign a contract with one supplier by 2024. Construction would start in 2029, and commissioning would be expected in 2036. The project will benefit from an interest-free loan and power from the new nuclear reactor would be sold at a fixed tariff. Consumers would make up the gap if that price is higher than wholesale market prices. The government will have to seek approval for the European Commission to ensure its nuclear program meets EU state aid rules. ČEZ already operates four VVER-440 reactors at the Dukovany nuclear power plant (2,040 MW) and two VVER-1000 reactors at the Temelín plant (2,160 MW). Replacing the older reactors with new units is viewed as crucial for the country's energy security, as the four Dukovany reactors are expected to be shut down permanently between 2035 and 2037.

Source(s): Reuters, Lidovky (Czech)

Asie

The challenges and opportunities of Japan-Russia economic relations

Date: 20/02/2021

Russia, Japan, CIS, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, LNG, Natural Gas, Policy

Despite complementary economies and Russia's potential role as a major fuel supplier for Japan, Japan and Russia have few economic ties, due to the ruble volatility and fears of post-Crimea sanctions. However, that said, new opportunities in the energy sector may cultivate mutual trust that leads to a future economic breakthrough.

Source(s): The Diplomat

Possible impact of Myanmar coup on China's metal and rare earth supply

Date: 10/02/2021

Myanmar, Asia, Emerging markets, Electricity, Supply

Myanmar's military coup and declaration of a state of emergency has sparked concern in China over metal and mineral supplies amid already high tin, copper and rare earth prices. China relied on Myanmar for about half its heavy rare earth concentrates in 2020 and it imported 71% of mixture of rare earth carbonate from Myanmar.

Source(s): Reuters

Chinese energy firms set to benefit from Myanmar turmoil

Date: 09/02/2021

Myanmar, Asia, Emerging markets, Oil, Companies

There is a high risk that political turmoil in Myanmar will negatively affect the energy sector, however, Chinese companies look set to benefit from the tumultuous environment, according to Fitch Solutions Country Risk and Industry Research.

Myanmar, which offers China an onshore pathway for energy supplies, has attracted an increasing interest from Chinese companies over the past two to three years, especially in the midstream and downstream sectors, and in the LNG and power sectors. The political turmoil in Myanmar may negatively affect its energy sector, which was already requiring major investments before the coup. Energy companies from South Korea, India and Australia are likely to suspend their investments, considering rising political risks and the threat of increased international sanctions on the country, whereas China has adopted a pragmatic approach towards Myanmar for decades. Consequently, potential US sanctions against Myanmar may drive the country ever closer to China and could benefit to Chinese companies.

Source(s): Energy Voice

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Harbin and GE deliver GE 9HA.01 combined-cycle unit project (China)

Date: 04/02/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Supply, Capacities, Projects, Technology, Power plants

The 661 MW Tianjin Junliangcheng Phase VI CHP gas-fired power plant has completed the 168-hour test run (China). The project, developed by Tianjin Huadian Junliangcheng Power Generation (part of China's Huadian group), reportedly the first 9H combined cycle unit in China. GE's partner Harbin Electric provided the steam turbine, generator and balance-of-plant equipment. The project allowed the Junliangcheng coal-fired power plant to be converted into gas-fired.

Source(s): Harbin (Chinese), GE

Afrique

African Union setting up infrastructure fund as alternative to China

Date: 23/02/2021

Africa, Investments

The African Union is setting up a fund to finance the construction of roads, railways and power plants on the continent, turning to new sources of cash other than China. China, which has been one of the biggest funders of infrastructure projects on the continent over the past decade, has cut back on lending due to high debt levels among individual nations like Kenya.

Source(s): China Lusophone Brief

Sénégal : Lukoil revient à la charge sur le pétrole de Sangomar

Date: 17/02/2021

Senegal, Africa, Oil, Acquisition/sale

Après avoir vu son offre de rachat des 40% d'intérêts de Cairn sur le pétrole de Sangomar (Sénégal) bloquée par le droit de préemption de l'opérateur Woodside, la société russe Lukoil revient avec une offre de rachat de FAR, qui détient 15% de Sangomar, proposant 170 M\$ pour 100% de FAR.

