

The viewpoint of the MOIT on the "direct power purchase mechanism" from the renewable energy

Vietnam Energy - August 16



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1. POLICY & LEGAL



The viewpoint of the MOIT on the "direct power purchase mechanism" from the renewable energy

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MOIT proposed two cases of DPPA between a renewable power generator and a large electricity user in the production group. Specifically (1) PPA through a private line (invested by the private sector), and (2) PPA through the national grid system between the generating unit and the customer.

Vietnam's National Energy Master Plan: Key Takeaways

Vietnam Briefing - August 8

The plan aims to create a situation whereby Vietnam produces enough energy to feed an economy growing at 7 percent per annum between now and 2030 and 6.5 to 7.5 percent between 2031 and 2050.

Vietnam Wants Small Production Firms to Meet Environmental Standards

Vietnam Briefing - August 9

HCMC has introduced support policies aimed at assisting small production facilities with high fire, explosion, and pollution risks to move to more suitable locations.

Publishing the National Energy and Mineral Development Planning

Vietnam Energy - August 11

The national energy and mineral planning, approved by the Prime Minister, is especially important, that opened up a new development space for the more efficient and sustainable energy and mining industry in Vietnam appropriated with the general trend of developing the green, circular and low carbon economy.

Vietnam to introduce new environmental fee for emissions

Vietnam Investment Review - August 15

Vietnam's Ministry of Finance has initiated a public consultation process for a draft decree aimed at levying an environmental protection fee for emissions. By implementing these fees, the MoF hopes to encourage entities to invest in technologies that reduce emissions and minimise environmental damage.

MOIT proposal to revise the law on electricity

Law & Society News - August 06

The MOIT proposed key revisions below:

- Revise certain regulations to establish a few general principles about electricity planning and investment to avoid overlap and ensure consistency with existing regulations on planning, land, and investment
- Improve current regulations on requirements for electricity operations licenses
- Supervise electricity trading to encourage a fair and transparent competitive market, with a market-based pricing mechanism
- Manage the operations of the power system, with a focus on energy efficiency and demand-side management
- Ensure safe operations of behind-the-meter power sources and ensure safety of dams and hydropower reservoirs

EVN comments on the draft plan for implementing PDP8

VSE Lawyers - August 09

Commenting on the Implementation Plan of PDP8, EVN proposed to implement some pilot projects including 810 MW of offshore wind power in the North, 2 battery storage projects and 300 MW of flexible power sources.



2. RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Clear policies, legal regulations needed for renewable energy development: Experts

Vietnam Economic News – August 9

Relevant authorities need to have preferential policies regarding prices and tax rates, and those providing support for investors in accessing loans for renewable energy projects, said insiders.



Implementation of Power Master Plan VIII - Challenges and Policy Suggestions

Vietnam Energy - August 10

- Firstly: The power industry is experiencing a rapid decline in its ability to supply domestic fuel/primary energy for large power source projects.
- Second: Many large power projects have been implemented with record slow progress.
- Third: The goal of restructuring the power source towards green, clean and sustainable development, but there are still many challenges due to the lack of necessary legal regulations.

- Fourth: The disruption of the technology-financial supply chain for RE development is causing consequences for investors; Power system operation is facing difficulties when the system is not qualified to absorb renewable energy on a large scale.
- Fifth: The financial balance of the Electricity of Vietnam (EVN) - the enterprise responsible for the electricity industry's main responsibility for ensuring the security of power supply, is under threat.
- Sixth: The ability to mobilize capital for investment in power projects is facing many difficulties...

In July 2023, the electricity generation of the whole system increased by 7.1% in comparison with the same period in 2022

Vietnam Energy - August 3

Power plan shapes development direction

Vietnam Investment Review – August 16

The future demand, fuel supply, power generation sources, and the regulatory framework are four major elements in Vietnam's Power Development Plan VIII that should be carefully elaborated and taken into account in Vietnam's energy transition process.

