

Post March 2011 LNG business: a different world

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Introduction

The great earthquake and ensuing nuclear disaster have eventually become a "life changer" in various senses for the global LNG business, as well as for the Japanese people and industry. While the North American shale gas revolution has been labelled as a "game changer", the latest events have shown signs to bring about greater changes to the global LNG business. This report presents factors that could lead to significant changes in the LNG market in the medium- and long-term.

1. Short-term LNG procurement and supply activities

In the short term, incremental LNG to Japan is expected to come from suppliers in Qatar, Russia, and Indonesia among others, as well as fellow LNG buyers in Japan and other countries in the region.

The largest potential supply source is Qatar, which has recently completed its "mega" liquefaction trains. Qatar revealed in April that it agreed to supply additional 60 cargoes totalling 4 million tonnes over the next year¹. Out of 16 million tonnes that is expected to be shipped out from Qatargas 3 and Qatargas 4 in 2011, up to 5 million tonnes is thought to be committed to China, with the rest, originally destined to the United States, divertible as flexible supply. Thus Qatar may be in a position to be able to provide more to Japan, if Japan makes additional requests and the two sides agree on pricing terms.

Indonesia is expected to provide additional LNG of 23 standard-size cargo equivalent from the Bontang liquefaction plant in East Kalimantan to Japan in 2011, out of 63 cargoes - 3.5 million tonnes - left available after the contract quantity was reduced under the sales deal with the Japanese western buyers², with the remaining 40 cargoes destined to Korea.

After adding 10 cargoes from the Tangguh liquefaction plant in West Java, a total of 1.7 - 1.8 million tonnes of LNG is expected to be supplied from Indonesia to Japan in fiscal 2011³.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin expressed his intention to support Japan by providing extra oil and LNG, immediately after the March quake. Although it is not yet clear how much additional LNG will be provided to Japan from the Sakhalin 2 project, so far at least 12 cargoes

¹ Qatargas' announcement on 16 April 2011, <http://www.ameinfo.com/262240.html>

² Kansai Electric Power, Chubu Electric Power, Kyushu Electric Power, Osaka Gas, Toho Gas, and Nippon Steel

³ The Nikkei daily newspaper reported on 20 April 2011 that "Indonesia provides additional 400,000 tonnes of LNG to Tepco and Tohoku."

totaling 780,000 tonnes - 3 cargoes a month until June - are reportedly being supplied⁴. Mr. Putin also floated an idea to increase LNG cargoes available to Japan from Europe by increasing Russian pipeline gas supply to Europe, although it would be very complicated and almost impossible to structure such transactions. On the other hand, when a non-Russian LNG cargo is diverted from an original destination in Europe to Japan, Russian pipeline gas supply to Europe may increase as a consequence.

Those LNG cargoes which were acquired as spare products in tenders earlier in 2011 by portfolio LNG players⁵ from the North West Shelf (NWS) and Darwin LNG projects in Australia could eventually be sold to Japan.

Other existing LNG suppliers to Japan are also expected to have incremental volumes to be offered, including 200,000 tonnes from Brunei and 1 million tonnes from Abu Dhabi.

Fellow LNG buyers have offered helping hands. Tokyo Gas, Osaka Gas, Chubu Electric Power, and Chugoku Electric Power, among others, have announced that they would provide LNG cargoes to Tokyo Electric Power Company (Tepeco). Korea Gas Corporation (Kogas) also supplied six cargoes in March and April⁶ through a time-swap arrangement⁷.

Estimated spot LNG prices in North Asia have reportedly risen to USD 13.5 / MBtu as of the end of May from USD 10 just before the earthquake in March⁸. Rather orderly purchasing activities have not so far initiated extreme price spikes, as buyers directly negotiate with existing suppliers and trading houses supplement with additional cargoes. Abundant LNG supply capacity that had already existed before the earthquake is helping buyers. Trading houses, which have played an important role in the current emergency situation, by expanding their leading positions in the market, are also expected to enhance their presence in structuring future long-term LNG transactions. In the end, there should be more than enough supply capacity in the short- and medium-terms to meet incremental LNG demand.

