

Russian Exports to China to Rise to 60 TWh by 2015

Russian electricity exports to China will swell to 60 TWh a year by 2015, according to a statement by China's State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission. The State Grid Corp of China has signed a first-phase purchase contract with Russian counterpart RAO Unified Energy Systems. Beginning in 2008, electricity will be sent to China's north eastern Heilongjiang Province from the Far East grid. The power will come from a series of coal-fired plants to be built along the border. The capacity will be 600 to 720 MW with annual electricity supply of 3.6 to 4.3 TWh, although no details were available on how much China will pay for the power. Last year Russia sold 490 GWh to China, which consumed more than 200 TWh in 2005. According to China's State Electricity Regulatory Commission, for the second stage starting 2010, Russia will export an annual 16.5 to 18.0 TWh to China's north eastern Liaoning Province and from 2015 this will jump to 38 TWh a year. China's electricity shortage has been curtailed thanks to newly added capacity and higher tariffs after consecutive years of brownouts reported in many provinces during the summer peak periods, according to a report in the *Shanghai Daily*.

[Source ESAA]