Energy Transition Dialogues
DAILY BULLETIN

Consultancy Intelligence Publishing

WEDNESDAY /// APRIL 27th

TOP 10 DAILY NEWS DIGEST

- ENERGY TRANSITION IS "NOW OR NEVER"
- THE ROLE OF GAS IN OUR CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION
- EU NEEDS TO RECYCLE MORE TO MEET GREEN ENERGY GOALS
- TC ENERGY, NIKOLA TEAM UP TO BUILD HYDROGEN PRODUCTION HUB
- CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED ON UAE'S FIRST WASTE TO ENERGY PLANT
- GROWING GCC OWNERSHIP OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR ZERO EMISSIONS FUTURE
- ARAMCO'S TOP TECHNOLOGY OFFICER SAYS OIL GIANT LEADS GLOBAL INNOVATION WAVE
- ROBERT GOLOB'S MOVEMENT WINS SLOVENIA ELECTIONS WITH GREEN ECONOMY PLEDGE
- FASSET, SIRAJPOWER, CREEK PARTNER TO OFFER FINANCE SOLUTION
- NORWEGIAN HEAVYWEIGHTS STATKRAFT, AKER LINK FOR GREEN HYDROGEN

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SOUNDINGS

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"The energy transition requires a lot more empowerment around the world. We don't have enough of it and those that do have it, often don't know how to execute or help the teams, departments, or consortiums that are tasked with developing the green technologies for the energy transition to take place."

Claudia Zuluaga
Founder
The Future is 50/50

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VIEWS YOU CAN USE

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Dr. James Henderson
Director of Energy Transition Research Initiative
& Chairman of Gas Research Programme

War in Europe incentivizing energy alternatives to hydrocarbons

The Russian Ukraine war is catalyzing a rethink on how fast to move on the energy transition. While high and volatile fossil fuel prices may change the incentive for investing in clean energy in the short term, looking further into the medium-term, high hydrocarbon prices can also have a positive effect as they create that momentum to move to cheaper alternatives. In Europe, the plan to find alternative sources of hydrocarbon supply, encourage energy efficiency and accelerate the shift to renewables is gaining traction along with the incentive to lessen dependance on Russia. Other forms of energy, such as nuclear, are also having a renaissance, even by countries such as Germany, that had abandoned those plans after the Fukushima disaster.

Momentum must be kept on COP

It is critical to have global cooperation on a wide-ranging number of energy transition issues as we approach COP 27 but to get countries such as China, the US, and Russia – all energy producers - on board at this point does look very difficult. If the war continues into the autumn, then we could lose some of the momentum for COP27. It will happen but will not have the focus and attention it needs. ■

**Paraphrased Comments*

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Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) Charts China's Routes to Carbon Neutrality

Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) is China's most authoritative advisory body on technological and engineering matters. Established in 1994, the CAE gathers China's best brains in technological and engineering fields as a collective think-tank to advise government agencies and companies on major national strategic and technological options.

Such an important body will not remain silent on China's biggest strategic issue – carbon peaking before 2030 and neutrality by 2060. On March 31st, the CAE revealed its main conclusions and recommendations of a major advisory project titled **"China's Strategies and Routes to Carbon Peaking and Neutrality".**

This Insight China report shares the "highlights" of the findings before the full CAE report is released.

Numerical Milestones:
The CAE study concluded with the following quantitative milestones:

By 2027: to achieve CO2 emissions peaking at 12.2 billion tons from a total of 10 bt in 2020.
By 2045: to produce 80% of power from non-fossil sources, against 30% in 2020; and,
By 2060: to achieve carbon neutrality, with 2.6 billion tons of CO2 equivalent GHGs emissions from hard to abate sectors, which will be off-set by variety of carbon sink means.

Eight strategies:
CAE drives home 8 nation-wide strategic priorities that shall be deployed simultaneously:

1) Prioritizing energy conservation: to uphold the concept of energy conservation as the first energy source, and continuously improve the efficiency of energy use in the society as a whole.
2) Reinforcing Energy Security: to make good use of fossil energy sources for emergencies, properly handle instability risk of new energy supplies, and reduce and prevent the risk of external over-dependence of oil and gas and critical minerals.
3) Energy substitution: to replace traditional energy sources with new ones gradually and in a safe and reliable manner, and continuously increase the proportion of non-fossil energy sources.
4) Re-electrification: to focus on the replacement of fossil fuels with electrical energy and development of electricity-based raw material and fuel production technologies, and vigorously upgrade the level of electrification of key sectors.
5) Resource recycling: to accelerate upgrading, retrofitting and transformation of traditional industries and business process reengineering, and realize multi-level recycling and reuse of resources.
6) Carbon sink: to uphold combination and integration of ecological carbon sinks and artificial carbon uses, enhance ecosystems' carbon sequestration capacity and promote research and development of carbon removal technologies.
7) Digitalisation: to promote digitalization of carbon reduction and management activities, and help transform production and consumption to become green.
8) International cooperation: to deepen and strengthen international cooperation in all above areas.

Seven routes:
The CAE research charts the following 7 routes to pursue:

1) Enhancing the quality and efficiency of economic development, and using industrial structural optimization and upgrading as an important means to decouple economic growth with carbon emissions.
2) Building a clean, low-carbon, secure and efficient energy system as the key and basis to achieve peaking and neutrality.
3) Accelerating the construction of a new power system with renewables as the mainstay, and safely and steadily achieving net zero emissions from the power sector.
4) Promoting orderly attainment of emissions peaking and progressive neutrality of industrial sectors, supported by electrification and deep decarbonisation technologies.
5) Achieving low-carbon transition in transport through high-proportion electrification.
6) Focusing on breakthroughs in key green building technologies to achieve zero carbon emissions from electricity and heat use in buildings.
7) And, **planning for carbon removal technologies** to bridge the "last mile" to carbon neutrality.

Three recommendations:
The CAE has formulated the following three broadline recommendations to the Chinese government:

1) Maintain the nation's strategic determination and focus, deliver better co-ordination and, on the premise of ensuring the orderly operation of the economy and society, and the security of energy and resource supply, adhere to the national "one-game-of-chess" strategy and achieve carbon neutrality in an orderly and gradual manner.
2) Strengthen scientific and technological innovation by providing strong impetus and support for achieving carbon neutrality, especially, by delivering major breakthroughs in key technologies.
3) And, establish and improve the systems, mechanisms and policy parameters to ensure the implementation of adopted measures, in the meanwhile speeding up the establishment of a system for total carbon emission control, accelerating the construction of a mechanism to plan, promote and assess the integrated reduction of local pollution and carbon, and continuously improving the supporting and supervision systems.

(Source: The Pulse - Routes to Carbon Neutrality - 2020-4-20)

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