⁴ "Sakhalin 2 sending three extra cargoes a month to Japan: source", April 20, 2011, Platts LNG Daily

⁵ Those players who buy LNG cargoes from multiple supply sources, sometimes even before deciding final destinations, and then sell the cargoes depending on changing market demand - including Shell, BG, BP, and GDF Suez.

⁶ "Korea Gas completes shipment of six cargoes to Japan", April 14, 2011, Platts LNG Daily

⁷ A time-swap arrangement makes an LNG cargo available to one LNG buyer from another LNG buyer who does not necessarily need that particular cargo at the previously arranged delivery date. The latter buyer will be compensated with another cargo at a later date from the former buyer.

⁸ Information from Platts and Energy Intelligence. Note that they do not necessarily represent prices that buyers in Northeast Asia pay under their short-term and spot purchase arrangement, since the assessments are made from hearings from specific sellers and buyers.

2. Activities looking ahead a few years, in the wake of changes in medium- and long-term demand outlook

A trend of expansion had already begun even before the great earthquake and the nuclear accident in March 2011, to increase LNG supply capacity for 2015 and thereafter and to increase LNG carrier ships. The trend has been accelerated since the earthquake to accommodate even greater demand for natural gas.

(1) Changes in the markets taking into account of shifts in power generation sources in Japan and other countries

More bullish, albeit cautious, views have been expressed on future increases of LNG demand in and outside Japan, as more new nuclear power projects may be halted, frozen or postponed everywhere.

The "glut" of supply in the international natural gas markets, which some industry observers mentioned before the earthquake, has not materialized and will not materialize in the LNG market. If some flexible LNG⁹ that is originally destined to the United Kingdom, or other European markets, is diverted to Asia, surplus in European gas supply may disappear sooner than previously anticipated to reduce the gap between oil-linked long-term contract gas prices and hub-traded prices, resulting in some changes in discussions of European gas pricing.

The trimmed forecasted nuclear power output is likely to result in clearer and greater anticipated LNG demand in the Asia-Pacific region. As buyers increase share of longer-term contracts in their LNG purchasing portfolio and reduce dependence on spot and short-term contracts, likelihood of short-term supply crunches will be smaller. At the same time, smaller spare production capacity resulted from larger contract commitments means a smaller supply buffer in the market.

LNG liquefaction projects in the Asia-Pacific region are expected to attract more attentions and gather momentum to move forward. The shifting perception on the market could function as a following wind for floating LNG (FLNG) plans that have emerged in recent years.

Buyers are now expected to seek contract extensions at the same volumes as they are currently entitled to take from existing projects so long as they can do so.

While some sellers may now have more bullish stances in long-term marketing talks, many LNG production projects are still competing for limited market windows. Those buyers with greater and more certain gas demand may have upper hands in long-term contract negotiations against sellers that have to line up stable outlets to realize projects happen.

⁹ "Flexible LNG" means LNG that can be switched to different destinations from originally anticipated ones or does not originally have fixed destinations.

(2) Developments in projects that are expected to come online in 2014-2015 and thereafter

Promoters of those LNG projects that have already made final investment decisions (FIDs) reiterate that they are proceeding as scheduled and want to be viewed as reliable suppliers. Those projects may face shortages of project engineering resources, including skilled labour sources by 2013 - 14 when construction activities are expected to peak. Some of the coalbed methane (CBM) based LNG projects in Queensland may share labour resources as the same engineering contractors are engaged in multiple projects. Recent developments of major proposed LNG production projects in line for near-future FIDs are described below.

The Chevron-led Wheatstone project's first two-train development with liquefaction capacity of 8.9 million tonnes per year in Western Australia, which was joined by Shell in April 2011, aims to make an FID in 2011. The site has room for additional three trains, when additional feedgas is secured, possibly from other third-party gas reserve holders. Tepco is likely to be a priority potential buyer for the output from them.

At the Pluto LNG project in Western Australia, where gas was already introduced to facilities and the first train of 4.3 million tonnes per year capacity is scheduled to ship out the first LNG cargo in September 2011, the operator Woodside now has a better prospect for the proposed second train expansion following the Martin-1 and Xeres-1 discoveries¹⁰.

