East Asia Science & Security Network Report, April 6, 2004

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1. China Energy Future: Leap Tool Application In China

The Nautilus Institute (Baolei Guo, Yanjia Wang, Aling Zhang "CHINA ENERGY FUTURE: LEAP TOOL APPLICATION IN CHINA," November 1st, 2004) released this study examining the application of the LEAP Program (Long-range Energy Alternative Planning) to the energy sector in China written for the Forth East Asian Energy Futures Project (EAEF) workshop convened by Nautilus Institute in November 2003 in Vancouver, Canada. This presentation features details on the current status of the Japanese energy sector, noting key changes, as well as an examination of the potential for future development and energy efficiency.

Read the full report.

2. ROK on Power Grid Interconnection

The Nautilus Institute (Jae-young Yoon, Ho-yong Kim, Dong-wook Park, "ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND BENEFITS OF REGIONAL POWER GRID INTERCONNECTIONS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA," October 1st, 2003) released a presentation presented to the Nautilus Institute's 3rd Workshop on Grid Interconnection in Vladivostok, Russia on September 31, 2003. The report concludes that "the environmental benefits of power system interconnection include the reduction, through the mechanism of inter-country electricity trading, of GHG (Green House Gas) emissions from electricity production in thermal power plants. The monetary value of the avoided emissions can be expressed as the total reduction in GHG emissions multiplied by a CO2 tax per TCE (Tonne of Carbon Equivalent). This paper describes the results of the analysis of environmental benefits, including reductions in TCE and in CO2 taxes, that could be obtained using inter-country

electricity trading based on "RFE-DPRK-ROK" power system interconnection scenarios." http://www.nautilus.org

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3. Nautilus Institute China Dataset

The Nautilus Institute ("CHINA DATASET," March 2004) released this study in preparation for Nautilus Institute's fifth East Asia Energy Futures/Asian Energy Security Program workshop to be held in Beijing, China May 12 - 15, 2004, Nautilus will release energy demand and transformation data collected from six countries to include: Japan, China, Russian Far East, Mongolia, ROK, and DPRK. Country datasets are created using Long Range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) software and data is exported to user-friendly excel files for the purpose of dissemination. http://www.nautilus.org.

East Asian Energy Futures/Asian Energy Security Working Groups Data and Reports.

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4. Caspian Sea Oil Field Development

The Korea Times ("CASPIAN SEA OIL FIELD DEVELOPMENT," 03/14/04) reported that South Korea and Kazakhstan have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on jointly developing oil fields in the Caspian Sea, home to one of the world's largest oil reserves, according to the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy on Sunday. The two countries also inked an agreement on conducting joint mineral resources surveys in Kazakhstan, Lee said. Lee had started a six-day trip to Kazakhstan and Germany Wednesday, but had to abruptly cancel the remainder of his schedule in Kazakhstan and Germany following the passage of a parliamentary bill to impeach President Roh Moo-hyun Friday. Some 70 government and private-sector representatives, including Korea National Oil Corp. president Yi Ok-su, Korea Gas Corp. head Oh Kang-hyun and Korea Resources Corp. chief Park Chun-taek, accompanied the minister.

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5. Daewoo Wins Bid to Explore Myanmar Gas Field

The Korea Herald (Revekah Kim "DAEWOO WINS BID TO EXPLORE MYANMAR GAS FIELD," 2/20/04) reported that Daewoo International Corp. has won the right to explore another gas field off the coast of Myanmar, the company announced yesterday. Officials said that the Myanmar Energy Ministry granted rights to the former trading arm of the now-defunct Daewoo Group to explore for gas in A-3 Block, which is a 6,780-square-kilometer area in the Bay of Bengal. The company is slated to start offshore drilling in early 2006 to search for gas fields after research and technological

studies are complete. Last month, Daewoo led a group that found a gas field in Block A-1, which is adjacent to Block A-3. The reserves in Block A-1 are presumed to store up to 6 trillion cubic feet of gas, which is energy-equivalent to between 700 million and 1.1 billion barrels of crude oil, a Daewoo official said in January.
http://cerna.keei.re.kr/nea/e_trends.nsf/FormFrameSet?OpenForm&docid=8A7ABBA343F801DC49256E6200326FFC

Daewoo wins bid to explore Myanmar gas field

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6. DPRK Energy Sector

Korea Energy Economics Institute (KEEI) (K. S. Kim, "STUDY ON STRATEGIES TO REHABILITATE THE ENERGY SECTOR OF THE DPR KOREA," 3/14/04) reported that recent energy demand/supply statistics of DPR Korea were updated and analyzed in this report. Also DPR Korean energy policy so far was evaluated. This study was designed to find major issues on energy cooperation between two Koreas by possible paths for economic development strategy of DPR Korea. This study tried to explain possible economic development paths for DPR Korea by four scenarios, 'Quick transition', 'Painful adjustment', 'Sheltered transition', and 'Bulgarian model' which were divided by two axes, liberalization and resource transfer.

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7. The Four Borders Project

Nexant ("THE FOUR BORDERS PROJECT: RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT AND POWER TRANSFER IN SOUTH ASIA," USAID-SARI/Energy Program, November, 2001) reported on this pre-feasibility study written to provide guidance to regional power sector stakeholders as well as governmental policy-makers as to the possibilities for interconnecting transmission systems of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal in what is referred to in the report as the "Four Borders Region." This regional interconnection (the "Four Borders Project") could provide significant benefits to regional economies through closer cooperation on regional power transfer, enhanced system reliability, improved security and diversity of supply, increased economic efficiency in system operation, reduced environmental impacts, and lower costs to consumers. It also could help attract private sector investment to the regional power sector.

Read the report.

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