MINISTERE DES ARMEES

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Actualités énergétiques régionales

Afrique du Nord – Moyen Orient

Aramco closes $12 bn pipeline deal with China, UAE backing

Date: 19/06/2021

China, Saudi Arabia, Asia, Middle-East, BRICS, Emerging markets, Oil, Acquisition/sale, Companies, Oil pipeline, Saudi Aramco

China's Silk Road Fund and Hassana Investment Co., controlled by the Saudi Arabian government, have joined a group led by the US firm EIG Global Energy Partners investing US$12.4bn in Saudi Aramco's oil pipelines. The consortium has closed a deal to acquire a 49% equity stake in Aramco Oil Pipelines Co., a new subsidiary that will have rights to 25 years of tariff payments for oil transported through Aramco's crude pipeline network. Aramco will retain ownership of the remaining 51% stake.

Source(s): Bloomberg

The 1.4 GW Sirik gas-fired power plant enters construction (Iran)

Date: 15/06/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Iran, Electricity, Thermal, Gas-fired power gen., Projects, Power plants

Iran and Russia have finalised an agreement to build the 1,400 MW Sirik gas-fired power plant in the Hormozgan Province in southern Iran. The two countries had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2016 to implement the project, and the Russian company Technopromexport pledged to invest €1.2bn (US$1.46bn) in the project. Construction started in early 2017 but was soon suspended due to administrative and financing problems, and it restarted on 10 June 2021. The project, which will produce 12 TWh/year, is expected to be commissioned by the end of 2025.

Source(s): Teheran Times,

Iraq plans to build 8 nuclear reactors totalling 11 GW

Date: 11/06/2021

Emerging markets, Middle-East, Iraq, Electricity, Nuclear, Projects, Power plants

Iraq is looking to develop 8 nuclear reactors totalling 11 GW to tackle the power shortage. The country plans to seeks funding from partners for the US$40bn plan and reimburse the costs over two decades. The Iraqi authorities have held talk on the subject with South Korea and Russia. The country is importing around 7% of total power consumption, mainly from Iran (2019). In addition, Iraq depends on Iranian natural gas imports to feed its gas-fired power plants. The country has an installed capacity of 39 GW, including 24 GW of gas and 12 GW of oil (end-2020). In 2020, plunging oil prices reduced Iraq's revenues and aggravated the lack of maintenance of the power system, leading to outages and massive protests.

Source(s): Mehr News

China Southern Power Grid in talks for $4bn TAQA stake

Date: 09/06/2021

China, United Arab Emirates, Asia, Middle-East, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Acquisition/sale, Companies, TAQA

China Southern Power Grid would be in talks to acquire about 10% in Abu Dhabi National Energy Co. (TAQA), the emirate's biggest power utility. The 10% stake in TAQA could be worth about US$4.2bn based on its current share price.

Source(s): Bloomberg, Arab News

Saudi-Russian cooperation includes construction of nuclear reactors, minister says

Date: 04/06/2021

Russia, Saudi Arabia, CIS, Middle-East, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Nuclear, Electricity, Projects, Companies, Power plants, Rosatom

Rosatom is currently participating in a tender to build a high-yield nuclear power plant in Saudi Arabia. The Russian state-owned company, which submitted its application in February 2018, passed the first review stages and presented its offer. Saudi Arabia is currently seeking a company to build two reactors in the Kingdom. Companies from the US, China, South Korea and France are also taking part in the tender.

Source(s): TASS

Arctique

A new Arctic oil region emerges on the banks of the Tazov Bay

Date: 17/06/2021

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

Gazprom has launched production of its Tazov field that holds as much as 419 Mt of oil and 225 bcm of natural gas. When including the adjacent fields of Meretoyakhinskoye, Severo-Sambulskoye and Zapadno-Yubileynye, the resources exceed 1.1 Gt of oil. This project will be a new Arctic oil cluster with an output of 1.7 Mt/year of oil and 8 bcm/year of natural gas.

Source(s): The Barents Observer

Russia brings back largest global uranium project

Date: 08/06/2021

Russia, CIS, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Uranium, Nuclear, Electricity, Projects

Rosatom will resume the development of Yakut uranium deposits, which holds over 357 kt of uranium. The recent price increases for uranium have pushed the Russian authorities to encourage Rosatom to establish a plan towards the resumption of uranium mining. The company's licences for the field were suspended in 2017 due to the metal's drop in prices.

