

## 2012 Energy Security Workshop Agenda

### OIL AND GAS FOR ASIA:

*Geopolitical Implications of Asia's Rising Demand*

**May 11, 2012**

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
5th Floor Conference Room  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Asia's rapid economic growth is driving an enormous rise in oil and natural gas consumption. At the same time, meeting rising oil demand is increasingly challenged by strong resource nationalism, chronic geopolitical instability in key exporting regions, and what the International Energy Agency and others call the end of the era of "cheap oil." Rising LNG demand in Asia combined with oil-linked LNG pricing is also driving prices higher at the same time that shale gas is revolutionizing gas markets in North America. Angst over high prices and the reliability of future oil and LNG supplies are critical items on the strategic and economic agendas of Asia's major powers and the United States.

*Kindly note that the Energy Security Workshop is held under Chatham House Rule.  
All discussions are considered off-the-record unless otherwise noted.*

**8:00-8:30      Registration and Refreshments**

**8:30-8:35      Welcome and Introduction**

Bryce WAKEFIELD  
*Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars*

Meredith MILLER  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

**8:35-9:15      Opening Speaker**

David GOLDWYN  
*Goldwyn Global Strategies, LLC*

**9:15-10:45**

**Panel One**

*Asia's Booming Oil and Gas Imports and the Changing Shape of Global Energy Geopolitics*

Asia's growing oil import needs, national oil company (NOC) investments abroad, and pipelines are driving the region toward greater dependence on and engagement in key oil and gas exporting regions, most importantly the Persian Gulf, Central Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This will exacerbate Asia's vulnerability to unstable geopolitical conditions in these regions, and is also likely to draw Asia, and especially China, into chronic crises in these areas. At the same time, U.S. dependence on oil imports from these regions is likely to continue to decline as available supplies in the Western Hemisphere are increasing. How will these shifting dynamics re-shape the global geopolitics of oil and gas? What are the implications for U.S. strategic interests and foreign policy?

Moderator:

Mikkal E. HERBERG

*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Author:

John V. MITCHELL

*Chatham House*

Discussants:

Jon B. ALTERMAN

*Center for Strategic and International Studies*

James CLAD

*IHS/Cambridge Energy Research Associates*

**10:45-11:00**

**Break**

**11:00-12:30**

**Panel Two**

*Asia and Iran Sanctions: Implications for Future Energy Geopolitics in the Persian Gulf*

U.S. efforts to pressure Iran to change course on its nuclear energy efforts have escalated, and the United States is building an international coalition to squeeze Iranian oil exports as a way to intensify economic pressure on the regime. As Asia's major oil importers are now the largest importers of Iranian oil, U.S. goals cannot be achieved without their participation. Japan and South Korea have promised to cut Iranian oil imports, but China and India have been much more resistant – insisting that they need Iranian oil supplies for economic development and that they are already abiding by U.N sanctions. How does each of these importers calibrate their energy security interests, their relationship with the United States, and their vision for the region's future? What does this say about future U.S. power in global energy geopolitics?

Moderator:

Mikkal E. HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Author:

ZHA Daojiong (summarized by Mikkal HERBERG)  
*Peking University*

Discussants:

HAO Yufan  
*University of Macau; The Brookings Institution*

Kent E. CALDER  
*School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University*

Sheila A. SMITH  
*Council on Foreign Relations*

Sadanand DHUME  
*American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research*

**12:30-1:40 Lunch**

**1:40-3:10 Panel 3**

*Oil Mercantilism or Oil Markets: Asia's National Energy Security Strategies and the Role of National Oil Companies (NOCs)*

China, India, Japan, and South Korea have all boosted support for their national oil companies (NOCs) and NOC global investments as key components of their energy security strategies. Many leaders believe that energy security is enhanced by NOC equity stakes in oilfields around the world, and that this expands “national” oil supplies. Is this strategy effective in strengthening oil security or is it an illusion? Could this undermine U.S. access to future oil supplies? Over time, could these policies lead to an erosion of today’s efficient, globally integrated market? What are the competitive implications for U.S.-based international oil companies?

Moderator:

Mikkal E. HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Author:

Philip ANDREWS-SPEED  
*The Transatlantic Academy, the German Marshall Fund of the United States*

Discussants:

Erica S. DOWNS  
*The Brookings Institution*

Michael KUGELMAN  
*Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars*

**3:10-3:20 Break**

**3:20-4:50 Panel 4**

*The Outlook for Asia's Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Markets: New Challenges, New Opportunities*

Asia accounts for two-thirds of the global market for liquefied natural gas (LNG) and the region is depending on rapid growth in available LNG supplies for its rising energy needs. However, the nuclear crisis in Japan has sharply altered the pre-2011 market outlook, as Japan has dramatically boosted its LNG imports to offset lost generation from offline nuclear reactors. Regional concerns are growing about a potentially severe supply-demand squeeze and so are each country's efforts to secure supplies. Do anxieties about adequate supplies and national control run the risk of politicizing Asian LNG markets? What role could the potential arrival of large and unexpected LNG exports from the United States play?

Moderator:

Mikkal E. HERBERG  
*The National Bureau of Asian Research*

Author:

Tomoko HOSOE  
*FACTS Global Energy*

Discussants:

Michihiro KISHIMOTO  
*Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC)*

Charles K. EBINGER  
*The Brookings Institution*

Nikos TSAFOS  
*PFC Energy*

**4:50-5:00 Conclusion: Implications for the United States**