Multilateral joint study group on LNG to be established

1. Background and objective

LNG market is undergoing substantial changes in recent years. Natural gas has relative environmental advantage and LNG demand is expected to increase significantly. There are a number of new LNG projects under planning in countries like Australia, the United States, Canada, Russia, and Mozambique. It is necessary for both LNG producing and consuming countries to share views on fast-changing market situation. While many researchers work on LNG issues independently, we believe the issues will be better understood through joint study that involves multiple research institutes and other organisations. While Japan already conducts joint study with Republic of Korea, India, and European Union bilaterally, we will invite more institutes from LNG related countries, and aims to deepen the understanding on LNG market and contribute to sound development of the market.

2. Study outline

IEEJ, as an organizer of the study, will hold two workshops and will present the outcome of the study at the 3rd LNG Producer-Consumer Conference. Research institutes in Asia and Europe will be invited as study group member, and LNG related governments and international organizations will be invited as observers.

3. Study schedule

The first workshop will be held in December 2013 in Tokyo. The second workshop will be held before the 3rd LNG Producer-Consumer Conference in 2014.

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