Rooftop solar plans may stifle industry

Vietnam Investment Review – August 16

The Ministry of Industry and Trade is proposing to encourage rooftop solar power in offices and homes – but not in service and production businesses or

industrial zones, which has caused concern for foreign and local producers in implementation of carbon reduction commitments.

Choosing the priority subjects in encouraging rooftop solar power

Industry and Trade Magazine - August 04

The Ministry of Industry and Trade is proposing to encourage rooftop solar power in offices and homes. Energy experts believe that the approach taken by the Ministry of Industry and Trade is suitable for the current time. The development of power sources must always go hand in hand with the expansion of the power grid, achieving a balance between the baseline power sources and renewable energy to ensure the security of the power system, safe operation, and stability of the national grid.

In the coming period, as the power system integrates additional baseline power sources, the promotion of rooftop solar power will extend to other entities as well.





2. RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY



[Vietnam embarks on green energy revolution with PDP8 blueprint](#)

Vietnam Investment Review – August 15

Vietnam needs to establish a better environment in terms of legal frameworks and regulations, including Public Private Partnership (PPP) law in 2021, green credits, project financing, foreign direct investment, and transparent pricing mechanism to secure bankability and feasibility for foreign investment and the private sector. These developments are important to create a sustainable market itself by balancing public and private players.

[Flaws in infrastructure hinder plans for LNG](#)

Vietnam Investment Review – August 09

The possibility that electricity generated from liquefied natural gas will replace coal-fired power is some way off, with infrastructure concerns regarding import operations coming to the fore.

[Government urges EVN to complete electricity pricing mechanism](#)

Vietnam Investment Review – August 07

The MoIT is gathering opinions on the draft decision of the prime minister regulating the structure of the electricity retail tariff. As a result, the retail price of electricity for the group of customers using residential electricity will be reduced from six to five tiers, and the price level will increase progressively to encourage efficient electricity consumption.

[Nearly 1,000 MW of renewable power hooks up to national grid](#)

Net Zero – August 14

[In the next 7 years, can Vietnam export electricity?](#)

VNBusiness – August 14

The possibility that if the bottlenecks are solved, Vietnam can export from 5,000 to 10,000 MW of electricity by 2030, instead of worrying about the lack of electricity every year like what's happening now. electricity generated from liquefied natural gas will replace coal-fired power is some way off, with infrastructure concerns regarding import operations coming to the fore.



[MOIT requires EVN to resolve 14 solar power projects worth over VND 1,400 billion with incorrect pricing](#)

The Observer – August 09

The Ministry of Industry and Trade recently asked EVN to review and propose the solutions for 14 solar power projects that have been applied the preferential tariffs (FIT) which is not consistent with Resolution No. 115/NQ-CP dated August 31, 2018. The amount that EVN has to pay more due to this incorrect price application is about 1,481 billion VND.

[Newly approved gas reserves in Malaysia. Vietnam threaten 1.5°C warming limit: report](#)

Eco-Business – August 10



3. CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Waste recycling an inevitable trend for sustainable development: Experts

VietnamPlus – August 14

Dr. Do Thanh Bai, President of the Vietnam Responsible Care Council (VRCC) of Chemical Enterprises, held that along with efforts from businesses, authorised agencies should provide them with financial support, and assist them in seeking market for recycled products.

Textile apparel sector increasingly going green

Vietnam Investment Review – August 15

More producers in the textile apparel sector are adopting measures for green and sustainable production to meet increasingly stringent requirements from trading partners, as well as create extra income sources.



Global treaty in sight for plastics battle

Vietnam Investment Review – August 02

Vietnam is joining the world's efforts to formulate a legally binding treaty about plastic pollution, which has become a big menace for the country's national development. According to the UNDP, there are two critical aspects in the fight against plastic pollution. Firstly, recognising, supporting, and ultimately enhancing the contributions of informal waste workers to the waste management system. Secondly, realising the ambitious goals of the Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution will require adequate financing, especially through innovative financing mechanisms.

