Maintaining the value of gas reserves in a carbon neutral world (Сохранение стоимости запасов газа в углеродно-нейтральном мире)

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Presentation at the WS4: "Climate and Decarbonization" of the XI International Scientific Conference "ENERGETIKA XXI: Economy, Policy, Ecology" - "The Need for Energy Dialogue in a Fast Changing Environment", 14 -16 November 2018, St. Petersburg, Russia

Maintaining the value of (Russian) gas reserves in a carbon neutral (EU) world

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Political economy of world energy: production factors, inter-factors competition & STP in energy – & current competitive niche of Russia



MCSS position relative to Sun determines 178 year-long climate cycle

Βт



RAS official position: "Kyoto Protocol has no scientific justification" (RAS President Yu.Osipov to RF President V.Putin, 17.05.2004) Source: Крученицкий Г.М. Презентация на Круглом столе «Риски реализации Парижского климатического соглашения для экономики и национальной безопасности России». Аналитический центр при Правительстве РФ, 18.07.2016; он же. Климатическая доктрина РФ против национальных интересов России. ИА REGNUM, 09.06.2016 (https://regnum.ru/news/2143236.html); Возможности предотвращения изменения климата и его негативных последствий. М. "Наука", 2006, с.258-259.

Konoplyanik, ENERGETIKA, SPB, 14-16.11.2018

Earth fluctuates not around

radiation depends on Sun-

Earth, not on MCSS-Earth

differ by Solar diameter,

then flow of solar energy

W/sq.m) exceeds **by 10**

fluctuations long-term (±24

times increment of this flow

(2.4 W/sq.m), which IPCC

called as result of

increase.

anthropogenic GHG

distance. If these distances

Solar but around MCSS.

Incoming flow of solar

Two global challenges and possible similarity in reaction to them

Past challenge (2nd half XX century): Energy intensity of economy

- Oil switching (OPEC to non-OPEC oil) => structural effect
- Fuel switching (oil to nonoil energies => fossil & non-fossil fuels/RES) => structural effect
- Energy switching (1): energy to labour (substitution expensive energy by cheap labour => geographical transfer of energy intensive industries) => structural effect
- Energy switching (2): energy to capital (energy efficiency => technological (rev.STP) effect
- New infrastructure to be developed from the start of switching

Current/future challenge (1st half XXI century): Carbon intensity of economy

- Fuel switching (1) => other fossil fuels to gas (coal to gas in power & heat generation; oil to gas in motor fuels) => structural effect
- Fuel switching (2) => gas to MHM (as fuel at existing gas infrastructure & appliances) => structural & technological (Rev.STP) effect
- Fuel switching (3) => gas & MHM to hydrogen => technological (Rev.STP) effect:
 - From gas (+ monetizing natural gas resources)
 - From non-gas sources (RES electricity)
- Existing gas infrastructure can be used and later adapted
- Each measure (next step) additive to previous ones => accumulative effects;
- Sequence of measures: from easy-going & cheap to more costly & longer-term effects

How high in the list of national priorities climate agenda (and thus decarbonization) is placed due to objective preconditions

EU

- Accumulated negative ecological consequences since 1st industrial revolution (started much earlier => longer accumulation period)
- Smaller territory, higher population density => higher unit negative accumulated ecological effect
- Lack of forests (result of early industrialization) => lower environmental recovery capacity (ability) => GHG emission exceeds its natural absorption (by 4 times?) => EU is GHG net-emitter (like US, China, India...)



Russia

- Industrialization started much later
- Large territory, lower density of population – much lower unit negative ecological effect
- Large territories covered with forests => highest environmental recovery capacity (ability) => GHG natural absorption exceeds its emission (by few times?) => Russia is GHG netabsorbent (plus other 4-5: Canada, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand and (?) Sweden)
- Too early switch to posterior technological steps in decarbonization chain of actions in Russia might be counter-productive => historical lessons:
 - from 1980-ies: Caspian Sea level vs water transfer from Siberian Rivers proposal;
 - from 1960-ies: Verkhneobskaya (Higher-Ob) hydro power station proposal
 - Export-oriented decarbonization?

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EU & Russia: two different approaches (starting positions) to gas decarbonisation shall not disunite the parties

EU approach/priority (gas infrastructure only)

- To convert excessive renewable electricity (when available, and thus at zero or negative price), a non-storable energy good, into storable energy commodity – hydrogen (and thus to further pay back past state subsidies for RES)
- CCS will be needed
- To use available **gas infrastructure** for this purpose
- Decarbonisation is the definite immediate target (R.Dickel: "We have the target – how to reach it")
- + by-product: to diminish import dependence (to substitute dirty foreign molecules by clean domestic electrons)

Russia approach/priority

(both gas resources & gas infrastructure)

- To monetize its vast gas reserves / resources as, first, substitute for other (much more dirty) fossil fuels, secondly, as the resource for its further decarbonization within the Russia-EU cross-border gas value chain at its segment where common benefit is the highest
- No need in CCS (if methane decomposition)
- To use available **gas resources & infrastructure** for this purpose
- Decarbonisation is rather the immediate means for gas monetization than the immediate target by itself => "if Russia wants to help EU to build (become the first) H2-based economy..." (M.James/M.Hafner) => not at the price of loosing Russia's current competitive niches / advantages in energy sphere

Decarbonisation in Russia & in EU are two different stories, BUT common denominator (though within different priorities): available cross-border Russia-EU capital-intensive immobile gas infrastructure NOT to be converted into stranded asset in case gas is NOT considered as just "transition (bridge)" fuel => material background for Russia-EU cooperation in decarbonisation

Conceptual (technology-neutral/non-discriminative) approach: joint evaluation of potential implementation effects of different gas decabonisation technologies at different segments of the Russia-EU cross-border gas value chain as the means to find the balanced (mutually beneficial) solution



Downstream Russia-EU cross-border gas value chain

Upstream

NB: figures = technologies; effect (an option) = "cost-plus" price (at end-user) of 1 kg of Hydrogen (center of circle); size of circles = measurable effect (both sides to jointly decide: what to measure & how to calculate; an option = market for hydrogen in specific sectors compared to alternatives); size of circles purely illustrative Konoplyanik, ENERGETIKA, SPB, 14-16.11.2018

Joint debates lead to additional possible options => 14.11.2018



- Solution for country with gas resources might be different from countries without gas resources (M.James), as well as for countries with gas resources but in different geographical locations (different distances from the EU market for Russia & Norway)
- Trilateral search for best decarbonisation option (?)
 - Available CO2 storage capacities in Norway might stimulate increased gas export from Russia to EU for decarbonisation downstream EU both without & with CO2 => CCS for H2 + CO2 for EOR in Norway ?

"Time is the essence - & cooperation" (R.Dickel)

- ...but fast gas system transformation from CH4 to H2 without adequate assessment of all reasonably possible decarbonisation alternatives create the risk of inadequate investment decisions which are "the highest threat to international energy security" (B.Nitzov/ECS for G-8/2006/SPB)
 - "to develop a totally new grid system of a scale that never existed before in a very short period of time" (J.Ball)
- Cooperation Russia-EU:
 - ...is between sovereign states => national priorities does matter,
 - ...does not mean export of one party's approach to decarbonisation, but joint assessment of different alternatives among broad range of available options,
 - Integrated joint study technologically neutral approach

Thank you for your attention!

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