

ASIAN ENERGY SECURITY NETWORK DAILY REPORT, Wednesday, June 22nd, 2005

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1. Joint Stockpiling

The Nautilus Institute (Eui-soon Shin, "JOINT STOCKPILING AND EMERGENCY SHARING OF OIL," May 13th-16th, Beijing, China) released this report by Eui-soon Shin from the Institute's Asian Energy Security Workshop 2005 in Beijing, China, hosted by the Energy and Environmental Technology Center (EETC) at Tsinghua University in Beijing. The report describes the growing energy insecurity in the Asia-Pacific region. It details policies to promote oil security with a focus on differing kinds of Oil Stockpiling. The report describes oil stockpiling policies in the ROK and Japan.

Shin concludes by suggesting strategies for regional cooperation on this issue.

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2. LEAP Application to the DPRK

The Nautilus Institute (DPRK delegation, "LEAP APPLICATION IN THE DPRK," May 13th-16th, Beijing, China) released this report by the DPRK delegation from the Institute's Asian Energy Security Workshop 2005 in Beijing, China, hosted by the Energy and Environmental Technology Center (EETC) at Tsinghua University in Beijing. The report describes the research being conducted in the DPRK using LEAP software as well as the DPRK's goals for the application of the program.

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3. Energy and Nanotechnology

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy of Rice University ("ENERGY AND NANOTECHNOLOGY: STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE," April 2005) released this research report from the Conference "Energy and Nanotechnology: Strategy for the Future". The report concludes that, "It should be the overriding mission of a new energy science program to map out the path to development of new sources for a better energy future for the 21st century-sources that can serve as a catalyst for sustained worldwide economic growth without harming the planet."

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Read the full Conference report at:

<http://www.rice.edu/energy/publications/energynanotechnology.html>

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4. Hydropower and Climate Change

Aspen Environmental Group and M. Cubed (Suzanne Phinney, Richard McCann, "POTENTIAL CHANGES IN HYDROPOWER PRODUCTION FROM GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE IN CALIFORNIA AND THE WESTERN UNITED STATES," June, 2005) released this report for the California Energy Commission. The report states, "temperature and precipitation effects from global climate change could alter future hydrologic conditions in the West and, as a result, future hydropower generation. To determine how hydropower generation could change, the existing hydropower infrastructure and generation for California, the Pacific Northwest, and the Colorado River Basin were delineated."

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5. Sino-Australian Uranium Deal

The Age ("CANBERRA SET ON CHINA URANIUM DEAL", 2005-06-16) reported that the Federal Government is poised to allow mining companies to begin exporting uranium to the PRC, a move that would at least double Australia's annual revenue from the resource to \$1 billion. Resources Minister Ian Macfarlane is determined to dramatically expand Australia's exploitation of the resource and is seeking to sell more to existing markets, as well as getting the PRC into the mix. He told The Age Australia risked losing billions of dollars of export revenue if it did not lift the ban of uranium sales to the PRC, a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Australia is seeking a safeguard agreement with the PRC before exports start, giving Australia the ability to monitor the end use of its uranium.

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6. Japan on Contaminated Soil Disposal

Kyodo News ("GOV'T BODY PLANS TO DISPOSE OF URANIUM-CONTAMINATED SOIL IN U.S.", 2005-06-13) reported that a governmental nuclear research and development organization plans to ship soil contaminated with uranium from Yurihama, Tottori Prefecture, to the US for disposal, informed sources said Sunday. Of the 3,000 cubic meters of contaminated soil in the town's Katamo district, 290 cubic meters, with a relatively high surface radiation level, will be shipped by the Japan Nuclear Cycle Development Institute, the sources said. According to the institute's plan, a US firm will dispose of the soil in the US at a total cost of more than 600 million yen, they said, adding it remains to be seen what will be done with the remaining 2,700 cubic meters of soil.

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7. PRC-Japan Gas Field Dispute

Agence France-Presse ("JAPAN SOON TO APPROVE TEST-DRILLING IN GAS FIELD DISPUTED WITH CHINA", 2005-06-16) reported that Japan plans to grant a Tokyo-based firm test-drilling rights for a gas field contested with the PRC as early as next month in a move that could further strain ties with Beijing, according to a press report. Teikoku Oil applied to test-drill one of the potentially huge fields in the East China Sea, which Tokyo in April opened to private exploration, and will likely get approval next month or later, the Tokyo Shimbun said. "The move is likely to prompt China to heighten its protest, even though the possibility of the company actually starting test-drilling is low as with bilateral talks stalled there is no safety guarantee for the work," the daily said, quoting an anonymous trade ministry official.

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8. Russian Gas Exports

Itar-Tass ("RUSSIA TO SUPPLY GAS TO SOUTH KOREA, CHINA BY 2015", 2005-06-15) reported that gas consumers in the ROK, PRC might look forward to gas exports from Russia by the year 2010-2015, member of the Gazprom Board Vlada Rusakova told journalists on Tuesday. The ROK might receive Russian gas by the year 2010 already, Rusakova added. "We have been conducting marketing research and switched over from general to concrete projects," Rusakova said. She heads the department for strategic development at the Gazprom Company. Commenting on gas exports to Japan in the framework of the Sakhalin-1 project, she said: "there is always a chance".

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9. PRC Energy Supply

Agence France Presse ("CHINA TO BUILD FOUR NEW NUCLEAR REACTORS AT QINSHAN PLANT", 2005-06-14) reported that the PRC National Nuclear Corp (CNNC) plans to double generating capacity at its Qinshan plant by building four new reactors for a total investment of 4.3 billion dollars, state media said. CNNC, the country's largest nuclear reactor constructor, will build two 650-megawatt reactors and two 1,000-megawatt reactors, funding the projects itself, the China Daily reported, citing the company. CNNC said the installed capacity of the Qinshan plant in the eastern province of Zhejiang would rise to 6,200 megawatts from the current 2,900 megawatts upon completion of the projects.

Read the article here.

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10. PRC Energy Program

Shenzhen Daily ("CHINA LAUNCHES 80 MLN ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM", 2005-06-08) reported that the PRC, the world's second-largest energy consumer, has launched an US\$80 million program with the United Nations (UN) to promote efficient use of energy and cut pollution, UN and government officials said Monday. The PRC, struggling to fuel the world's fastest-growing major economy in the face of rapid demand growth, increasing reliance on oil imports and recurrent power shortages, aims to quadruple gross domestic product (GDP) by 2020 while just doubling its energy consumption. The program aims to reduce energy consumption by nearly 19 million tons of coal equivalent in the first three-year phase of the program, cutting carbon emissions by 12 million tons.

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