Source(s): Agence Ecofin, Energy Voice

GE secures equipment order for a 300 MW CCGT power plant in Senegal

Date: 02/02/2021

Africa, Senegal, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Companies, Supply, Capacities, Projects, Power plants

GE has secured an order to supply gas power generation equipment for West Africa Energy's 300 MW CCGT power plant in Cap des Biches (Senegal). The power plant is being developed by Senegal's West African Energy and will be built by the Turkish EPC company, Calik Enerji. GE will supply two 9E.03 gas turbines, one STF-A200 steam turbine, three A39 generators, two Heat Recovery Steam Generators (HRSG) and additional balance of plant equipment as part of the project scope. The power plant is expected to begin operations in phases starting in 2022. GE has installed more than 650 9E gas turbine units in Asia, China, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East in the last 40 years.

Source(s): GE

Canal du Mozambique

Energy transition imperils oil and gas investments in Angola and Mozambique

Date: 15/02/2021

Angola, Mozambique, Africa, Africa, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Natural Gas, LNG, Oil, Investments

According to the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), the energy transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy threaten around US\$400bn of oil and gas projects in several Latin American and African countries, including Angola and Mozambique.

Source(s): [China Lusophone Brief](#)

Au-delà des fantasmes : qu'attendre du développement du gaz mozambicain ? – Benjamin Augé (IFRI)

Date: 14/02/2021

Mozambique, Africa, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects, LNG liquefaction, LNG facilities

Depuis 2004, le Mozambique produit du gaz (Pande et Temane) entièrement exporté vers l'Afrique du Sud. Les découvertes récentes et le développement de deux projets de gaz naturel liquéfié (12,8 Mt/an pour Mozambique LNG et 15,2 Mt/an pour Rovuma) devraient permettre de porter la production de GNL à 60 Mt/an d'ici 2032. Les revenus considérables pourraient changer l'économie du pays, si une gouvernance efficace est mise en place.

Source(s): [Afrique Décryptages](#)

Growing risks for \$50bn Mozambique LNG projects

Date: 31/01/2021

Mozambique, Africa, Emerging markets, LNG, Natural Gas, Projects, Companies, LNG liquefaction, LNG facilities, Total

The development of the US\$20bn Mozambique LNG project by Total and of the US\$30bn Rovuma LNG project by ExxonMobil is threatened by increasing security concerns (Islamist militant insurgency in the northern province of Cabo Delgado) and by declining demand, in a context of price volatility, economic slowdown, and strengthened carbon constraints in the EU (and possibly in Asia and the United States). In addition, over US\$50bn of investments in Asian LNG import projects are at risk from higher price volatility, adding to market uncertainty. Even if the Mozambique LNG project has signed a US\$15bn debt financing agreement and made a final investment decision, ExxonMobil has delayed the FID until 2022 at the earliest and is considering capital expenditure cuts. Other energy projects in northern Mozambique have been cancelled, including Shell's gas-to-liquids (GTL) project and Yara International's plans to build a fertiliser plant and a power plant in Cabo Delgado. Total also plans to develop an LNG import terminal at Maputo, where Mozambique LNG could ship LNG.

Source(s): [Business Live](#)

Autres articles plus anciens sur le Mozambique

L'Asie et l'Europe à l'assaut du LNG en Afrique et au Moyen Orient

Date: 04/12/2020

Mozambique, Africa, Emerging markets, Natural Gas

Le LNG, peu coûteux, facilement transportable, peu émetteur de CO2, s'impose petit à petit comme une alternative au pétrole. En Iran, au Qatar, au Mozambique, les pays occidentaux et asiatiques, s'allient avec leur major de l'industrie pétrolière afin de s'assurer une indépendance énergétique. Les compagnies européennes Total et Eni vont ainsi exploiter les ressources gazières du Mozambique.

Source(s): [Ecole de Guerre Economique](#)

Russia's resurgence in Africa: Zimbabwe and Mozambique

Date: 01/12/2020

Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Africa, Africa, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Projects

While Russia's relationship with Africa goes back decades, the past few years have seen a resurgence in relations, driven by international sanctions and the drop in the oil price. Russian involvement in both Zimbabwe and Mozambique is strongly focused on the extractives sector.

