VIETNAM ENERGY TRANSITION WEEKLY UPDATE

15th December 2023

Key points

- MolT submitted Report <u>No.268/BC-BCT</u> regarding the implementation plan for the National Power Development Plan for 2021-2030 period, with a vision towards 2050.
- Total electricity generation in the first eleven months increased 4.3 per cent compared to the same period last year.
- Renewable companies are <u>struggling</u> to pay debts.

More details (see in links)

Themes	Contents
Generation	Total electricity generation in the first eleven months of this year <u>reached</u> 257.35 billion kWh, a 4.3 per cent increase compared to the same period last year.
Demand	 On 8th Dec, the Electricity Trading Company, a subsidiary of EVN, submitted a proposal to decrease the electricity purchase price for grid-connected wind and solar power plants. However, the ETC quickly <u>revoked</u> the proposal. Vietnam needs to <u>enhance</u> its electricity-use effectiveness, and if it does so, electricity demand in the future would only increase by 5-6 percent by 2030, not 7 percent as predicted.
Market	 Renewable companies are <u>struggling</u> to pay debts. These companies all have debts several times larger than their capital, up to seven times in some cases, as they have been reporting losses. Fitch Ratings <u>upgraded</u> the Long-Term Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) of Vietnam Electricity (EVN) and six rated EVN subsidiaries, as well as Vietnam Oil and Gas Group (PVN) and three rated PVN subsidiaries to 'BB+' from 'BB'.
Fuel	Vietnam stands as a nation with abundant favourable <u>prospects</u> for LNG power, which has caught the attention of numerous enterprises and investors. However, some experts <u>believed</u> that Vietnam's goal of putting 13 LNG power plants into operation and replacing 18 GW of coal-fired power with 14 GW of LNG-fired power and 12-15 GW of renewable energy by 2030 is an ambitious target that faces many difficulties and obstacles, including the establishment of a <u>suitable price mechanism</u> for Vietnam's LNG market in electricity production.
Grid	MolT <u>proposed</u> installing another power transmission line to Laos to increase supply. In October this year, EVN already began laying a 500-kilovolt line spanning 45 kilometers to connect the two countries.
Planning/ others	 MoIT submitted the Report No.268/BC-BCT regarding the implementation plan for the National Power Development Plan for the period 2021-2030, with a vision towards 2050. Vietnam will buy more electricity and coal from Laos for production and national security. The Party Committee of Thai Binh province has given an in-principle nod to the \$2 billion LNG Thai Binh thermal power plant in Thai Thuy district.