Source(s): The Barents Observer

The US halts oil development in the Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Date: 03/06/2021

G8, America, United States, Oil, Crude oil, Policy

The US Department of the Interior has suspended all activities related to the implementation of the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program in the Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The administration will undertake a comprehensive environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to determine whether the leases in the ANWR should be reaffirmed, voided, or subject to additional mitigation measures. In January 2021, the previous US administration conducted the first oil and gas lease sale for the Coastal Plain of the ANWR, which is estimated to contain up to 11.8 Gbl of oil. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received bids on half of the 22 tracts offered and 50% of the acreage. The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) secured nine tracts, while small independent companies, Knik Arm Services and Regenerate Alaska, won two.

Source(s): US Department of Interior

Europe

Russian gas exports to Serbia more than double in 2021 versus last year

Date: 22/06/2021

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

The amount of Gazprom's gas purchased by Serbia increased by 126% in the first 5 months of 2021 versus the same period of 2020. Starting from 1 January 2021, Gazprom began supplying gas to Serbia, as well as to Bosnia and Herzegovina, via the Turkish Stream gas pipeline and the Bulgarian national gas transmission system. Gazprom is expected to complete Serbia's first combined-cycle power plant in the city of Pančevo in 2021.

Source(s): Neftegaz.RU

Energoatom contracts Westinghouse for VVER-440 fuel supply

Date: 11/06/2021

Ukraine, CIS, Nuclear, Electricity, Contract, Power plants

Westinghouse and Energoatom have signed a VVER-440 fuel supply contract fuel for the Rovno nuclear power plant in Ukraine. The first batch of fuel assemblies (up to 12) manufactured by Westinghouse is planned to be loaded into the core of Rovno unit 2 in 2024. The total volume of supply under the contract provides for at least 1056 fuel assemblies.

Source(s): World Nuclear News

US looks into ways of helping Ukraine retain its gas transit fees

Date: 09/06/2021

Ukraine, United States, CIS, America, G8, Natural Gas, Policy, Gas pipeline

The United States is examining various options to help Ukraine retain its gas transit fees following the Nord Stream 2 launch, including persuading European partners to extend gas transit agreements with Kiev. Another option is to compensate for the transit fees that the country may lose when Nord Stream 2 becomes operational.

Source(s): TASS

Asie

Russia's Zarubezhneft plans a 1 GW offshore wind plant in Vietnam

Date: 22/06/2021

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

The Russian stated-owned oil company Zarubezhneft and JV Vietsovpetro (a Russian-Vietnamese joint venture of Zarubezhneft and the Vietnamese national oil and gas company Petrovietnam) have created a consortium with two affiliates of the Belgian company DEME (DEME Offshore BE and DEME Concessions Wind) to build the 1 GW Vinh Phong offshore wind plant in Vietnam. Vietnam has 600 MW of wind capacity, including 99 MW offshore, accounting for less than 1% of the country's installed capacity (69 GW in 2020).

Source(s): Energy Base (Russian), Sputnik News (Vietnamese)

USAID launches new clean energy project in Bangladesh, while GE moves ahead with a CCGT power project in the country

Date: 21/06/2021

United States, Bangladesh, America, Asia, G8, Emerging markets, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has announced the launch of a new clean energy project, Bangladesh Advancing Development Growth through Energy (BADGE), which aims to create an enabling environment for the development of advanced energy technologies, high performing energy institutions, increased regional energy trade, and transparent and best-valued energy procurement in the country to accelerate clean energy and net-zero strategies in Bangladesh.

In addition, General Electric (GE) has successfully installed its GE 9HA.01 gas turbine at the 583 MW Summit Meghnaghat II combined-cycle gas power plant in Meghnaghat (Bangladesh). The project's estimated cost approximates US$510m, and commissioning is expected in March 2022. The developer and operator of the project is Summit Meghnaghat II Power Company (SMIIPCL), a joint venture between Summit Group (80%) and GE (20%).

