

A shift in the paradigm of energy cooperation between Russia and Northeast Asian countries in the context of new global and regional challenges: transition from predominant energy trade to innovation and technology cooperation

SANEEV Boris

Deputy Director, Energy Systems Institute, Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences

1. National interests of Russia require intensification of its mutually beneficial energy cooperation with China, Japan, Korea and other countries in East and Northeast Asia. Eastern regions of the country (East Siberia and the Far East), with their tremendous economic and energy potential are at the forefront of promoting Russia's national interests in this strategically important region of the world.
2. In the considered time horizon, the energy development in East Siberia and the Far East will be aimed not only at meeting the energy needs of these regions but also at ensuring mutually beneficial export deliveries of Russian energy resources to energy markets of Northeast Asian countries.
3. Currently, the material basis of the Eastern vector of Russia's energy strategy is determined by several large-scale mega-projects oriented to supply of Russian energy resources (oil, natural gas, and coal) to the Asian markets.
4. In the context of new global and regional challenges it is principally important for Russia to cooperate with NEA countries not only by trading energy but also by carrying out active innovation and technology policy.
5. The priority directions for the innovation and technology cooperation between Russia and NEA countries in the field of energy are:
  - construction of new gas and petrochemical clusters in Russia and their joint management;
  - formation of an eastern "wing" of the global electric power system;
  - provision of reliable energy supply to off-grid and hard-to-access consumers in the eastern regions of Russia through the construction of small-capacity power plants and renewable energy sources, etc.
6. There is a long-felt need to develop a scientifically grounded long-term strategy (a road map) of innovation and technology cooperation between Russia and NEA countries in the field of energy.
7. Melentiev Energy Systems Institute SB RAS (the largest energy center of RAS in the east of the country) is ready to take an active part in accomplishing this challenging and crucial task for Russia and all Northeast Asian countries.