Chevron reportedly hopes to start a front-end engineering and design (FEED) work on a fourth liquefaction train in 2012 and make an FID on the unit in 2013 at the Gorgon project in Western Australia, where exports are scheduled to start in 2014 from the first phase 15 million tonne per year, three-train facilities¹¹. The company has made 10 discoveries in the past 18 months in the Greater Gorgon area.

The Australia Pacific LNG (APLNG) project, which is developed by Origin Energy and ConocoPhillips in Queensland, started ordering long-lead items in March 2011. In April Sinopec agreed to purchase 4.30 million tonnes per year and take a 15% equity stake in the project¹². After the March earthquake in Japan, the negotiation process may have been accelerated to conclude the deal earlier. Talks with other buyers, including companies in Japan, are still reportedly underway.

¹⁰ Woodside's announcements on 17 March and 23 May 2011:

<http://www.woodside.com.au/Investors-Media/Announcements/Documents/17.03.2011%20Gas%20Discovery%20at%20Martin-1.pdf>

<http://www.woodside.com.au/Investors-Media/Announcements/Documents/23.05.2011%20Woodside%20Discovers%20Gas%20at%20Xeres-1.pdf>

¹¹ "Chevron Plans to Commit to Expansion at Gorgon LNG Venture in Late 2013" April 12, 2011, Bloomberg www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-12/chevron-plans-to-commit-to-gorgon-lng-expansion-in-late-2013.html

¹² Origin's announcements on 21 April 2011: Australia Pacific LNG and Sinopec sign binding agreements for LNG supply and 15% equity interest" www.originenergy.com.au/news/files/APLNGSinopec2142011.pdf

These developments indicate that an FID on the first train of 4.5 million tonne per year capacity, or possibly two trains, may come soon to start operation in 2015.

The Arrow Energy LNG project, which is developed also in Queensland by Shell and PetroChina and supposedly planned for the Chinese market, is approaching a FEED phase.

Shell made an FID on its Prelude floating LNG (FLNG) project offshore Western Australia in May 2011, as it previously indicated to do so¹³.

The 8.40 million tonne per year Ichthys project in Australia and the 2.50 million tonne per year Abadi project in Indonesia, both promoted by Inpex, again attract attentions as potential supply sources to the Japanese market. Inpex plans to make an FID by the end of 2011 to start production at Ichthys in 2016¹⁴. A plan of development for the Abadi floating LNG production venture was approved by the Indonesian government in late 2010¹⁵. In a renewed supply and demand environment, those projects may advance more quickly.

In Papua New Guinea, where the Papua New Guinea LNG (PNG LNG) project is under construction to start production in 2014, floating LNG production initiatives are emerging. In April 2011, a Norwegian floating LNG proponent Flex LNG agreed with upstream developers InterOil, Pacific LNG, and Liquid Niugini Gas, as well as Korean shipbuilder Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) on deploying Flex's first 2 million tonne per year LNG Producer vessel to the Elk and Antelope fields¹⁶. The project also hopes to start production in 2014.

Talisman Energy is also mulling a 3 million tonne per year floating LNG production with Petromin, Höegh LNG, and Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering (DSME)¹⁷.

Russia's Mr. Putin instructed companies to provide additional LNG cargoes to Tepco, as well as to advance plans of a third liquefaction train at the Prigorodnoye plant of the Sakhalin 2 project to meet future gas demand in Japan¹⁸.