Source(s): The Financial Express, GE

Le Turkménistan annonce avoir remboursé sa dette à la Chine pour un gazoduc

Date: 12/06/2021

Turkmenistan, China, CIS, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Natural Gas, Projects, Gas pipeline

Le Turkménistan a entièrement remboursé sa dette de plusieurs milliards de dollars à la Chine pour la construction d'un gazoduc. La Chine a investi des milliards de dollars dans le développement de l'industrie du gaz au Turkménistan, notamment dans le gazoduc qui relie l'est du Turkménistan à la Chine en passant par l'Ouzbékistan et le Kazakhstan, ainsi que dans le développement du gisement de Galkynych, le deuxième plus grand champ de gaz au monde.

Source(s): Connaissance des énergies

Beijing boosts its position as a "Himalayan hegemon" through hydropower

Date: 07/06/2021

China, India, Asia, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Large-hydro, Hydro, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

With China's massive new hydropower project on the politically contentious Yarlung Tsangpo now a strategic priority under the 14th Five-Year Plan, water politics in the Himalayas requires more acute attention than ever before. Ultimately, the outcome of regional power dynamics and geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific will depend on China's approach: whether it wants to emerge as a cooperative country or remain tied to its authoritarian, non-cooperative, and hegemonic outlook, solidifying its position of acting as a de facto 'Himalayan Hegemon'.

Source(s): The Jamestown Foundation

With Kazatomprom deal, China secures nuclear fuel supply and enhances ties with Kazakhstan

Date: 04/06/2021

Kazakhstan, China, CIS, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Uranium, Nuclear, Electricity, Acquisition/sale

In April 2021, China finalized a nuclear fuel deal with Kazakhstan's national atomic agency, Kazatomprom, the largest uranium supplier in the world. State-owned China General Nuclear Power Group (CGNPC) and Kazatomprom formed a joint venture to build the Ulba Nuclear Fuel Plant, giving China a 49% stake in the plant for US$435m, and guaranteeing that CGNPC will purchase 49% of the plant's production annually. Russia has traditionally been Kazatomprom's largest business partner, but now, China provides Kazatomprom an alternative as a counterweight to Russian influence.

Source(s): The Diplomat

Russian Grand Strategy and Energy Resources: The Asian Dimension

Date: 02/06/2021

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

Russia's cooperation with Asia—and especially with China—on energy is motivated by more than purely economic concerns and interest in market expansion and diversification. It will reduce the country's strategic exposure vis-à-vis the West by reducing the level of strategically constraining energy interdependence between Russia and the EU caused by the EU's dominant role in Russia's export of energy commodities. It will also reduce Russia's strategic exposure to possible consequences of the green energy revolution, promoted and implemented by the EU.

Source(s): Norwegian Institute of International Affairs

Afrique

TotalEnergies dishes out Tilenga work

Date: 14/06/2021

China, Uganda, Asia, Africa, BRICS, Emerging markets, Oil, Projects, Companies, TotalEnergies

Total E&P Uganda has signed conditional letters of award for surface facilities and drilling packages under its Tilenga project, in western Uganda. The first package went to CB&I UK and Sinopec. This covers engineering, procurement, supply, construction and commissioning (EPSCC) of the central processing facility (CPF), flowlines and other surface facilities. The CPF will be built at Buliisa, outside the Murchison Falls National Park. The US$2bn Tilenga is expected to produce 200 kb/d as of 2025.

Source(s): Energy Voice, Energy Voice

Gambie : un projet de 23 M$ lancé pour le raccordement de 685 communautés au réseau électrique

Date: 09/06/2021

China, Gambia, Asia, Africa, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Projects, Distribution (power), Power grids

NAWEC, la compagnie gambienne d'électricité et d'eau, a lancé le projet de modernisation de la transmission et de la distribution d'électricité de la région du Grand Banjul. L'initiative d'un coût de US$23m sera mise en œuvre par TBEA, une entreprise chinoise. La Banque mondiale, l'Union européenne et la BEI ont cofinancé cette initiative dans le cadre du projet de restauration et de modernisation de l'électricité en Gambie (GERMP).