Source(s): [SAIIA](#)

Mozambique not in China 'debt trap', says Chinese ambassador

Date: 11/11/2020

Mozambique, Africa, Emerging markets, Policy

According to the Centre for Public Integrity (CIP), the level of Mozambique's debt to China reached US\$2bn at the end of 2019, due to loans to finance large-scale infrastructure projects. Mozambique's "high level of debt" may expose the country to the risk of falling into financial dependence on China, which could result in "a possible debt trap". According to the Chinese ambassador in Mozambique, this would be misreading the China-Africa cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Source(s): [China Lusophone Brief](#)

Autres

Chinese-led group wins contract to optimize 110-MW San Gabán II hydro in Peru

Date: 18/02/2021

Peru, America, Emerging markets, Large-hydro, Hydro, Renewables, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

The Peruvian company Empresa de Generación Eléctrica San Gabán (EGESG) has awarded consultancy work for a project to optimize output at the 110 MW San Gabán II hydropower plant to a consortium led by the Chinese company Changjiang Institute of Survey, Planning, Design and Research (CISPDR).

Source(s): [Hydro Review](#)

Russia's crude oil exports declined by 11% to 239 Mt in 2020

Date: 10/02/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Oil, Crude oil, Refined products, Natural Gas, Supply, Trade, Data

According to the Federal Customs Service, Russia's crude oil exports declined by 11% in 2020 to 239 Mt, while oil products exports dipped by 0.8% to 142 Mt. Natural gas exports dropped by 9.7% to 199 bcm but LNG exports increased by 4.5% to 68 bcm. Gazprom's gas exports to Europe (including Turkey) decreased by 12% from 199 bcm to 175 bcm, including 135.7 bcm to western Europe. Germany remained Gazprom's biggest market in western Europe (46 bcm in 2020, -14% on 2019), followed by Italy (21 bcm, -6%), Turkey (16 bcm) and Austria (13 bcm). The group retained its leading position in Central Europe with 39.1 bcm of gas exports, including 9.7 bcm to Poland, and 8.6 bcm each to Hungary and Slovakia. Gas exports to China through the Eastern Route surged from 328 mcm in 2019 to 4.1 bcm in 2020. Finally, the country coal exports reached 199 Mt (-3%). The fall in global oil prices in 2020 led to a 41% fall in crude oil export revenues to US\$72.4bn and a 32% decline in oil product export revenues, while gas export revenues fell by 40% (-15% for LNG).

Source(s): [Russia's Federal Customs Service \(Russian\)](#), [Gazprom \(Russian\)](#), [Euractiv](#)

Stratégies d'entreprises

Stratégies

Oil price recovery reverses 2020 losses as OPEC+ stays the course

Date: 16/02/2021

World, Oil, Policy

OPEC+ producers seem to have adopted a wait-and-see attitude, but as maintaining production cuts becomes more difficult for the smaller producers, they may be tempted to cash in while prices are high.

Source(s): [AGISW](#)

Des pertes colossales pour les compagnies pétrolières en 2020

Date: 10/02/2021

World, Oil, Companies, BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Shell, Total

Les cinq plus grandes sociétés pétrolières privées du monde - BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Shell et Total - viennent d'annoncer des pertes nettes cumulées de 77 Md\$ pour 2020. Le groupe énergétique américain ExxonMobil a annoncé un recul de sa production et une perte de 22,4 Md\$ en 2020 (contre un bénéfice de 14,3 Md\$ en 2019) et Chevron une perte de 5,5 Md\$ en 2020 (contre 2,9 Md\$ de bénéfices en 2019, malgré une production en légère hausse). La production d'hydrocarbures de Lukoil a chuté de 12% en 2020, dégradant ses résultats, tandis que Novatek a annoncé une baisse de 3,6% de ses ventes et une chute de 92% de son bénéfice net. Les sociétés pétrolières et gazières ont pâti de la chute de la demande dans un contexte de pandémie et de la chute des prix du brut et des LGN bien (40 \$/bbl au quatrième trimestre de 2020, contre 57 \$/bbl fin 2019).

Source(s): [Connaissance des Energies](#), [Connaissance des Energies II](#), [Lukoil](#), [ExxonMobil](#), [Chevron](#)

Geeconomics without fossil fuels

Date: 08/02/2021

United States, America, G8, Oil, Investments

In January 2021, President Biden signed an executive order to put the United States on a path to end "international financing of carbon-intensive fossil fuel-based energy." This new strategy will affect domestic institutions like the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) and the International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and international financial institutions like the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund.