Western Canada's Kitimat LNG project partners Apache and EOG Resources were joined by Encana, the largest gas producer in Canada, to advance the project, after awarding a FEED contract

¹³ Shell announcement on 20 May 2011:

http://www.shell.com/home/content/media/news_and_media_releases/2011/fid_flng_20052011.html

¹⁴ 20/02/2011 "Ichthys Project Briefing"

<http://www.inpex.com.au/media/24108/ichthysproject%20brief201211.pdf>

¹⁵ "Government Approval of the Development Plan of the Abadi Gas Field in the Masela Block, the Arafura Sea, Indonesia" 21 December 2011, www.inpex.co.jp/news/pdf/2010/20101221.pdf

¹⁶ www.flexlng.com/?page=194&news=79

¹⁷ "Daewoo Ship Venture May Beat Shell to Floating LNG" September 15, 2010, Bloomberg, www.businessweek.com/news/2010-09-15/daewoo-ship-venture-may-beat-shell-to-floating-lng.html

¹⁸ "Russian Prime Minister accelerates Sakhalin 3 development," 17 March 2011, Nikkei (in Japanese).

to KBR in early March¹⁹. Apache is expected to remain as the operator and the majority shareholder of the venture. The partners hope to make an FID by the end of 2011 to start construction of the 5 million tonne per year first phase, leading to the first shipment in 2015. Encana has upstream partnerships with PetroChina and Kogas, who may become foundation customers of the Kitimat project.

Elsewhere in Canada's west coast, BC LNG Export Co-operative has applied an export license from the central government. Plans call for up to two liquefaction trains of 900,000 tonnes per year or a barge-mounted 700,000 tonne per year facility to realise small-scale LNG production as early as the beginning of 2014 to ship out an FOB cargo per month.

Shell reportedly mulls an LNG export project of 7.60 million tonnes per year at Prince Rupert Island on the west coast of Canada.

Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC), Chubu Electric Power, Tokyo Gas and Osaka Gas have agreed to join Mitsubishi Corporation to develop the Cordova Embayment shale gas and other gas reserves in northeast British Columbia. The consortium plans to study the possibility of exporting the gas to Japan as LNG²⁰.

More positive arguments are also being made on possible LNG exports from the United States since the March earthquake. The Sabine Pass liquefaction plan at the Louisiana LNG import site has already attracted preliminary capacity bookings of 9.80 million tonnes per year for the two-train and 7 million tonne per year facility plan²¹. While the Caribbean and other Atlantic region trading is expected to be the main target of the liquefaction project, it may extend market reach to Asia after improvements in maritime transportation routes, including the planned expansion of the Panama Canal in 2014. Similar export plans are progressing at the Freeport LNG terminal in Texas and the Lake Charles terminal in Louisiana.

In northern Russia, the Yamal LNG project was joined by Total with a 20% stake in early March 2011. Russian independent Novatek awarded a FEED work to CB&I, Chiyoda and Saipem in the same month²². The 16.50 million tonne per year project expects to make an FID in 2012 to start production in 2016.

The three project partners of the Shtokman project in northern Russia agreed on a technical solution for developing the field in April 2011²³. They hope to make an FID on both pipeline and

¹⁹ www.kitimatlngfacility.com/

²⁰ "Consortium to Develop Shale Gas in Canada and Funding to be Provided by JBIC," May 9, 2011, <http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/jp/en/pr/archive/2011/html/0000012153.html>

²¹ Reservations have been made for bi-directional regasification and liquefaction capacity.

²² "CB&I Awarded Feed Contract for Yamal LNG Liquefaction Plant", 3/21/2011 CB&I Press Release, www.b2i.us/profiles/investor/NewsPrint.asp?b=1705&ID=44218&m=rl&pop=1&cat=1889

²³ "Shtokman gets technical go-ahead", 14 April 2011, Upstream Online, <http://www.upstreamonline.com/live/article252578.ece>

LNG elements of the project in 2011.

Although the projects in Arctic north are thought to be less advantageous in marine transportation to supply to the Asia Pacific market than traditional suppliers in the region, they are being developed to potentially include the region as a regular market. They could supply to Asia mainly in summer through Northern Sea Route.

Also in April 2011, Norway's Snøhvit LNG project commissioned a pre-FEED study of a second liquefaction train to Foster Wheeler²⁴.

Recent exploration successes in East African countries including Mozambique and Tanzania have raised hope to create a new LNG supply source there to the Pacific region.

On the west coast of Africa, a second train expansion is considered at EGLNG in Equatorial Guinea. The Brass LNG project in Nigeria wants to advance to an FID in autumn 2011 and start production in 2017. A new LNG project in Cameroon is planned to start a FEED work by the end of 2011. Although these West African projects do not necessarily target the Asia Pacific region as a primary target, some output may be provided Asia as flexible supply and increase availability to the global market as a whole.

