

**Media coverage for Ministry of Energy of Uzbekistan
publishes new ten-year strategy for electricity provision**

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Uzbekistan to double power generating capacity, go heavy on renewables

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TASHKENT, May 4 (Reuters) - Uzbekistan plans to more than double its power generating capacity over the next 10 years, with half of new capacity coming from solar plants and wind farms, the Central Asian nation's government said on Monday.

The former Soviet republic of 34 million aims to increase its capacity to 29.3 gigawatts (GW) from the current 12.9 GW, and rely less on natural gas, which dominates its power mix at present, it said in a strategic plan.

Out of the added capacity, 5 GW is set to come from solar power plants and 3 GW from wind farms, the government said. Renewables will thus account for more than a quarter of the country's capacity by 2030.

Uzbekistan has already launched a handful of projects, including with Saudi Arabia's Acwa Power and United Arab Emirates' Masdar, for the construction of solar and wind facilities with long-term power purchase agreements.

It is also working with Russia's Rosatom to build a nuclear power plant. Uzbekistan has large natural gas reserves, but aims to reduce its consumption in the power sector from 16.5 billion cubic metres to 12.1 billion cubic metres by 2030. (Reporting by Mukhammadsharif Mamatkulov Writing by Olzhas Auyezov Editing by Giles Elgood)

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By REUTERS
PUBLISHED: 11:31, 4 May 2020 | UPDATED: 11:31, 4 May 2020

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Uzbekistan's Ministry of Energy has announced a new strategy for the production and provision of electricity between 2020-2030 amid increasing energy demand from a growing population and a fast-developing economy, the ministry said Monday.

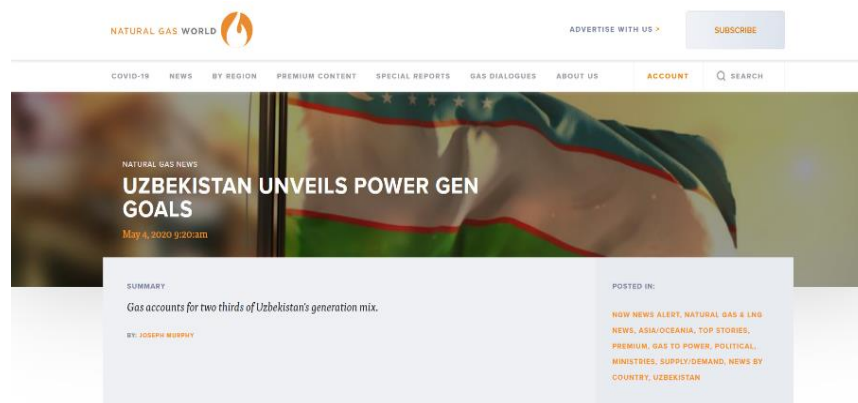
The strategy, which will be amended and adjusted as necessary, defines mid-term and long-term objectives and implementation of international best practices and modern trends in the global electricity industry, according to the document posted by the ministry.

The new strategy envisages the modernization and reconstruction of existing power plants, construction of new generating assets using energy-efficient power production technologies, improvement of power metering systems and development of renewable energy sources.

While the state owns hydropower plants, nuclear power plants and some thermal power plants, the document said that most of the country's electricity generation plants will be concentrated in the private sector by 2030.

To achieve the development indicators of renewable energy, Uzbekistan will construct three gigawatts of wind and five gigawatts of solar power plants by 2030, the document said.

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Uzbekistan's energy ministry published proposals for a 10-year strategy on May 4 to develop the country's power generation sector to meet its growing electricity needs.

The strategy's priorities include modernising and refurbishing existing capacity, building power plants using energy-efficient technologies and improving

power metering systems. It is also focused on diversifying fuel sources, developing renewables, particularly solar power, and introducing legal reforms to improve tariff policies and help with the transition towards a wholesale power market.

Uzbekistan's main fuel for power supply is gas, accounting for around two thirds of its generation mix. Among the strategy's specific aims are a growth in available generation capacity from 12.9 to 29.3 GW by 2030, resulting in an increase in power production from 63.6bn to 120.8bn kWh.

Uzbekistan also aims to cut gas consumption in the power industry from 16.5bn to 12.1bn m³, and reduce electricity transmission losses to 2.35% and distribution losses to 6.5%.

"Our new concept note outlines a comprehensive strategy to satisfy the increasing demand for electrical power in Uzbekistan," Uzbek energy minister

Alisher Sultanov said. "It also means our power sector's development will continue in line with international best practice. The strategy is ambitious in scope, but grounded in realism with practical and achievable goals to reach by 2030."