Source(s): [Center for Strategic and International Studies](#)

New kids on the block: China's arrival in Brazil's electric sector

Date: 01/02/2021

Brazil, America, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Companies, China Three Gorges Power (CTGPC)

Chinese presence in the Brazilian electricity sector has increased consistently and significantly in three aspects: investments, construction projects and loans. Brazil's rich resource endowment, necessity to expand installed capacity and power grid, and favorable market, legal, and policy conditions, aligned with China's financial might and technological capabilities, have created an ideal situation for Chinese firms' arrival.

Source(s): [Boston University - Global Development Policy Center](#)

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Les PDG d'ExxonMobil et Chevron ont évoqué l'an passé une potentielle fusion selon le Wall Street Journal

Date: 01/02/2021

United States, America, G8, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Companies, Chevron, ExxonMobil

Les dirigeants d'ExxonMobil et de Chevron ont évoqué l'an passé la possibilité de fusionner alors que les deux géants pétroliers ont été mis à mal par la pandémie. Les deux géants américains pourraient former la deuxième plus grande société pétrolière du monde en termes de capitalisation boursière et de production, produisant environ 7 millions de barils de pétrole et de gaz par jour, sur la base des niveaux pré-pandémiques, après Saudi Aramco.

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

Investissements et acquisitions

China's CTG will acquire a 330 MW wind power portfolio in Spain

Date: 24/02/2021

Europe, Spain, Electricity, Renewables, Wind, Onshore, Companies, Acquisition/sale, Power plants, China Three Gorges Power (CTGPC)

The Chinese state-owned power group China Three Gorges (CTG) has signed an agreement with a consortium led by Corporacion Masaveu to acquire a 330 MW portfolio of wind power plants in Spain for €500m. The portfolio includes eight wind parks owned by Borawind in the Burgos region, north of Madrid. Earlier in February 2021, CTG completed the acquisition of the Daylight solar PV complex from the Spanish renewables firm X-Elio. The project comprises 13 solar power plants with a total capacity of 572 MW, located in Andalusia, Extremadura, Castilla La Mancha, Murcia and Castilla y León, which were built in 2019-2020 and are fully operational. The two companies signed an agreement in August 2020.

Source(s): [El Economista \(Spanish\)](#)

A Chinese company starts building a 2.5 Mt/year refinery in Congo

Date: 23/02/2021

Africa, Congo, Oil, Refined products, Projects, Refineries

The Chinese company Beijing Fortune Dingheng Investment has started building the 2.5 Mt/year (50,000 bbl/d) Atlantique Pétrochimie refinery in Fouta, near Pointe-Noire in Congo. The project, which requires a US\$600m investment, could be expanded by an additional 2.5 Mt/year at a later stage. The new refinery will produce high-quality gasoline and diesel, products for domestic use such as liquefied petroleum gas, kerosene and fuel oil, as well as products used as raw materials for the petrochemical industry such as propylene, propane, hydrogen naphtha and sulfuric acid. CORAF (Société Congolaise de Raffinage, 100% SNPC) operates the country's sole refinery in Pointe-Noire, which has a nameplate capacity of 21,000 bbl/d (1 Mt/year) but only processes 0.6 Mt/year. In 2019, Congo's consumption of petroleum products reached 0.5 Mt (10,000 bbl/d).

Source(s): [ADIAC-Congo \(French\)](#), [Energies Media \(French\)](#)

Shanghai Electric among the largest Chinese energy project contractors overseas

Date: 19/02/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Electricity, Companies, Power plants

The China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products has issued its "Ranking of Contracted Companies for Overseas Power Projects in China's Power Industry in 2020". Shanghai Electric was ranked 6th on the overall list with US\$1.38bn worth in power projects. The company ranked 3rd on the list of "overseas new energy project contracted enterprises" with US\$1.2bn worth in projects. In 2020, Shanghai Electric signed a total of 16 overseas projects, 13 of which were new energy projects. According to the report, in 2020, Chinese power industry companies were awarded 536 power projects overseas, with a total contract value of US\$44bn and a total contracted power generation capacity of 49.3 GW.

