



PACIFIC ENERGY SUMMIT

Strengthening Markets for Energy and Environmental Security

Beijing, People's Republic of China

PACIFIC ENERGY SUMMIT DELEGATES REACH COOPERATIVE SOLUTIONS ON ENERGY DILEMMAS IN ASIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—More than 200 leaders from government, business, and research and 60 energy journalists gathered in Beijing, China, on May 27-29, 2015 for the 6th annual Pacific Energy Summit, “Strengthening Markets for Energy and Environmental Security.” Economies in the Asia-Pacific region continue to grow at astonishing rates, making energy a hot commodity as countries build out systems for prosperity. 2015 Pacific Energy Summit delegates examined economic growth trends and energy transitions in the region, and proposed innovative policy solutions to help countries meet energy demand while safeguarding the environment.

The Asia-Pacific contains 65% of the global population and consumes 58% of world energy. The region includes not only the world’s three largest economies—the United States, China, and Japan—but also some of the world’s least developed nations. China, Japan, Korea, India, and Southeast Asia constitute the world’s most animated energy import region. Many of these countries are struggling to stimulate economic growth to improve quality of life in the face of local pollution issues and global climate change.

The 2015 Pacific Energy Summit gathered renowned energy experts, academics, industry executives, and high-level policymakers to promote market and technology-based approaches to address access, affordability, and sustainability. For most countries in the region, development is the priority. Today, Asia has 600 million people without access to electricity, and the need for energy investment is huge. The developing areas of the Asia-Pacific will require \$400 billion annually in energy sector investments until 2035. A greater effort in renewables will require an additional \$300 billion annually. Multilateral institutions, including the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, and the nascent Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, can provide no more than 5% of the total need.

Energy security is also a key dilemma. All fourteen million barrels per day (mbd) in incremental global demand up to 2040 will come from the Asia-Pacific, making the region extremely vulnerable to supply disruptions.

“Each country is going to secure its own oil supplies abroad by sending its national oil companies out to invest. And so what you have is a situation where countries have common interests in stable supplies, particularly in the Middle East to secure sea lanes, but at the same time, the overlay of strategic rivalry in the region between Japan and China, China and India, and Korea and Japan is relatively toxic,” said Mikkal Herberg, Research Director of the Energy Security Program at the National Bureau of Asian Research, in Beijing.

Summit delegates also discussed the environmental and health consequences of pollution as a result of economic development. According to Mark Thurber, Director of the Program on Energy and Sustainable Development at Stanford University, “The estimates from the World Health Organization are that urban air quality and air pollution contribute to somewhere on the order of 2 million deaths per year in Asia.”

“The consequences of pollution and global warming here in Asia know no borders,” said Admiral Dennis Blair, co-chair of the Pacific Energy Summit and member of the Board of Directors of the National Bureau of Asian Research. “There have to be cooperative efforts in order to reduce the pollution of energy, particularly hydrocarbons and the release of CO₂, which could lead to climate change, which would be catastrophic for all of our countries.”

In addressing these challenges, Summit delegates highlighted the potential positive impacts of increased cooperation in ensuring a more stable energy supply, promoting economic development, and reducing pollution.

“Energy is a problem, but it is also a solution,” said Yongping Zhai, Energy Technical Advisor and Director of the Energy Division of the South Asia Department at the Asian Development Bank. “The solution would be going from dirty energy to clean energy. All our resources are being put into supporting energy efficiency, renewable energy, and some clean fuel, which still contributes to reducing environmental impact.”

Some delegates discussed crafting a clean energy future through renewable energy cooperation.

“There are very exciting and dynamic developments occurring across the whole renewables spectrum, including technological innovations that enable us to gradually scale-up their use,” said Professor Christopher Dent of Leeds University. “There are challenges ahead for renewables but also exciting opportunities. It is critically important for us to keep tracking these in future Pacific Energy Summits.”