Source(s): Agence Ecofin

US administration aims to ramp up climate change and power sector funding for Africa

Date: 02/06/2021

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

The United States plans to double the volume of finance awarded annually to developing countries and triple its climate change-related adaptation finance by 2024. The Power Africa scheme is supporting African utilities in developing new business models, particularly in the low-margin markets of sub-Saharan Africa and is also exploring the productive use of solar power in agriculture and other sectors.

In addition, the US Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the governments of Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire as part of its new regional energy interconnection program that is designed to strengthen market integration between the two countries.

Moreover, the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has approved a loan of up to US$217m to CECA SL Generation Ltd that will help develop, construct, and operate an 87 MW power plant and associated infrastructure in Sierra Leone. DFC's financing is contingent upon the Government of Sierra Leone passing implementing legislation for the New York Convention under Sierra Leone law.

Source(s): PV Magazine, MCC, DFC

Savannah Energy in talks to buy Exxon's Chad, Cameroon stakes

Date: 02/06/2021

United States, Cameroon, Chad, America, Africa, Africa, G8, Oil, Acquisition/sale, Companies, Chevron

Africa-focused Savannah Energy and Exxon Mobil Corp are in exclusive talks over the sale of Exxon’s interest in energy assets in Chad and Cameroon. The British oil and gas producer is proposing to buy a 40% operated interest in the Doba oil project in Chad, and a 40% interest in the Chad-Cameroon oil transportation pipeline.

Source(s): Reuters

Karuma power dam launch delayed again

Date: 30/05/2021

China, Uganda, Asia, Africa, BRICS, Emerging markets, Large-hydro, Hydro, Renewables, Electricity, Projects, Power plants

The launch of the 600 MW Karuma Hydropower Dam has been delayed again. The Uganda Electricity Generation Company (UEGCL) now plans to commission the dam in June 2022. The delayed launching had previously triggered friction between the builders and government that is paying 15% of the US$$1.7bn with the rest of the cash coming from Exim Bank through a soft loan from the Chinese government.

Source(s): Daily Monitor

Autres

Rosatom proposes nuclear developments in Argentina and Costa Rica

Date: 15/06/2021

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

Russia has proposed Argentina to advance in the construction of two nuclear power plants, one on continental Argentina and one offshore. According to the join-project, Argentina would supply the sea structure, while Russia would be in charge of the nuclear reactors.

In addition, Rosatom has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Costa Rican Atomic Energy Commission on cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The document creates the basis for the development of cooperation in a wide range of areas, in particular the development of the nuclear infrastructure of the Republic of Costa Rica.

Source(s): MercoPress, Rosatom (Russian)

Russia's Lukoil to drill its first exploratory well in Mexico, Gazprom strengthens its gas cooperation in Bolivia

Date: 08/06/2021

Russia, Mexico, CIS, America, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Oil, Projects, Companies, Lukoil

The Russian oil company Lukoil has received authorization to drill its first exploratory well in shallow waters off the coast of the state of Tabasco (Mexico). The company aims to assess the oil potential in the Upper and Lower Miocene sands, which is said to contain 113 Mboe.

In addition, the Bolivian state oil company YPFB (Yacimientos Petrolifos Fiscales Bolivianos) and the Russian gas company Gazprom have reached a new agreement to develop joint investments and projects in Bolivia. Following a 2018 agreement, YPFB and Gazprom have negotiated joint projects for the exploration, production and industrialization of natural gas in past years, although they did not sign definitive agreements.

Source(s): Energía a Debate (Spanish), Sputnik (Spanish)

Ecuador's Petroecuador awards 2.16 million bbl tender to PetroChina

Date: 07/06/2021

Ecuador, America, Emerging markets, Oil, Contract, Companies, CNPC / PetroChina

Ecuador’s state oil company Petroecuador has awarded a tender to purchase some 2.16 million barrels of Oriente grade crude to PetroChina, part of which will be exported via a new pipeline connection to the Punta Gorda port. PetroChina will pay a discount of US$2.49/bbl to West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude prices for the portion of crude exported from Balao, and a premium of US$2/bbl over WTI for the portion exported via Punta Gorda.

