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The Trend and Challenge of Thailand Power Development Plan

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Abstract:

The main objectives of Thailand power development plan (PDP) are power system security and power system adequacy to serve future power demand on the fact that very few options for power generation are available, and consistency to the government's energy policy should be schemed.

Thailand's power demand is still continuously increasing as a result of the economic and social development. To move forward, the country needs to balance the Tri-lemma of 1) power supply security, 2) environmental impacts, and 3) the role of consumers.

Large fossil-fired power plants cannot be denied. Thus, in order to have low electricity tariff as possible and to maintain power security, diversification of fuel types and sources is essential. However, clean coal technology and nuclear power plants are also interesting options for Thailand's power generation in the future. Providing correct information to all sectors of the society is an essential and urgent task to seek participation and cooperation from the public in a bid to avoid insufficient power supply in the future and to balance the three mentioned aspects. Use of renewable energy should also be seriously considered with close follow-ups of policy implementation and some stimulating measures. More power purchase from neighboring countries is another option considering investment cost savings and resources sharing within the region even though relying on ourselves is always a better option.

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