Source(s): [Shanghai Electric \(in Chinese\)](#)

China's SGCC lodges complaint over DEDDIE sale exclusion

Date: 01/02/2021

Greece, Europe, Electricity, Companies, Distribution (power), Power grids

State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) has filed a complaint with the European Commission after being barred by the Greek power utility PPC from the sale of a 49% stake in its subsidiary DEDDIE/HEDNO, the distribution network operator, over conflict-of-interest concerns. The Chinese firm is a strategic partner of Greek power grid operator IPTO with a 24% stake.

Source(s): [EnergyPress](#)

State Grid grows presence in Chile with CGE purchase

Date: 01/02/2021

Chile, America, Emerging markets, Electricity, Companies, Acquisition/sale, Power grids

In November 2020, Chinese state-owned company State Grid announced that it would buy Chilean electricity distributor CGE for over US\$3bn. The Chilean government will likely approve the deal in February 2021 despite concerns over foreign control of what is considered an industry of strategic importance for national development.

Source(s): [Dialogo Chino](#)

Russia's Litasco will finance the Nassiriya oil project in Iraq

Date: 29/01/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Iraq, Oil, Crude oil, Companies, Projects, Investments, Lukoil

The Iraqi cabinet has authorised Litasco, a marketing and trading affiliate of the Russian oil and gas company Lukoil, to finance the expansion of the Nassiriya oil project. The project, which is operated by the Iraqi state-owned oil and gas company Dhiqar Oil, is expected to double the field's production capacity to 200,000 bbl/d. The State Organization for Marketing of Oil (SOMO) will repay Litasco with crude oil shipments. The project, which is expected to take 28 months, comprises a 100,000 bbl/ oil production facility and a 42 km pipeline developed by a joint venture between State Company for Oil Projects, part of Iraqi Ministry of Oil, and Italian engineering and contracting company Progetti Europa and Global. Since 2010, Lukoil operates the West Qurna-2 oil field with a target of achieving plateau production of 800,000 bbl/d at the end of 2024.

Source(s): [Reuters](#)

CEEC and TVHB sign deal for a 2.1 GW coal-fired power plant in Vietnam

Date: 28/01/2021

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

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

Source(s): TVHB, SASAC (Chinese)

Juridique et institutionnel

US list of possible Nord Stream 2 sanctions has only two entities

Date: 20/02/2021

Germany, Russia, Europe, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects, Gas pipeline

The US Department of State's report on entities designated for US sanctions over the Nord Stream 2 project only mentions a Russian pipe-laying vessel and its owner, already sanctioned by the US.

Source(s): TASS

Nucléaire iranien : gestes américains et mise en garde avec l'Europe contre une restriction des inspections de l'AIEA

Date: 19/02/2021

Iran, Middle-East, Emerging markets, Nuclear, Electricity, Policy, Projects, Power plants

Après une réunion virtuelle des chefs de la diplomatie française, britannique, allemande et américaine, Washington a annoncé accepter une invitation de l'Union européenne à des pourparlers avec Téhéran pour réactiver l'accord de 2015 mis à mal par Donald Trump. Ces discussions réuniraient les pays ayant signé l'accord en 2015 (Iran, États-Unis, Allemagne, Chine, France, Royaume-Uni et Russie) et permettraient d'"évoquer la meilleure façon d'avancer concernant le programme nucléaire" iranien, selon le département d'Etat.

Source(s): Connaissance des Energies

Chevron, Reliance request U.S. unwind some Venezuela oil sanctions

Date: 28/01/2021

Venezuela, America, Emerging markets, Crude oil, Natural Gas, Oil, Companies, Chevron, Reliance

Chevron and Reliance Industries are meeting with U.S. State Department officials to request a rollback of some of the previous administration's restrictions against Venezuela's oil industry. Representatives from the two companies are holding virtual discussions with officials on reinstating oil swaps that would allow companies to receive Venezuelan crude in exchange for supplying diesel. The U.S. imposed sanctions on PDVSA in early 2019, in an effort to dislodge President Nicolas Maduro from power by depriving his government of oil revenue.