Source(s): Reuters

Stratégies d’entreprises

Stratégies

Russia’s Gazprom plans to export 8.5 bcm of gas to China in 2021

Date: 18/06/2021

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

The Russian energy group Gazprom plans to more than double its natural gas exports to China via the Power of Siberia pipeline to 8.5 bcm in 2021, up from 4.1 bcm in 2020. According to Gazprom, natural gas demand in China should increase by more than 50% over the next decade compared to 2020 level. In December 2019, Russia started to deliver gas to China using the Power of Siberia pipeline under a 30-year contract for 38 bcm/year signed in 2014. The Russian group will progressively ramp up gas deliveries from the Chayandinskoye field in Yakutia (and from the Kovyktinskoye field located in the Irkutsk region as of early 2023) to Blagoveshchensk, at the Russian border with China, and to Changling in the Jilin province of China, until reaching the 38 bcm/year level. In 2020, China consumed 325 bcm of natural gas (+7.2% compared to 2019). The country imported 132 bcm of natural gas (+5.3%), including 91 bcm of LNG (+12%).

Source(s): TASS

Rosatom 'plans new nuclear technology exports'

Date: 11/06/2021

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

Rosatom will soon submit to the Russian government its 'New Atomic Energy' plan, which aims to invest RUB506bn (US$7bn) in new nuclear technologies by 2030, of which RUB150bn (US$2bn) will be from the state budget. Rosatom aims to build four floating power units using RITM-200 reactors (55 MWe each) by the end of 2028 in Chutkotka along with a land-based nuclear power plant using RITM-200N technology by the end of 2030 in Yakutia. By 2030, pilot units called Shelf M (up to 10 MWe) and Elena AM (400 kWe and 5 Gcal/h) should be launched in remote regions of the country. Rosatom hopes to conclude the first export contract for its small nuclear power plants at the end of 2026, and for six units by the end of 2030.

Source(s): World Nuclear News

China Three Gorges to enter in Spain electricity retail market, Cinco Dias reports

Date: 10/06/2021

Spain, China, Europe, Asia, BRICS, Emerging markets, Electricity, Acquisition/sale, Companies, Distribution (power), Power grids, China Three Gorges Power (CTGPC)

China's state-owned energy and infrastructure giant China Three Gorges would be planning a foray into the Spanish electricity retail market and would be seeking to buy an independent retailer already operating in Spain. The Chinese group is already active in Spain through 13 solar plants acquired in August 2020.

Source(s): Reuters

Shifting gears: Geopolitics of the global energy transition

Date: 10/06/2021

World, Oil, Policy

Driven largely by technological advancements and policies aimed at decarbonization, the prospect that oil demand will peak in the not-too-distant future has become a topic of debate in energy circles over the past several years. This study set out to answer three major geopolitical questions related to the prospect of a peak in oil demand, including: the likely redistribution of oil market share between major producers; the potential for failed states or material internal political instability in major oil-producing states; and the possible winners and losers among oil consumers in a peak oil demand, low-carbon transition.

Source(s): Atlantic Council

Is natural gas still a geopolitical resource?

Date: 07/06/2021

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

Over past decades, gas has come of age and it is now a key element of our energy mix covering a quarter of our needs. The USA shale gas revolution and the construction of new LNG export facilities all around the world brought a huge quantity of liquified natural gas to the market, making it a global and abundant resource available at a competitive price. Russia remains the largest supplier of gas to the EU, but a clever European strategy based on diversification of suppliers and supplier routes, construction of new LNG terminals, and improved interconnections among Member States has increased the EU's resilience to possible supply disruption.

Source(s): ISPI

Novatek signs framework terms with China's Zhejiang Energy on supplying up to 1 Mt/year of LNG from Arctic LNG 2

Date: 02/06/2021

Russia, China, CIS, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, LNG, Natural Gas, Contract, Companies, LNG liquefaction, LNG facilities, Novatek

Novatek and China's Zhejiang Energy Gas Group have signed a framework agreement on long-term LNG supplies, following a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in October 2019. Novatek will supply up to 1 Mt/year of LNG from the Arctic LNG 2 project in Russia for 15 years on DES terms to Zhejiang Energy's LNG terminals in China.