The ministry added that while the state would remain the owner of hydroelectric power plants, Uzbekistan's planned nuclear power plant and some of its thermal power plants in 2030, it is envisaged that most of the country's electricity stations will be in private hands by then.

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Uzbekistan's energy ministry has published a strategy in which it confirms plans to go ahead with the construction of 2,400 MW of nuclear power plants that will begin commercial operation by 2030.

The strategy reflects is the high priority given by the government to “a radical programme of reforms to meet increasing energy demand from a growing population and a fast-developing economy”, the ministry said in a statement emailed to NucNet. Energy minister Alisher Sultanov said the strategy is ambitious in scope, “but grounded in realism with, practical and achievable goals to reach by 2030”.

Installed and available generating capacity for nuclear in 2030 will be 2,400 MW, an 8.3% share of the total, according to the strategy.

Natural gas fired thermal power plants will account for 13,400 MW (45%); coal-fired plants 1,700 MW (5.9%); hydropower: 3,800 MW (13.1%); wind power: 3,000 MW (10.4%); and photovoltaic 5,000 MW (17.3%).

Nuclear generation in 2030 will be 18 billion kWh (14.9%), the second highest behind thermal power plants at 70 billion kWh (58.5%) and ahead of hydropower at 13.1 billion kWh (10.8%).

Uzbekistan's state nuclear agency Uzatom said last month that preparations for the construction of the first commercial nuclear power plant in Central Asia are “in full swing” and the schedule has not been affected by the global coronavirus pandemic.

Uzatom was reported in local media as saying engineering and geological work is continuing at “a priority site” in an area near Lake Tuzkan in Jizzakh province, west of the capital Tashkent in the east of the country. “Also, contract negotiations are

continuing with [Russian state nuclear corporation] Rosatom to agree on the terms of the main contract for the construction of a nuclear power plant,” Uzatom said.

In January Uzatom told NucNet that the preparation of external infrastructure for two Russia-supplied pressurised water reactor units is scheduled to begin next year.

Uzbekistan signed an inter-governmental agreement with Russia in September 2018 for the development of the its first nuclear power station. The facility, which will be constructed by Rosatom, will have two blocks with a combined capacity of 2,400 MW. The first is due to come on line in 2028 and the second in 2030.



Central Asian country Uzbekistan is planning to build 8GW of renewables capacity between 2020 and 2030 as part of a 10-year strategy for electricity provision unveiled today.

The country's Ministry of Energy said in a 'concept note' that it planned to construct about 3GW of wind and 5GW of solar power.

Projects will be implemented using finance provided exclusively by investors, the note said.

Wind farms between 100MW and 500MW will be sited mainly in the north-western region of the country, it added.

Solar farms ranging from 100MW to 500MW will be concentrated in central and southern regions, with projects between 50MW and 200MW in other regions.

The note said that in order to promote investment in the sector a competitive bidding process – tenders and auctions – shall be implemented together with international financial institutions during the 2020-2022 period.

Uzbekistan envisages wind and solar accounting for 22% of the country's generation by 2030, compared with zero last year.

Uzbekistan Minister of Energy Alisher Sultanov said: “Our new Concept Note outlines a comprehensive strategy to satisfy the increasing demand for electrical power in Uzbekistan.

“It also means our power sector’s development will continue in line with international best practice.

“The strategy is ambitious in scope, but grounded in realism with, practical and achievable goals to reach by 2030.”

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The Ministry of Energy of Uzbekistan has published a ‘Concept Note’, outlining its strategy for the provision of electricity in the Republic of Uzbekistan between 2020-2030.

The context to the Strategy is the high priority given by the Government of Uzbekistan – under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev – to a radical programme of reforms to meet increasing energy demand from a growing population and a fast-developing economy.

The Strategy, which will be amended and adjusted as necessary, defines mid-term and long-term objectives and directions for the development of the power sector 2020 to 2030. It plans to deliver electrical power at competitive prices and ensure the evolution of a balanced sector, embracing international best practice and modern trends in the global electricity industry.

It outlines priority activities to be undertaken including:

- Modernisation and reconstruction of existing power plants;
- Construction of new generating assets using energy efficient power production technologies;
- Improvement of power metering systems;
- Fuel diversification and development of renewable energy sources – especially solar energy; and
- Legal reforms to improve tariff policies and provide for the transition to a wholesale market.

