

1 July 2009

Interview with WEC Vice Chair, Younghoon David Kim



Mr Younghoon David Kim
WEC Vice Chair (Asia Pacific & South Asia) & Chairman & CEO Daesung Group, Korea.

Three issues that keep me up at night:

1) Nuclear weapons in North Korea

If the North continues with its missile launches thus contributing adversely to military and political equilibrium in the region, then Northeast Asia could suffer economically as well.

2) Global outreach of the Green Eco Energy Park (GEEP) Project

On June 10, we celebrated the completion of the first phase of GEEP, an anti-desertification demonstration project in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. I am excited about this technological breakthrough. Our initial success at our site just outside of Ulaanbaatar is commendable; however, I am concerned about how we may bring this project to other areas facing desertification throughout the world. Our challenges include how to adapt this technology to different climates and geographical conditions.

3) Energy price instability

Predictions are that we may have passed the worst of the economic crisis. However, instability in energy prices could throw cold water again on an emerging recovery. We have been experiencing a rise in oil prices in the past few months.

So I am convinced that it is now more than ever necessary to establish a global regime to ensure stability in world energy prices. Many people share this view, but transforming it into a reality remains a challenge.

I would appreciate feedback from WEC members on...:

Local or regional projects of value that we may consider for implementation or feedback on, for example:

1. Model cases demonstrating energy saving technology and know-how that can be shared;
2. Model cases demonstrating successful examples of energy efficiency;
3. Breakthrough technologies in IT + energy.

WEC should think about...:

- Adding Chinese and Arabic as working languages of WEC along with English and French.
- The fact that "small is beautiful" i.e.: smaller scale projects can be highly effective and have the potential to become more widely implemented than large scale projects.
- Providing support for "MCs at risk"

Any other comments:

To paraphrase the familiar statement: "Any international organization is only as strong as its weakest member committee." Often our less active MCs are the ones that need the most help in terms of general support as well as information and technology sharing. Let's make sure this happens.

WEC Debriefing

The Interconnectivity Task Force chaired by WEC Vice Chair Elías Velasco García met at CESI in Milan, Italy on 4-5 June. The Task Force continues its work on a wide range of issues and topics related to secure, reliable and efficient electricity transmission networks, including technical, economical and environmental aspects; markets and regulation; the need for coordination, system standards and pricing transparency. What impact will a CO₂ levy have on competitiveness of various options? How to integrate renewables into the grid? What makes a grid "smart"? These and other issues are being investigated by the Task Force, which will also prepare an overview of interconnections in large integrated grids, in all geographical regions, sub-regions and major countries or clusters of countries. [Read more...](#)

On June 9 Daesung Group conducted an international seminar for the purpose of exploring ways in which to expand cooperation between South Korea and Mongolia in the realm of renewable energy in Ulaanbaatar. This was followed by a ceremony on June 10 celebrating the completion of the first phase of construction of the GEEP project which uses a hybrid solar and wind system to provide renewable energy solutions on a 3.3 million square meter site just outside the capital city. [Read more...](#)

Congress Update

To all WEC Member Committees who have a website, here is an easy way to promote the Congress. A WEC Montreal 2010 clickable logo hyperlink is readily available for you to be added on your website's home page. It comes in dark or pale shade according to what suits best your design. See below.

The WEC 2010 organizers can also provide you with a wide range of promotional material that is regularly updated to reflect the latest developments.

To obtain assistance or to order promotional tools, please contact: Ms. Marie Cloutier, Director of Marketing and Communication, marie.cloutier@wecmontreal2010.ca



WEC Agenda

We invite our members to attend the following upcoming WEC events:

October 2; London, UK

British Energy Association (BEA) Executive Meeting
Contact: beawec@energyinst.org

September 16-19; Reykjavik, Iceland

WEC Executive Assembly 2009
Contact: melton@worldenergy.org

October 6-7; Maceió, Brazil

Energy Efficiency Workshop
Contact: nurse@worldenergy.org

October 13-14; London, UK

FT-WEC Energy Leaders Summit 2009
<http://www.ftconferences.com/energy>
Contact: hedberg@worldenergy.org

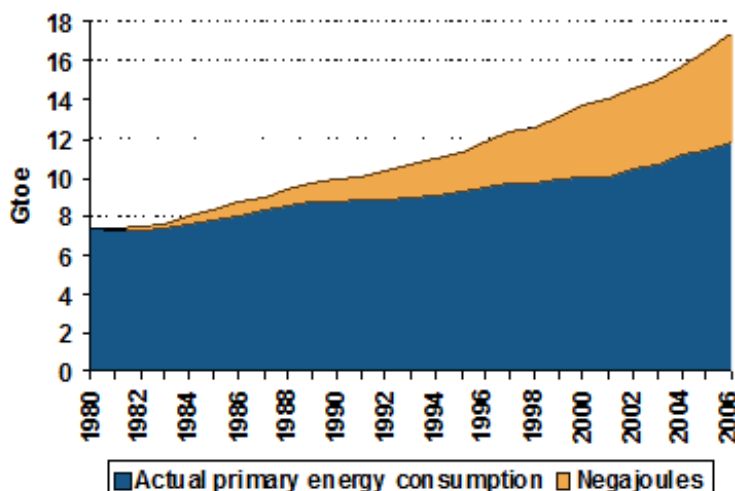
October 14; London, UK

Patrons CEOs Roundtable (invitation only)
Contact: best@worldenergy.org

For further events, including Member Committee and third-party events, please check the Events page on our WEC website.

Inside Insight

Energy savings from energy intensity decrease at world level



Source: Enerdata

Graph used in: [“Energy Efficiency: A Worldwide Review Indicators, Policies, Evaluation”](#), published in 2007, www.worldenergy.org/publications

Higher GDP for less energy resulting in large energy savings at the world level

Energy productivity improvements, technology development and changes in economic structures in most regions over the past few decades resulted in significant energy and CO₂ emissions savings. It is estimated that in 2006 these savings reached 8.7 Gtoe for primary energy and 20Gt for CO₂. This means that if the energy intensities of each region had remained at their 1980 levels, world energy consumption would have been 8.7 Gtoe higher in 2006 compared to the 1980's (i.e. 40% higher). Compared to the 1990's, the energy savings in 2006 are estimated at 4.4 Gtoe (half of which in China, 20% in North America and 10% in Europe) and the CO₂ savings at 10Gt.

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