Source(s): Interfax

Equinor and partners take FID for Bacalhau oil phase 1 in Brazil

Date: 02/06/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, America, Brazil, Oil, Companies, Projects, Equinor, ExxonMobil, Galp Energia

Equinor (40%, operator), ExxonMobil (40%), Petrogal Brasil (Galp Energia, 20%) and Présal Petróleo SA (government company, PSA manager) have taken the Final Investment Decision (FID) to develop Phase One of the Bacalhau field in the Brazilian pre-salt. The project, which will have a break even price below US$35/bbl, requires an investment of US$8bn. It will consist of 19 subsea wells tied back to a floating production, storage and offloading unit (FPSO) with a production capacity of 220,000 bbl/d and 2 mbl/d of storage capacity. First oil production is planned in 2024.

Source(s): Equinor press release

Investissements et acquisitions

4.5 times as much overseas coal capacity linked to China cancelled or shelved than constructed

Date: 15/06/2021

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

Over the last 5 years, more coal-fired power capacity linked to China was shelved or cancelled than commissioned. This indicates that despite massive construction at home, overseas coal projects faced significant political and financial challenges in most host countries. Over the 2017-2021 period, the ratio of cancelled to commercialized coal capacity was 3.5 to 1. In addition, coal construction has slowed; the number of projects entering construction since 2017 was four times less than what was shelved or cancelled.

Source(s): Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air

Russia’s Gazprom starts pre-commissioning phase of Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline

Date: 14/06/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Europe, Germany, CIS, Russia, Natural Gas, Companies, Projects, Gas pipeline, Interconnection (gas), Gazprom

Gazprom has completed the offshore part of the first line of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline and has started to fill it with natural gas. The €9.5bn Nord Stream 2 project is aimed at doubling the throughput of the current Nord Stream route between Vyborg (Russia) and Greifswald (Germany), from 55 bcm/year to 110 bcm/year. It is developed by Gazprom (50%), Uniper, Shell, OMV, Wintershall and Engie (10% each). The EUGAL gas pipeline, extending Nord Stream 2 in Germany, reached its full capacity in April 2021.

Source(s): TASS

Gazprom starts commissioning the 42 bcm/year Amur gas processing plant (Russia)

Date: 11/06/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Natural Gas, Companies, Supply, Capacities, Projects, Gazprom

Gazprom has commissioned the first of six production trains at the Amur Gas Processing Plant (GPP) located near the town of Svobodny, Amur Region in eastern Russia. The plant, which will have a total capacity of 42 bcm/year, requires a total investment of RUB1,000bn (US$13.8bn) and is scheduled to be fully commissioned in 2024-2025. The project will process gas output from the Chayandinskoye field (Yakutia) and the Kovyktinskoye field (Irkutsk Region) and help supply natural gas to China via the Power of Siberia gas pipeline. In addition, the plant will also produce 2.4 Mt/year of ethane, 1.5 Mt/year of LPG, and 200,000 t of pentane-hexane fraction, which will be mainly supplied to the Amur Gas Chemical Complex (a joint project of SIBUR and Sinopec).

Source(s): Gazprom, TASS

Russia and Pakistan agree to build Pakistan Stream gas pipeline

Date: 31/05/2021

BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, CIS, Russia, Asia, Pakistan, Natural Gas, Projects, Gas pipeline, Transmission (gas)

Russia and Pakistan have signed an amended Inter-Governmental Agreement to build the Pakistan Stream Gas Pipeline. The 12.4 bcm/year gas pipeline would connect Karachi to the provincial capital Lahore over 1,100 km. The project will be executed through a special purpose company incorporated in Pakistan, and Pakistan will own 74% of the project, while Russia will have a 26% stake. The cost of the pipeline has been estimated at US$2.25bn.

Source(s): Daily Times, Reuters

Juridique et institutionnel

Military-civil fusion and China's nuclear program

Date: 10/06/2021

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

The United States responded to Chinese nuclear espionage by sanctioning Chinese state-owned entities and including U.S. technology protection in the China-U.S. nuclear cooperation agreement. In the future U.S. nuclear industry engagement in China may decline, reflecting greater perceived risk and China's technology indigenization.