Circular economy a choice for sustainable development

VietnamPlus – August 14

Businesses pointed out the shortages of legal and infrastructure conditions, the low demand for circular and replaceable products, the lack of experts in this field, and the current GDP calculation methodology yet to give due attention to social and environmental factors.

It's time to re-evaluate this recycling leader - Investors' Chronicle

Investors Chronicle - August 10

The goal of this regulation is to make repair, collection and recycling easier.

The European Union has long portrayed itself as a pioneer in the field of environmental policy – but even it sometimes struggles to translate ambition into action. Three years ago, the European Commission adopted the Circular Economy Action Plan, a package of measures designed to reduce waste and encourage sustainable consumption. The plan stipulates that the bloc should double its use of recycled materials from 11.7 per cent in 2020 to 23.4 per cent by 2030. As of today, few member states are close to reaching this target. Recent volatility in the recycling market and the wider economy has left investors feeling pessimistic.





4. WATER



[Urban household solid waste collection rate hit 96% after decade](#)

VietnamPlus - August 14

The proportion of urban household solid waste collection nationwide grew from 84% in 2012 to 96% in 2022. Between 2012 and 2022, the proportion of solid household waste that had to be buried declined from 90% to 65%, while the rate of industrial zones equipped with wastewater treatment systems rose to 91% from 60%. Also by 2022, 92.5% of rural households nationwide had access to sanitary water, a 12% increase.

[NA Standing Committee convenes 25th session, discussing water resource law](#)

Vietnam News - August 14

The NA Chairman suggested that the drafting agency should study and consider adding a fundamental principle regarding the protection of surface water in the draft revised Law on Water Resources. Through the discussions, the NA Standing Committee said the current water resource management primarily relied on permits. Therefore, it proposed adding regulations on standards and criteria for management and post-audit, enabling citizens to participate in water resource management.

There were opinions about a provision related to water recycling and reuse, specifying the mandatory application of

treated wastewater for certain purposes, promoting the use of recycled water, and offering incentives for using water in various sectors such as household, agriculture, industry, and other purposes.

[Monitoring of water use and management needs enhancing](#)

Vietnam News - August 15

The reality shows that violations in the field of water resources are still common. The main reason was overlaps and inconsistencies in legal regulations and the scope of management responsibilities between the water resources sector and related specialised field sectors.

The information system and database on water resource management were also incomplete and awareness of authorities, organisations and people about the role of water resources and the enforcement of the Law on Water Resources was still limited.

Meanwhile, investment resources for developing the water sector were mainly from the State budget due to a lack of ability to approach the private sector and the value of water resources had not been adequately calculated.

[How microplastics are making their way into our farmland](#)

The Conversation - August 13

Wastewater treatment plants

are well-equipped to remove large plastics like bottle caps and plastic bags from municipal wastewater.

However, microplastic particles are so small they can't be caught by current treatment infrastructure, so they end up concentrating in wastewater sludge, and enter the broader terrestrial ecosystems, including agricultural fields.

Building new technologies at our wastewater treatment plants to remove microplastics through physical or chemical means should be explored.

[Decision making for implementing non-traditional water sources: a review of challenges and potential solutions](#)

Nature - August 10

Rooftop harvested rainwater (RHRW), atmospheric and condensate harvesting, stormwater, recycled wastewater and greywater, and desalinated seawater and brackish water are all currently utilized and rapidly emerging non-traditional water sources. This review explores the status and trends around these non-traditional water sources, and reviews approaches and models for prioritizing, predicting, and quantifying metrics of concern.

[Down the drain: Philippines water joint ventures stir anger](#)

Eco-Business - August 15

Dozens of PPP deals gave a Filipino company a leading role in water services, but critics say consumers are paying the price. In the three years since a private company took charge of the water supply in his home city in the Philippines, Rommel Pido says the flow from his taps has turned a murky brown and his bill has more than doubled.



5. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND BUILDINGS



[Vietnam eyes sustainable development of coastal cities](#)

Vietnam Law & Legal Forum - August 13

Vietnam aims for a model of coastal eco-cities that are smart, climate-resilient, and sustainably developed, where urban planning for coastal areas will center around people, said insiders. Experts and managers should identify focal points for coastal urban areas, especially entrance spaces, areas near seaports, and central squares, which adhere to green and smart construction standards.

[Cities Are Better at Battling Climate Change](#)

Foreign Policy - August

Urban areas have made more progress than national governments on climate change—and offer a compelling political roadmap. Many cities, from Oslo to Cape Town and Nanjing to Buenos Aires, are also substantially upscaling urban greening initiatives to provide far more shade and increase urban biodiversity.

[Retrofitting to decarbonise buildings for net zero](#)

Construction Week - August 11

Decarbonizing existing assets is critical to avoiding the 'brown discount'. Progressive owners and tenants recognize that a building's emissions performance increasingly influences liquidity and pricing. Given the acute shortages of net zero carbon buildings, early adopters of retrofitting can benefit from higher rents, reduced financial risk, and improved access to capital at favourable rates, as well as attract and retain tenants more easily.

In addition, to reduce whole-life carbon, retrofit strategies should limit demolitions and use frugal interior design, reusing and recycling as much as possible. Locally sourced, low-carbon and bio-based construction materials are more sustainable alternatives.

[As The Earth Gets Hotter, Can Our Cities Get Cooler?](#)

Clean Technica - August 14

Cool infrastructure options are increasingly seen as strategies to address extreme heat. In particular, a growing number of cities are strategically investing in trees, green corridors and other nature-based solutions, as well as solar-reflective roofs to help reduce the urban heat island effect and the impacts of extreme heat.

[Smart Building Market as Cities Seek Increased Efficiency](#)

Environmental + Energy Leader - August 10

The report on the smart building market provides insights into the industry's trends, projections, as well as the impact on urban development. With governments worldwide investing in smart city initiatives and the rising demand for sustainable solutions, the smart building market is projected to reach \$570 billion by 2030, reflecting a robust CAGR of nearly 27% from 2023 to 2030.



6. SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Vietnam needs around 400 billion USD for climate change response

Net Zero - August 07

Climate Change Department: 'Be careful when selling carbon credits'

VnExpress - August 14

Vietnam's carbon credit potential is quite large, for example, from forests with more than 14,7 million hectares of forest, 42% coverage, of which natural forests are more than 10 million hectares, planted forests are more than 4,5 million hectares. Forest experts estimate that with this area, the forest absorbs nearly 60 million tons of CO₂ per year. However, it should be noted that only the amount of CO₂ uptake that is increased above the reference (or baseline) absorption can be credited, not the full 60 million tonnes of CO₂ per year that can be converted.

Viet Nam pushes for carbon market development

Vietnam News - August 14

Statistics show that a total of 1,912 enterprises across the country are required to conduct greenhouse gas emissions inventories and meet specific emissions quotas. As a result, the MoNRE is set to advise the Prime Minister to improve Viet Nam's overall emissions quota for 2026-30 and annually thereafter.

Green credit provision strengthened in agriculture

VietnamPlus - August 14

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is planning to coordinate with the State Bank of Vietnam in completing policies on preferential credit to support

agricultural projects following value chains, applying high technologies and specialising in clean agriculture and production forest planting.



Carbon credits market: Potential not only from "golden forests and silver seas".

The Saigon Times - August 15

Vietnam is one of the potential countries for carbon credit projects, such as transitioning agriculture to low-carbon farming practices, abundant forests, and a vast coastline. In addition, projects for plastic recovery and recycling, as well as repurposing nylon and plastic bottles, can also generate carbon credits.

The potential from carbon credit trading: who invests the money, who reaps the benefits?