Source(s): World Oil

Innovations technologiques

Energies renouvelables et biocarburants

China accounted for half of offshore wind capacity additions in 2020

Date: 26/02/2021

World, Electricity, Renewables, Wind, Offshore, Supply, Capacities, Power plants

According to the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), the offshore wind industry installed just over 6 GW of new capacity globally in 2020, nearly the same levels as the previous year. China added nearly 3.1 GW of offshore wind capacity in 2020, accounting for 50% of the total, followed by the Netherlands (1.5 GW, 25%), Belgium (703 MW, 12%), the United Kingdom (483 MW, 8%) and Germany (237 MW, 4%). Smaller capacities were installed in South Korea (60 MW), the United States (12 MW) and Portugal (17 MW of floating capacity). Total global offshore wind capacity reached 35.2 GW in 2020, with the United Kingdom accounting for 29% of the total capacity (10.2 GW), followed by China (28%, 9.9 GW), Germany (22%, 7.7 GW) and the Netherlands (7%, 2.6 GW).

Source(s): [GWEC](#)

The Geopolitics of energy: Out with the old and in with the new?

Date: 20/02/2021

World, Oil, Policy

For more than half a century now, access to oil and natural gas has been at the heart of the geopolitics of energy; but with renewable technologies set to dominate energy supply systems, relations between states will change, while economies and societies will undergo structural transformations.

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

Oxford Energy Podcast: China and the geopolitics of the energy transition

Date: 15/02/2021

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

China is widely expected to be one of the biggest winners of the energy transition: not only has the country got a head start in the manufacture and deployment of renewables and batteries, it is also central to the supply chains of critical minerals. Moreover, China is expected to maintain a dominant role in the 'old' geopolitics of fossil fuels as it is likely to remain a large consumer of oil and gas for some time.

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

US DOE announces US\$100m for transformative clean energy solutions

Date: 11/02/2021

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

In support of the Biden Administration's climate innovation agenda, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has announced up to US\$100m in funding for transformative clean energy technology research and development via its Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy's (ARPA-E) OPEN 2021 funding opportunity.

Source(s): [US DOE](#)

How the race for renewable energy is reshaping global politics

Date: 04/02/2021

World, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

Dozens of the world's biggest economies have adopted targets for net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050. In a race to curb climate change, countries are rushing to cut fossil fuels, boost clean energy — and transform their economies in the process. But as the energy system changes, so will energy politics. Countries or regions that master clean technology, export green energy or import less fossil fuel stand to gain from the new system, while those that rely on exporting fossil fuels — such as the Middle East or Russia — could see their power decline.

Source(s): [Financial Times](#)

The geopolitics of the European Green Deal

Date: 03/02/2021

Europe, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

The European Green Deal will have profound geopolitical repercussions, some of which are likely to have an adverse impact on the European Union's partners, such as Russia and Algeria, and with global players such as the United States, China, and Saudi Arabia. The bloc should improve the supply security of critical raw materials and limit its dependence on other countries – primarily on China – for these materials and should work with the US and other partners to establish a 'climate club' whose members would apply similar carbon border adjustment measures

Source(s): [European Council on Foreign Relations \(ECFR\)](#)

Stockage d'électricité et batteries

The United States and Canada target net-zero emissions by 2050

Date: 25/02/2021

Canada, United States, America, America, G8, CO2 emissions, Policy

The United States and Canada have agreed to work towards achieving net zero emissions by 2050, also reaffirming their shared commitment to cutting oil and gas methane emissions. The United States, which has just re-entered the Paris agreement on climate change after having officially withdrawn in November 2020, aims to achieve a net-zero carbon pollution free power sector by 2035, while Canada reaffirmed its goal to achieve 90% non-emitting electricity by 2030. The two countries will seek to accelerate clean energy infrastructure, including renewable power interconnections and will accelerate efforts to achieve a zero-emissions vehicle future. The United States and Canada will also collaborate on battery development and production, strengthening the Canada-U.S. Critical Minerals Action Plan to target a net-zero industrial transformation, batteries for zero-emissions vehicles, and renewable energy storage.

In addition, the US president has signed an executive order "Securing America's critical supply chain", which identifies the importance of mitigating risks in the supply chain for "large capacity batteries". The US administration launched a 100-day review of four vital products: semiconductors ; key minerals and materials, like rare earths ; three, pharmaceuticals and their ingredients; four, advanced batteries. The review is conducted across federal agencies and will address vulnerabilities in their supply chains.