Countries in the region can collaboratively address the energy and sustainability challenges in the following ways:

- Promoting **energy infrastructure connectivity** between countries
- Sharing **policies and best practices** in low carbon and energy saving, via exiting multilateral platforms such as G20, APEC, IEA, and ADB as well as through bilateral dialogues
- **Combining technology and management advantages of developed countries with market size and execution rigor of developing ones** to make new energy technologies cheaper and more affordable (e.g., dramatic reduction of solar PV with Chinese manufacturing)
- Transferring **know-how** on energy efficiency and pollution reduction from developed countries to developing ones

“The spirit of the energy sector that we see in our series of Pacific Energy Summit conferences is the understanding that there really has to be international cooperation in order to have success,” said Blair. “Both suppliers and consumers are interlinked across national borders, and it is only by figuring out win-win solutions that the overall demands for energy here in Asia can be met in any kind of realistic way.”

The 2015 Pacific Energy Summit was co-hosted by the National Bureau of Asian Research and the China Energy Research Society. Lead sponsorship was provided by Chevron, and the Asian Development Bank served as a partner for the Summit. Additional sponsors included Accenture and ExxonMobil, as well as collaborating institutions The Center for Energy Governance & Security at Hanyang University and the Korea Energy Economics Institute. Under the theme, “Strengthening Markets for Energy and Environmental Security,” the forum explored collaborative solutions to the dual challenges of rising energy demand and a changing climate.

SUMMIT ON-THE-RECORD MATERIAL

The Pacific Energy Summit included [three on-the-record roundtables](#) for members of the press titled U.S.-China Energy Cooperation, The Geopolitics of Oil and Gas in Asia, and Health and the Environment. Published highlights featuring quotes from roundtable panelists and audio are available to the general public. Please find these resources at the following links:

[“U.S.-China Energy Cooperation”](#)

- *Panelists:* Admiral **Dennis Blair** (co-chair of the Pacific Energy Summit, member of the Board of Directors of NBR, and president of Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA) and **Zhou Dadi** (Vice President of the China Energy Research Society)

[“The Geopolitics of Oil and Gas in Asia”](#)

- *Panelists:* **Satya Widya Yudha** (Indonesia House of Representatives), **Ken Koyama** (Institute of Energy Economics, Japan), and **Mikkal Herberg** (National Bureau of Asian Research)

[“Health and the Environment”](#)

- *Panelists:* **Thein Lwin** (Myanmar House of Representatives), **Yongping Zhai** (Asian Development Bank), and **Mark Thurber** (Stanford University)

SUMMIT DELEGATES

Please [click here](#) for the list of Summit delegates.

SUMMIT READING

Summit Working Papers

[Enabling Clean Coal Technologies in Emerging Asia](#)

- **Han Phoumin** (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia)

[Gas in Asia: From Regional Premium to Global Commodity](#)

- **Peter Hughes** (Peter Hughes Energy Advisory Limited; global gas partners gmbh)
Daniel Muthmann (global gas partners gmbh)

[China's Market-Oriented Reforms in the Energy and Environmental Sectors](#)

- **An Bo** (Asian Development Bank)
Lin Weibin (China Energy Research Society)
Zhou Aiming (Asian Development Bank)
Zhou Wei (Asian Development Bank)

Summit Briefs

In [this Summit briefing series](#), experts from across the Asia-Pacific offer country and regional

perspectives on recent trends in global oil markets. These briefs assess the dramatic and varied effects that falling oil prices are having on China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Russia, South Korea, and North America and examine the implications for policy, industry, and the public.

[Click here](#) to read the briefs.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Select media coverage is available in the [Pacific Energy Summit Media Wrap-Up](#).

INTERVIEWS

To interview Summit delegates, contact Rachel Wagley, Summit Media Manager, at rwagley@nbr.org. Join the conversation online via Twitter: [@NBRnews](#), [#PESBeijing](#), and Weibo: [NBR 國家亞洲研究局](#), [#亚太能源高峰会](#)