The Saigon Times - August 16

According to the analysis from the Research and Training Institute of BDIV, as indicated in the Project Proposal for the Development of the Carbon Market by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, it is evident that the ministry has

chosen to develop Vietnam's carbon market through the spot trading of domestic carbon credits with international linkage. The carbon credit market is to be established in conjunction with the establishment of a Carbon Credit Exchange.

Large emission-producing enterprises will be the first group to directly experience the impact on their business operations when implementing greenhouse gas emission management policies. Will farmers benefit from growing rice and selling carbon credits? On the other hand, due to cost advantages, multinational corporations view Vietnam as a favorable market to establish carbon credits for sustainable development requirements from their parent markets. Governments of countries committed to Net-Zero can also benefit in seeking carbon credit sources to ensure their own carbon neutrality pathways.

Focus: For investors, green companies still hard to find with new emissions reporting rules

Reuters - August 03

New rules make thousands more companies disclose data. Boards allowed flexibility when calculating emissions. Regulators expect comparability to improve over time.

Can new tech make carbon offsets trustworthy?

Eco-Business - August 08

Technology providers are launching automated products to boost transparency in voluntary carbon markets, but human auditors remain crucial.



7. OTHERS

Transport Ministry proposes incentives for EVs producers, users

VietnamPlus – August 02

Under its proposal, the ministry suggested three types of EVs to receive incentives including battery EVs, Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) which are powered by hydrogen, and solar EVs. The ministry also proposed to add EV manufacturing and assembling industries, and battery production to the list of industries that receive special investment incentives.



Crucial maritime initiatives must be carefully crafted

Vietnam Investment Review – August 14

Vietnamese firms should adapt to the EU Green Deal to stay competitive in the EU

Vietnam News - August 10

Biodiversity risk casts doubt over future of deep-sea mining for investors

Eco-Business - August 07

Can COP28 really try to ignore fossil fuels?

The Financial Times - August 09

Factbox: Resistance to green policies around Europe

Reuters - August 10

What is greenhushing? How to spot the sophisticated greenwashing tactics being used in 2023

Euronews - August 14



8. EVENTS

Developing a legal framework on sandbox for circular economy in Viet Nam

On 4 August 2023 in Hanoi, the draft decree on regulatory sandbox for circular economy (CE) development in Viet Nam was discussed at a consultation workshop held by the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) in collaboration with GIZ.

Greenhouse gas emissions inventory and reporting manual launched

On August 8, the State Securities Commission of Vietnam (SSC) in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) held a ceremony in Hà Nội to launch a manual on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and reporting.

Consultation talks draft resource mobilisation plan for JETP Political Declaration

On August 11, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) held a consultation workshop in Hanoi to discuss a draft resource mobilisation plan to implement the Political Declaration on establishing the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP).

National energy, minerals planning announced

On August 9, the Ministry of Industry and Trade held a conference in Hanoi to announce the national plannings in the fields of energy and mining for the 2021-2030 period with a vision to 2050.

Upcoming Events

Roundtable: The future Role of Blue-Green Infrastructure in Vietnam

August 25, 2023 – Deutsches Haus Ho Chi Minh City

Seminar on Sustainable Development and Energy Transition

Event of The ICham Golf Tournament 2023 Framework

September 7, 2023 - The Reverie Saigon, HCMC

Green Construction Conferences

September 7, 2023 - The SENTRY, HCMC

Greening Vietnam's Factories 2023

September 8, 2023 - Grand Mercure Hotel, Hanoi

Vietnam International Sourcing 2023

September 13-15, 2023 - Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center, HCMC

Free Online Training Programme on Eco-Industrial Park for EIP Policy-makers and Practitioners/Service Providers

October – December, 2023

Application Deadline: August 20, 2023

The Largest Onshore & Offshore Wind Exhibition & Conference In ASEAN

October 30-31 2023 - The Adora Center HCMC

Green Growth Sector Committee
GreenGrowthSC@eurochamvn.com



*For any feedback on the E-bulletin or our communication channels,
please contact Nguyen Cong Minh Bao at: minhbao1973@gmail.com*