

Vietnam electricity generation

Vietnam Electricity (EVN; Vietnamese: Tập đoàn Điện lực Việt Nam, lit. "Vietnam Electricity Group") is the national and the sole public power company in Vietnam. It was established by the government of Vietnam as a state-owned company in 1994, and has operated officially as a one-member limited liability company since 2010.

In 1994, the Vietnam electricity sector consolidated the electricity generation, transmission and distribution units to establish the Vietnam Electricity Corporation. Also in this year, the 500kV North-South transmission line was put into operation, connecting the power systems of the three regions of North, Central and South into a unified power system for the whole country.

Table 1: Progress of primary energy supply between 2000-2015 in kilotonnes of oil equivalent (KTOE)

Vietnam had the fastest growth in coal use in Southeast Asia during 2011-2021, at an annual growth rate of 11%.

Data of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), 10 months of 2018 coal production was estimated at 34.35 million tons, up 10% over the same period in 2017, of which clean coal output of Vinacomin (TKV) was 29.6 million tons, up 10.9% over the same period last year. By the end of 2018, TKV's coal production reached 36.95 million tons. In 2019, TKV aimed to produce 40 million tons while consumption was up to 42 million tons, exceeding 2 million tons compared to production.

On 2019-04-09, the amount of raw coal produced by this group reached over 10.7 million tons (of which 10.5 million tons were exported). To meet the above figure, TKV had to import another 1.2 million tons of coal to mix, while reducing its inventory to 6.2 million tons of coal.

Table 2: Vietnam's coal import volume from 2014 to 2017 (tons):

The total volume of coal imported into Vietnam from 2014 to 2017 reached nearly 38 million tons and has an increasing trend. In terms of markets, Australia, Indonesia and China are the three largest coal supply markets for Vietnam. According to the statistics of the General Department of Vietnam Customs, in the year of 2020, Vietnam imported 54,8 million tons of coal, worth US\$3,7 billion.

Table 3: Vietnam's coal balance in 2017 (million tons):

It is forecasted that in the future, domestic coal resources will not meet the demand for consumption in general, electricity production in particular and must be imported in huge quantities ... (2020: 86 million tons, 2025: 121 million tons and 2030: 156 million tons).[14] Mr. Sabyasachi Mishra, mineral sales manager at Tata International, predicts that Vietnam's annual coal imports will increase from 20 million tons to 30 million tons in the next one or several years, especially when domestic coal reserves are downward trend.[15]

Vietnam has joined the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at COP26 in 2021. However, similar to other developing countries such as Indonesia, it faces significant challenges to realise the pledge.[16]

According to the report of Petrovietnam (PVN), the total production of oil exploitation in 2017 reached 25.41 million tons, exceeding 1.60 million tons of oil equivalent compared to the Government plan assigned at the beginning of the year, but exploration increased reserves to only 4 million tons. In particular, oil exploitation reached 15.52 million tons, exceeding 1.32 million tons.[17]

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Web: <https://kary.com.pl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

