

## 2011 Energy Security Conference Agenda

### **ASIA'S RISING ENERGY AND RESOURCE NATIONALISM:** *Implications for the United States, China, and the Asia-Pacific Region*

**May 4, 2011**

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
5th Floor Conference Room  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20004

**8:00-8:30**      **Registration and Refreshments**

**8:30-8:35**      **Welcome and Introduction**

Meredith MILLER  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Bryce WAKEFIELD  
*Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars*

**8:35-9:20**      **Opening Speaker**

Robert CEKUTA  
*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy, Sanctions, and Commodities  
U.S. Department of State*

**9:20-10:50**      **Panel One**

*The Competition for Equity Crude and Gas, National Control, and Secure Oil Supplies*

Rapidly rising energy demand throughout Asia has increased regional anxiety over energy security. In response, governments in Asia are sponsoring their national oil companies (NOC) to “go out” to acquire oil and gas fields and obtain national control over supplies to assuage their anxieties over future energy security. This “energy nationalism” heightens the sense of national competition to control supplies and is aggravating key geopolitical rivalries in the region. China, India, Japan, and South Korea have all raised their targets for future overseas production by their own NOCs and are competing directly by financially and diplomatically supporting their companies. Some analysts have expressed concern that China’s energy strategy in particular risks distorting energy markets. This panel will examine recent energy acquisition activity and investment characteristics of Chinese, Japanese, South Korean, and Indian energy companies, and will explore implications for regional geopolitics.

Moderator:  
Mikkal HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Author:  
Llewelyn HUGHES  
*The George Washington University*

Discussants:  
Bo KONG  
*Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies*

Tanvi MADAN  
*University of Texas at Austin*

**10:50-11:05 Break**

**11:05-12:35 Panel Two**  
*Energy Nationalism Takes to the Sea*

The growing angst of governments in Asia to secure oil and gas supplies has intensified their strategic focus on the sea lanes through which the vast majority of the region's future imported oil supplies will transit. China's growing dependence on maritime energy imports is a significant driver in China's rapid naval modernization. This is powerfully impacting the regional naval balance and driving naval responses from other powers in the region dependent on these same energy sea lanes. This also has enormous implications for the U.S., which has traditionally been the dominant naval power in East and South Asia. India and Japan are also responding robustly to these changing maritime realities. This panel will explore the current trends of and potential linkages between national energy acquisition strategies, naval acquisitions, and sea lane control activity, as well as the long-term regional implications of this competition.

Moderator:  
Mikkal HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Authors:  
Gabriel COLLINS  
*China SignPost*

Andrew ERICKSON  
*Harvard University*

Discussants:  
Bernard COLE  
*National Defense University*

James MANICOM  
*Balsillie School of International Affairs*

**12:35-1:35 Lunch**

**1:35-3:05**

**Panel 3**

*Is Energy Nationalism Reshaping the Competitive Landscape? Producer NOCs, Asia's Importer NOCs, and International Oil Companies (IOC)*

Asian NOCs, many of which are receiving increased diplomatic and financial support from their sponsor governments, are beginning to impact the global oil and gas industry competitive landscape. This is particularly the case for China and its NOCs, which are receiving enormous state support for their acquisitions and new oil and gas investments abroad. As Asia's NOCs become more sophisticated competitors, they are seeking highly attractive assets in competition with the large international oil companies (IOCs). Given their similar state-driven goals and corporate structure, the NOCs making acquisitions abroad may have significant advantages in partnering with the producing-country NOCs. But Asian importer NOCs may also forge new IOC/NOC strategic partnerships as each brings their unique skills to these alliances. This panel will explore these developments and assess the implications of this for the major global oil companies and for the strategic and energy interests of the home countries of these companies, particularly U.S.-based oil companies.

Moderator:

Edward CHOW

*Center for Strategic and International Studies*

Author:

Mikkal HERBERG

*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Discussants:

Robert JOHNSTON

*The Eurasia Group*

WANG Zhen

*China University of Petroleum at Beijing*

*University of Virginia*

**3:05-3:20**

**Break**

**3:20-4:50**

**Panel 4**

*Rare Earth Minerals and Commodity Resource Nationalism*

A new chapter of resource- and energy-related nationalism has emerged with recent moves by China to reduce its exports of rare earth minerals (REM). This has set off alarm bells in countries where REMs are key components of new renewable energy technologies as well as strategic materials key to defense industries across Asia and in the United States. China argues that its export restraints are intended to consolidate the industry, protect the environment, and ensure long-term supply security, while many analysts in Japan and the United States are concerned that the export controls are an attempt to corner global markets in rare earth metals or to use China's near monopoly on REM production for diplomatic and commercial leverage. China's temporary embargo of REM exports to Japan during a maritime incident in 2010 seemed to confirm the suspicions of many that China intends to use REMs for political leverage. This panel will focus on getting an accurate understanding of China's motives and assessing the potential geopolitical and economic implications in the future.

Moderator:  
Mikkal HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Authors:  
HAO Yufan  
*University of Macau*

Jane NAKANO  
*Center for Strategic and International Studies*

Discussants:  
Ken KOYAMA  
*Institute of Energy Economics, Japan*

Clint COX  
*The Anchor House*

**4:50-5:00      Conclusion: Implications for the United States**