

VIETNAM ENERGY TRANSITION WEEKLY UPDATE

22 March 2024

Key points

1. The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) is [seeking](#) feedback on the [draft](#) Circular on regulating the operation of competitive whole-sale electricity market. The draft Circular applies to organizations participating in the electricity wholesale market, including wholesalers, energy generator businesses, electricity system and market operators, and electricity transmission units.
2. MoIT convened the first [meeting](#) of the drafting board for Electricity Law revision. In the law-formulation proposal, MoIT recommended six policies/orientations, including:
 - i. To ensure energy security for the nation.
 - ii. To develop RE and new energy.
 - iii. To refine regulations regarding the operational conditions of electricity activities.
 - iv. To manage electricity trading activities towards promoting a transparent, fair, and efficient competitive electricity market, with electricity prices determined by market mechanisms.
 - v. To encourage energy efficiency.
 - vi. To safely use electricity behind the meter and to ensure the safety of hydro reservoirs.
3. All coal-fired power plants have been operating at full [throttle](#), generating around 526 million kWh per day. Water levels in reservoirs across the country remain low compared to the average of many years. Specifically, hydro reservoirs in the Northern region have water levels ranging from only 25% to 96% of the multi-year average.

More details (see in links)

Themes	Contents
Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EVN's Northern Power Corporation (EVNNPC) reported that its commercial power output picked up 12.02 per cent year-on-year to 13.9 billion kWh in the first two months of 2024.• All coal-fired power plants have been operating at full throttle, generating around 526 million kWh per day.
Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investors raised the concerns over energy reliability and immediate access to renewable energy.
Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HCM City has set a target of 50 percent of local houses having rooftop solar systems by 2030.
Fuel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vietnam seeks LNG collaboration with Russia's Novatek Group.
Grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The transmission project aimed at importing electricity from Laos continues to encounter significant challenges, particularly concerning land acquisition.
Planning/ others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Huadian Group, a Chinese government-owned undertaking, is looking to set up a \$2.4 billion green hydrogen plant in Vietnam.• Finnish businesses desire to expand investment cooperation activities in Vietnam across multiple fields, especially the energy sector.• Vietnam will attend the 26th World Energy Congress themed "Redesigning energy for People and Planet" hosted by the Netherlands from April 22 – 25.