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Urban Air Quality in Chinese and South American Cities Drastically Improved by Switching to Natural Gas - New Study

The European Gas Hub 27 March 2018

New International Gas Union report highlights case studies of four cities - Beijing, Shanghai and Urumqi in China, and Santiago, Chile - benefiting from dramatic improvements in air quality thanks to natural gas switch

A new report from the International Gas Union (IGU) highlights how the increased use of, and switch to, natural gas in power generation, heating can significantly reduce air pollution - a direct cause of around 4000 deaths every day in China as recently as 2015.

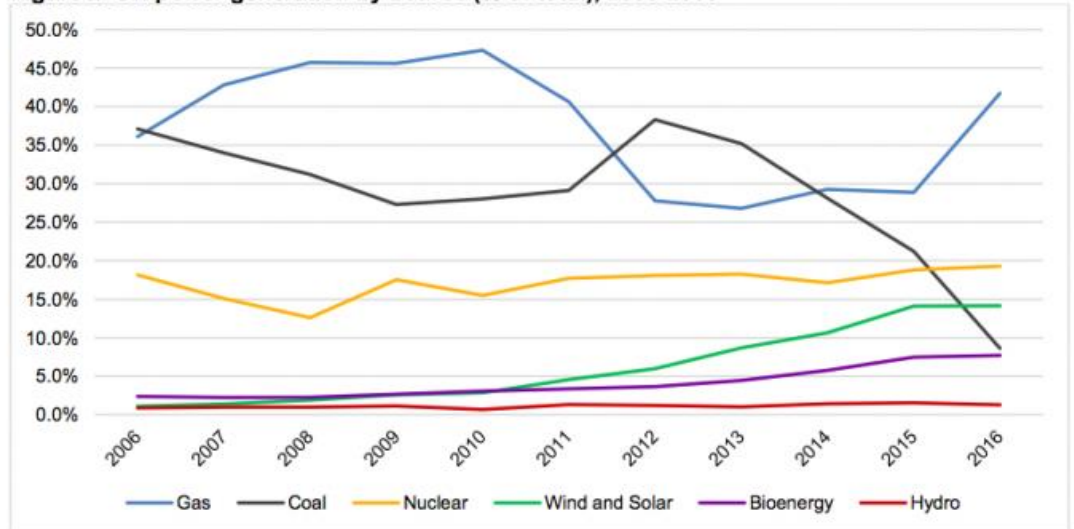
Urban air pollution continues to be a major area of concern across developed and developing countries alike, with 87% of the global population currently living in areas exceeding the World Health Organisation's air quality guidelines. In fact, the WHO has suggested that air pollution continues to be "the world's single greatest environmental risk to health" - stark evidence that local, national and international governments must do more to tackle the problem and reduce the severe impact on human health.

Read the full report [here](#)

UK Dependence on Imported Hydrocarbons: How Important is Russia?

The European Gas Hub 27 March 2018 - Published 27 March 2018 by Jack Sharples (OIES)

Figure 2: UK power generation by source (% of total), 2006-2016



Source: Data from UK government statistics⁶

The arrival of the first Russian LNG supplies to the UK coincided with the deterioration of UK-Russia diplomatic relations, triggering debates over the role of Russia in UK hydrocarbon imports. Although Russia is the largest supplier of UK coal imports, coal is being phased out of UK energy consumption.

The dramatic deterioration in UK-Russian diplomatic relations in early 2018 coincided with the arrival in the UK of several cargoes of liquefied natural gas (LNG), which had originated from the Yamal LNG project in northern Russia. This triggered debates over the extent to which the UK depends on Russian energy supplies, with the question even being raised in the UK parliament.

Such debates play out against a background of Russia's status as the largest supplier of coal, crude oil, and natural gas to the EU, and the UK's long-term declining domestic production of these fuels. Much of the debate over UK hydrocarbon imports has focused narrowly on the share of particular countries in supplying energy (particularly natural gas) to the UK.

This reflects concerns that energy supplies may be used as a 'tool of foreign policy', particularly by hydrocarbon-exporting countries that channel those exports through a single, state-owned company. Read the full article [here](#)

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