Fossil Fuel Option and Japan-US Cooperation

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Higher Uncertainties of Oil & Gas Supply from the Middle East

- Spreading of “Arab Spring” from North Africa to the Middle East
- Qatar has become the world’s top LNG exporter
- Increasing geopolitical risks due to the Iran’s nuclear crisis

Geopolitical Risks in the Middle East

- Possibility of military attack to Iran by Israel
- Civil war in Syria
- Continuing violence and political instability in Iraq
- Iran’s nuclear program and economic sanctions by US and EU
- Conflict between North and South Sudan
- Strait of Hormuz
Japan’s Fossil Fuel Dependence on Middle East

The share of Middle Eastern oil remains high at above 80%.
Middle Eastern LNG supply has significantly increased last year to make up for the lost nuclear power generation.

Japan’s crude oil imports by country

Japan’s LNG imports by country

Source: METI; IEEJ
Japan’s Power Generation by Supply Sources

Source: IEEJ, July 2012
Historical Trend of Japan’s LNG Imports by Country

Note: LNG imports in 2012 is estimated to be about 88 million ton by IEEJ.
Natural Gas Prices in Japan, EU and US

- Japan: LNG imported prices are linked to the Japan crude cocktail
- Germany: Border gas price from Russia is linked to prices of heating oil and heavy fuel
- US: Spot prices at the Henry Hub in the Gulf coast

($/MMBtu)

Graph showing natural gas prices from 2000 to 2012:
- Henry Hub
- Japan
- Russia–Germany (Border)
- Japan LNG
- Germany
- US Henry Hub
LNG Outlook in Asia and Middle East

Million Ton

- Divertible LNG from Atlantic
- Planning
- Projects with SPA/HOA signed
- Existing Capacity
- High Demand
- Low Demand

Source: IEEJ
North American LNG Exports to Asia

- Export Potential of over 100 MT/year
- Asian market targeted due to price difference
- Export authorization as an uncertainty

Project participated by Japanese companies
Measures for LNG supply security with affordable costs

1. Diversification of supply sources
   - Traditional suppliers: ASEAN, Australia and Middle East
   - North America: New business model for LNG imports
   - Russia: LNG and pipeline gas in the long run
   - Africa: New projects from East Africa

2. Diversification of fuels for power generation
   - Coal use with Clean Coal Technologies
   - Restart of nuclear plants under the new safety regulation

3. Market reform of the electric power industry
   - More competition by unbundling the power system
   - Investment in power plants by LNG suppliers of NOCs/IOCs
Efficiency of Existing Coal-fired Power Plants

• Averaged efficiency of coal fired power plants are still lower in many countries.

Source: Ecofys International Comparison of Fossil Power Efficiency and CO2 Intensity 2011
Substantial CO$_2$ reduction is realized by Integration and Optimization of both High efficiency Turbine Cycles and CCS technology

Energy Security and Japan-US Cooperation

1. Recent developments in the Middle East causes additional risks to Japan’s energy security. Both countries should prepare how to respond to oil and LNG supply disruption.

2. Post-Fukushima Japan will depend more on gas, at least for the short/medium-term. US DOE approval of LNG export to Japan is very useful for strengthening the natural resource alliance of both countries.

3. Diffusion of Clean Coal Technologies to Asian countries are effective to reduce CO2 emissions as well as to improve energy security in Asia. Two countries could cooperate to introduce the “Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism”.