Source(s): Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Biden administration renews Chevron license in Venezuela

Date: 01/06/2021

United States, Venezuela, America, America, G8, Emerging markets, Oil, Production, Supply, Companies, Chevron

The US government has renewed a license allowing Chevron to remain in Venezuela until 1 December 2021. Chevron is the last major U.S. oil company still operating in Venezuela and had a special US operating license exempting it from sanctions imposed on the Venezuela's oil sector since 2019. However, its license was modified in 2020 to restrict the company from key activities such as drilling and trading and its latest waiver was due to expire on 3 June 2021.

Source(s): Reuters

Biden changes course in northeastern Syria, ending Trump's Delta Crescent Energy deal

Date: 01/06/2021

United States, Syria, America, Middle-East, G8, Oil, Policy

The Biden administration has removed the sanctions waiver that allowed the US company Delta Crescent Energy to operate in north-eastern Syria, which is controlled by the Kurdish led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

Source(s): The New Arab

Energy relations are a sign of Russia's declining global standing

Date: 28/05/2021

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

Russia has risen to a status of major global producer and supplier of fossil fuels, amplified by recent developments such as its participation in the OPEC+ alliance and the build-up of gas infrastructure to facilitate Russian gas exports. But energy is not enough to return the country to the position of world's superpower. In fact, energy relations rather point to the opposite: Russia's transformation from a hegemon to a regular participant of world affairs.

Source(s): The Hill

Innovations technologiques

Energies renouvelables et biocarburants

Renewable power generation costs in 2020

Date: 23/06/2021

World, Renewables, Electricity, Technology

In 2020, the global weighted-average levelised cost of electricity (LCOE) from new onshore wind installations fell by 13%, while that for offshore wind declined by 9% and that of utility-scale solar PV by 7%. Since 2010, the global LCOE for solar PV fell by 85% to US$5.7c/kWh (total installation costs down by 80% to US$883/kW). For onshore wind projects, the LCOE fell by 56% to US$3.9c/kWh; the LCOE for offshore wind nearly halved over the 2010-2020 period to US$8.4c/kWh. Declines in costs are due to technology improvements, economies of scale, competitive supply chains, and improving developer experience. Since 2010, 644 GW of renewable capacities have been installed, including 162 GW in 2020 alone, which had electricity costs lower than the cheapest source of new fossil-fired power capacity.

Source(s): IRENA

India, Russia to fund joint R&D in clean energy

Date: 02/06/2021

Russia, India, CIS, Asia, BRICS, G8, Emerging markets, Renewables, Electricity, Policy

India's Department of Science and Technology and the Russian Science Foundation (RSF) have launched a collaborative funding program for Indian and Russian researchers to jointly research clean energy, new materials, and smart transport.

Source(s): PV Magazine India

The future of renewable energy depends on China

Date: 27/05/2021

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

The rollout of renewable energies, which is expected to cut the reliance on fossil fuels, should create new dependencies on non-renewable minerals such as cobalt, copper, lithium, nickel, manganese, molybdenum, zinc, and rare earth elements, whose production is concentrated in a few countries. The United States has little choice but to collaborate with China, which produces 70% of global rare earth elements, to improve the supply strategic minerals for the energy transition.

Source(s): The Nation

Stockage d'électricité et batteries

Cost projections for utility-scale battery storage: 2021 update

World, Electricity, Technology

Battery storage costs have evolved rapidly over the past several years, necessitating an update to storage cost projections used in long-term planning models. Despite a wide range in projections, the projections show a decline in capital costs, with cost reductions by 2025 of 14-38%. The cost projections result in 28-58% capital cost reductions by 2030 and 28-75% cost reductions by 2050. The cost projections are also accompanied by assumed operations and maintenance costs, lifetimes, and round-trip efficiencies, and these metrics are benchmarked against other published values.

Source(s): NREL

Hydrogène

US DOE launched the Hydrogen Shot to reduce by 80% cost of H2

Date: 11/06/2021

G8, America, United States, Hydrogen, Policy

The US Department of Energy (DOE) has launched the Energy Earthshots Initiative, an initiative which aims to accelerate breakthroughs of more abundant, affordable, and reliable clean energy solutions within the decade. The first Energy Earthshot (the Hydrogen Shot) seeks to reduce the cost of clean hydrogen by 80% to US$1/kg in one decade, down from around US$5/kg currently. The Hydrogen Shot would unlock a five-fold increase in demand in hydrogen production from renewables, nuclear, and thermal conversion. Topics in the RFI include: Hydrogen Production, Resources, and Infrastructure; End Users for Hydrogen Based on Specific Regions, Cost, and Value Propositions; Greenhouse Gas and Other Pollutant Emissions Reduction Potential ; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI), Jobs, and Environmental Justice ; and Science and Innovation Needs and Challenges.