By 2030, the Strategy is scheduled to deliver:

- An increase in installed and available generating capacity from 12.9 GW to 29.3 GW, and an increase in electricity production from 63.6 billion kWh to 120.8 kWh;
- A planned reduction in natural gas consumption from 16.5 billion cubic metres to 12.1 billion cubic metres;
- Reductions in transmission losses to 2.35 per cent and distribution losses to 6.5 per cent (1.85x less than 2019 levels)

Mr Alisher Sultanov, Minister of Energy of Uzbekistan said: “Our new Concept Note outlines a comprehensive strategy to satisfy the increasing demand for electrical power in Uzbekistan. It also means our power sector’s development will continue in line with international best practice. The strategy is ambitious in scope, but grounded in realism with, practical and achievable goals to reach by 2030.”

The Strategy will focus on the development of renewable energy sources, which will improve environmental conditions, increase efficiency and stimulate the development of local industries, infrastructure and job creation.

It is envisaged that by 2030, whilst the state will remain the owner of Hydro Power Plants, Nuclear Power Plant and some Thermal Power Plants – most of the country’s electricity generation plants will be concentrated in the private sector.

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The screenshot shows the Energyworld.com website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with categories like News, International, Economy & Policy, Reports & Data, Podcasts, Webinars, Infographics, Energy TV, and Brand Solutions. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with topics like Oil & Gas, Coal, Power, Renewable, Environment, Economy, Companies, People Movement, and Financial Results. The main headline is 'Uzbekistan to double power generating capacity, go heavy on renewables'. The sub-headline reads: 'The former Soviet republic of 34 million aims to increase its capacity to 29.3 gigawatts (GW) from the current 12.9 GW, and rely less on natural gas, which dominates its power mix at present, it said in a strategic plan'. The article is attributed to Reuters and dated May 04, 2020, 16:06 IST. Below the headline is a photo of wind turbines. To the right of the photo, a text box states: 'TASHKENT: Uzbekistan plans to more than double its power generating capacity over the next 10 years, with half of new capacity coming from solar'. On the left and right sides of the article, there are promotional banners for 'VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION COVID-19 Impact on Solar' and 'LAUNCH OF HRWorld.com VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON WORKPLACE RESURGENCE LEADING THE NEW NORMAL'.

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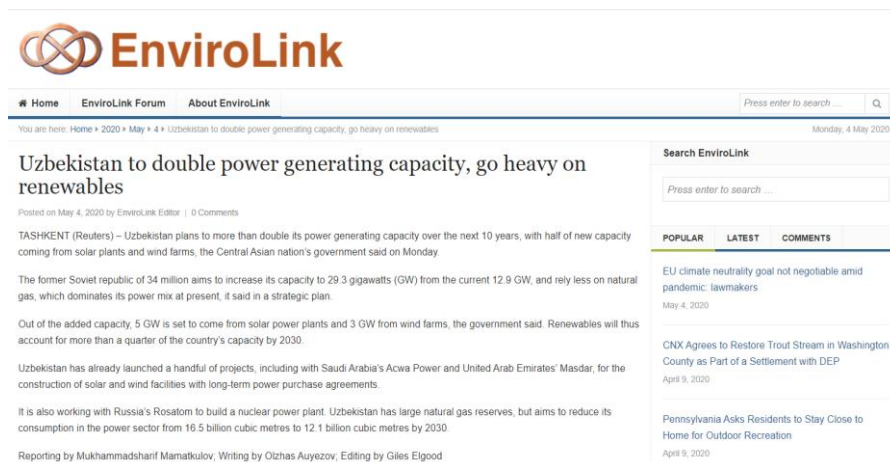
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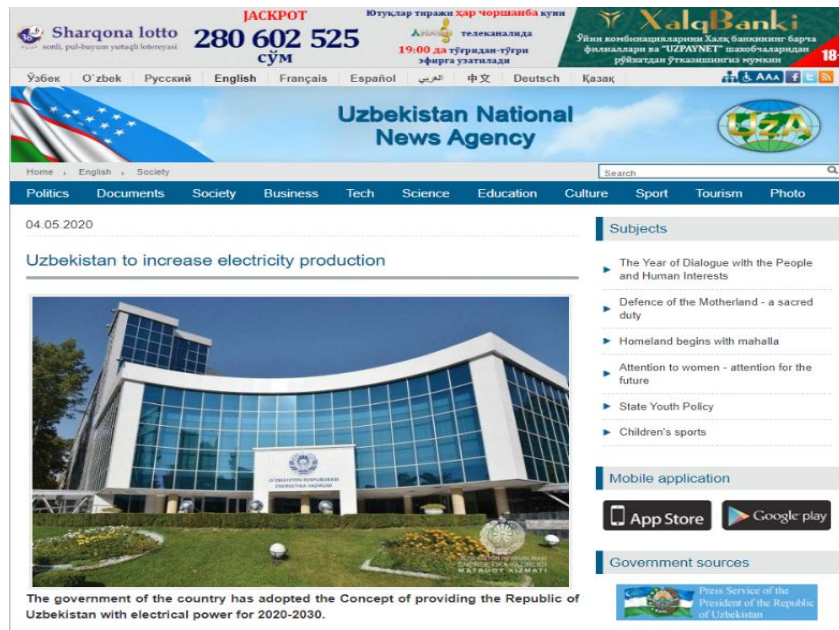
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The government of the country has adopted the Concept of providing the Republic of Uzbekistan with electrical power for 2020-2030.

