

AN OVERVIEW OF WIND ENERGY IN JAPAN

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ABSTRACT

This article examines the history and present problems surrounding wind energy growth in Japan, as well as the role of policy and wind energy's future trajectory. Wind energy's share in Japan has not increased as a result of previous policy's lack of market emphasis. Just after Big East Earth quake in early 2011, and the following Fukushima Nuke Plant Accident, the circumstances around wind and other renewable energy altered drastically. The new Feed-in Tariff system has been implemented, and the Power Sector Reform is proceeding slowly. Despite the fact that wind energy has a considerably higher potential in Japan than other renewable, the FIT has not boosted wind installation to yet, and the amount of bottlenecks has hampered large-scale market deployment. The grid access of wind projects has been restricted due to a lack of grid capacity, the present energy market structure, and grid operation practices by incumbent Power Generation Companies. A layer of rules governing development permits lengthens the time it takes to complete a project, increases project uncertainty, and raises risk premiums. Due to certain previous errors that failed to answer local community issues, societal acceptability is especially difficult. Wind energy costs are also expensive in comparison to other nations, owing to a lack of economies of scale and other factors. To expand the proportion of wind energy in Japan's energy mix, the country has to adopt a more comprehensive policy package to address various bottlenecks and hazards.

KEYWORDS: Japan , Policy , Solar , Trend , Wind energy

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