Source(s): US DOE

Russia plans to occupy 20% of the H2 market in the future

Date: 09/06/2021

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

The Russian government aims to reach a share of 20% of the global hydrogen market in the future. The concept for hydrogen development is currently under discussion and may be approved by the Russian government in July or August 2021. According to Russia's Energy Strategy, Russia could export 200 kt of hydrogen in 2024 and 2 Mt in 2035 (moderate scenario); with a more rapid development in the industry, it could export 1 Mt hydrogen in 2024 and 7 Mt in 2035. By 2050, Russia may raise its hydrogen exports to 7.9-33.5 Mt/year depending on the global growth rate of hydrogen demand. Meanwhile, the Russian oil producer Novatek and the steel and mining company Severstal have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate in the field of alternative and hydrogen energy to reduce GHG emissions. The MoU provides for the implementation of a joint pilot project to produce blue hydrogen from natural gas and to cooperate in development of technological solutions for the use of fuel types based on hydrogen and its carriers, specifically ammonia.

Source(s): Russian government, Argus Media (in Russian), Novatek

Sinopec plans to launch 20 kt green H2 plant (China)

Date: 27/05/2021

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

Chinese oil and gas company Sinopec plans to launch its first 20,000 t/year green hydrogen plant in Ordos (Inner Mongolia region, China) in 2022. The first 10,000 t/year phase will be supported by a 270 MW solar power project and a 50 MW wind park. It will supply green hydrogen to a coal chemical project. The project will require a CNY2.6bn (US$406m) investment. In addition, Sinopec is considering another 20,000 t/year green hydrogen plant in Kuqa (Xinjiang), powered by a 1 GW solar project. Finally, the group aims to set-up 1,000 hydrogen filling stations across China. Currently Sinopec accounts for around 14% of China's hydrogen production, produced as part of the refining process.

Source(s): Reuters

Nucléaire

Russia starts building lead-cooled fast reactor

Date: 08/06/2021

BRICS, Russia, Nuclear, Technology, Power Plant

The Russian nuclear fuel manufacturer TVEL has started to build a 300 MW BREST-OD-300 lead-cooled fast reactor at the site of the Siberian Chemical Combine, in Seversk (Russia). The nuclear reactor will be integrated to the Pilot Demonstration Energy Complex (PDEC), a cluster of three interconnected facilities, including the nuclear fuel production plant (for fabrication and re-fabrication, expected to be commissioned in 2023), the BREST-OD-300 power unit (expected in 2026), and the facility for irradiated fuel reprocessing (expected in 2024). The unit will run on mixed uranium-plutonium nitride (MNUP) fuel, specially developed for this facility as the "optimal solution" for fast reactors.

Source(s): World Nuclear News

Transports

Tesla supplier CATL plans a major battery plant in Shanghai -sources

Date: 03/06/2021

BRICS, Emerging markets, Asia, China, Electricity

China's CATL would be considering developing a major new automotive battery plant in Shanghai (China), that would be able to produce 80 GWh of battery cells per year and would cement its lead as the world's No.1 supplier of electric car batteries. Many battery makers are ramping up production to meet soaring worldwide demand as car makers accelerate their shift to electric vehicles to comply with tougher emission rules aimed at tackling global warming.

Source(s): Nasdaq

CCS

NETL engages with organizations to develop affordable negative emissions technologies

Date: 21/06/2021

United States, CO2, Technology, CCS

In the continuing effort to reach the US Administration's net-zero carbon emission goals in the power sector by 2035 and the broader economy by 2050, NETL is advancing emerging carbon dioxide (CO2) capture research areas such as direct air capture (DAC) and bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) by engaging in extramural collaborations with the private sector, academia and other national laboratories.

Source(s): NETL