According to the Ministry of Energy, the document has been developed jointly with international experts and is based on the priority that the President of the country attaches to the development of the electric power industry and radical reform of the sphere to meet the growing demand for energy carriers.

Development of the sector in Uzbekistan will continue in accordance with international best practices. The concept has large-scale, practical and achievable goals, based on the available results of the industry and ongoing projects. Medium-term and long-term goals for 2020-2030 are determined, which will be adjusted as necessary.

The strategic goal of the document is to provide the population and economy of Uzbekistan with electrical power at competitive prices, the development of a balanced energy sector, covering the best international practices and current trends in the global electricity industry.

By 2030, it is planned to increase electricity production from 5900 MW to 29200 MW, reduce natural gas consumption from 16.5 billion cubic meters to 12.1 billion cubic meters.



The government of Uzbekistan has approved the Concept of providing Uzbekistan with electricity for 2020-2030, the press service of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic reported.

The document was developed with the participation of international experts. It sets medium-and long-term goals for the next ten years. Measures will be adjusted based on ongoing analysis.

"The strategic goal of the document is to provide the population and economy of Uzbekistan with electricity at competitive prices, the development of a balanced energy sector that covers the best world practices and current trends in the world electricity industry," the Ministry of Energy said.

The concept provides for priority activities aimed at:

- modernization and reconstruction of existing power plants, as well as the construction of new ones using energy-efficient power generation technologies;
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May 4, 2020



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Uzbekistan Announces 10-yr Strategy For Electricity Production


 Fahad Shabbir (@FahadShabbir) 8 hours ago Mon 04th May 2020 | 12:19 PM




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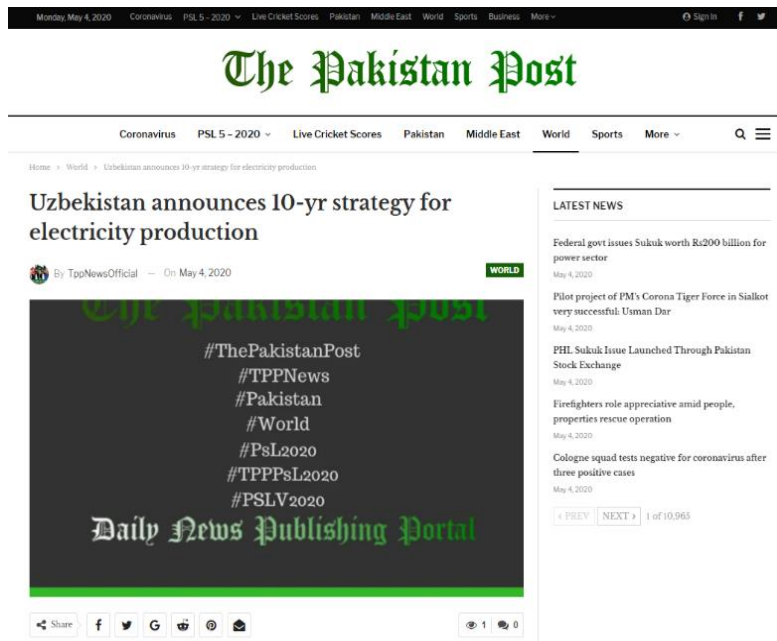
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Uzbekistan announces 10-yr strategy for electricity production

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TASHKENT, May 4 (Xinhua) -- Uzbekistan's Ministry of Energy has announced a new strategy for the production and provision of electricity between 2020-2030 amid increasing energy demand from a growing population and a fast-developing economy, the ministry said Monday.

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The strategy, which will be amended and adjusted as necessary, defines mid-term and long-term objectives and implementation of international best practices and modern trends in the global electricity industry, according to the document posted by the ministry.

The new strategy envisages the modernization and reconstruction of existing power plants, construction of new generating assets using energy-efficient power production technologies, improvement of power metering systems and development of renewable energy sources.

While the state owns hydropower plants, nuclear power plants and some thermal power plants, the document said that most of the country's electricity generation plants will be concentrated in the private sector by 2030.

To achieve the development indicators of renewable energy, Uzbekistan will construct three gigawatts of wind and five gigawatts of solar power plants by 2030, the document said.