Source(s): [The White House](#), [The White House II](#)

Biden wants to create millions of clean-energy jobs. China and Europe are way ahead of him

Date: 11/02/2021

Europe, United States, China, America, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Electricity, Technology, Electricity storage

As the Biden administration promises to jump-start the clean-energy economy, it faces an uphill climb: The United States has fallen behind Asia and Europe in the race to produce the central technology — the high-tech batteries that power electric cars and store solar and wind energy.

Source(s): [Washington Post](#)

Hydrogène

Investment in global hydrogen projects may exceed US\$300bn by 2030

Date: 23/02/2021

World, Hydrogen, Projects, Investments

According to the Hydrogen Council, 228 large-scale hydrogen projects have been announced across the value chain (large-scale industrial usage, transport applications, integrated hydrogen economy, infrastructure, and giga-scale production projects), with 85% located in Europe, Asia, and Australia, and with a total value exceeding US\$300bn through 2030. Of this amount, around US\$80bn will be invested in "mature" projects (in the planning stage, with a final investment decision (FID), under construction, already commissioned, or operational). Political support and public funding to hydrogen is growing, with over 30 countries having national hydrogen strategies in place.

Source(s): [Hydrogen Council](#), [Hydrogen Council II](#)

European energy companies launch HyDeal Ambition to produce 3.6 Mt/year of H2

Date: 19/02/2021

Europe, Hydrogen, Projects, Technology

30 European energy companies have launched the HyDeal Ambition, which aims to massively develop green hydrogen produced using solar power from the Iberian Peninsula beginning in 2022. The goal is to achieve 95 GW of solar installed capacity and 67 GW of electrolysis capacity by 2030, to produce 3.6 Mt/year of green hydrogen for the energy, industry and mobility sectors. The green hydrogen is expected to be delivered at €1.5/kg (US\$1.8/kg) before 2030. Another major green hydrogen initiative announced recently comprises 40 organisations from Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Greece to address the use of green hydrogen across the value chain of a major EU ceramics cluster: the ORANGE.BAT.

Source(s): [Forbes](#)

Germany looking at green hydrogen co-operation with Russia

Date: 16/02/2021

Germany, Russia, Europe, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects, Gas pipeline

Germany plans to work with Russia in the production and transport of green hydrogen that Germany hopes to develop on a large scale, using wind and solar power and electrolysis to produce hydrogen for the industry, energy and transport sectors. The Nord Stream 2 pipeline, that will bring Russian gas directly to Germany and is nearly complete, could provide a future hydrogen import route, while

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Russia develops renewable power for electrolysis, or methane pyrolysis, to produce hydrogen. In addition, Novatek and Uniper have signed a MoU on joint investigation of the potential for Novatek to supply Uniper with Blue and Green Hydrogen for Uniper's power plants and markets in Russia and North West Europe.

Source(s): [Reuters](#), [Uniper](#)

Nucléaire

Rostekhnadzor issued a license for the construction of the BREST-OD-300 reactor

Date: 11/02/2021

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

The Federal Service for Environmental, Technological and Nuclear Supervision (Rostekhnadzor) has issued a license to JSC SCC to create the world's first experimental demonstration power unit with a lead-cooled fast neutron reactor BREST-OD-300 which uses mixed uranium-plutonium nitride fuel and integrated design.

Source(s): [Rosatom](#)

Transports

Europe's aviation sector launches ambitious plan to reach net zero CO2 emissions by 2050

Date: 11/02/2021

Europe, Refined products, Liquid biofuels, Oil, Biomass, Policy

Europe's aviation sector flagship sustainability initiative, Destination 2050 – A Route to Net Zero European Aviation aims to achieve net zero CO2 emissions by 2050. The ambitious plan could be achieved through a combination of four key measures: improvements in aircraft and engine technologies could achieve emission reductions of 37%; using sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs) could cut emissions by 34%; implementing economic measures could cut emissions by 8%; improvements in air traffic management (ATM) and aircraft operations could cut emissions by 6%.

Source(s): [Destination 2050](#)

CCS

Enabling U.S. technological leadership for the 2050 net-zero market

Date: 10/02/2021f

United States, America, G8, CO2 emissions, CCS, Technology

Direct air capture (DAC) of CO2 has high promise for large impact. By investing in the public and private sector research and development in this space, and by fostering a community of researchers, entrepreneurs, and investors literate in CO2 capture opportunities, the United States can be the leader of this new economic sector.

Source(s): [Belfer Center](#)