Qatari officials have said that there is no Qatargas debottlenecking plans before 2015, eliminating any significant capacity additions beyond the planned 77 million tonnes per year in 2011.

²⁴ "Foster Wheeler Awarded Contract by Statoil for Snøhvit Future Development Project in Norway" Apr 14, 2011, Foster Wheeler Press Release, <http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80422&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1550391&highlight=>

Table 1: Recent developments in planned LNG production projects

Country, region	Project, sponsors	Developments since March 2011
Australia	Wheatstone (Chevron)	Shell joined in the first two trains A third train expansion plan progresses
	Pluto (Woodside)	The first train operation imminent New discoveries for expansion
	Gorgon (Chevron)	First production planned in 2014 A fourth train FEED planned in 2012
	Australia Pacific LNG (Origin, ConocoPhillips)	Chinese market commitment is made An FID for 2015 production is planned
	Arrow Energy LNG (Shell)	A FEED is imminent
	Prelude FLNG (Shell)	An FID is made in May 2011
	Ichthys (Inpex)	An FID in 2011 is planned
Indonesia	Abadi (Inpex)	A plan of development (POD) approved in 2010
Papua New Guinea	Elk-Antelope development	Flex LNG's floating LNG plan is agreed.
	Talisman and others	A floating LNG production plan is considered
Russia	Sakhalin LNG expansion	Russian Prime Minister instruct earlier realisation
	Vladivostok LNG	Japanese and Russian companies study plans
	Yamal LNG (Novatek, Total)	Total has joined and a FEED is underway
	Shtokman (Gazprom, Total)	Partners agree on gas processing arrangement
Norway	Snøhvit LNG (Statoil)	Pre-FEED underway on an expansion
Canada	Kitimat LNG (Apache, EOG Resources, Encana)	A FEED is underway Encana joined
	BC LNG Export Co-operative	An export license is applied
	Cordova Embayment	Mitsubishi, JOGMEC, and others study
	Prince Rupert Island	Shell considers an LNG export project
Gulf of Mexico, United States	Sabine Pass (Cheniere)	Bi-directional (liquefaction and regasification) capacity reservations are made at the existing receiving terminal
	Freeport LNG	Liquefaction facilities are planned at the existing receiving terminal
	Lake Charles	Liquefaction facilities are planned at the existing receiving terminal
East Africa	Mozambique, Tanzania	A series of discoveries are made
Equatorial Guinea	Equatorial Guinea LNG	A second train is considered
Nigeria	Brass LNG	An FID is planned in 2011
Cameroon	GDF Suez and partners	Partners hope to start a FEED work in 2011

(Source) Institute of Energy Economics, Japan - IEEJ

(3) Revitalised LNG carrier ship ordering activities

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) announced in early March 2011 that it was awarded by NYK Line a contract to build an eco-friendly (15% less fuel consuming) and standard-size (145,000 m³) LNG carrier ship²⁵. The ship is believed to be used to transport LNG purchased by Tepco from Papua New Guinea.

Golar LNG placed a speculative order for six 160,000 m³ LNG carriers from Korea's Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) in April²⁶ without any pre-arranged employment. The Norwegian shipowner is expected to arrange either time charter parties or shorter-term employment deals for the ships to be delivered in 2013 - 2014. SHI appears to have secured further two shipbuilding deals. Similarly in late March Maran Gas Maritime ordered a 155,900 m³ LNG carrier from DSME, also without a specific shipping engagement.

In early April, Höegh LNG issued a firm letter of intent (LOI) to Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) for the delivery of two 170,000 m³ Floating Storage and Regasification Units (FSRUs) with options for four additional vessels²⁷. The first two units are scheduled to be delivered in 2013-2014. They have been ordered for potential use at floating LNG receiving terminals planned and proposed around the world, including those in developing countries.

Qatar's Nakilat is also reportedly quoting new building prices, which is aimed at comparing economics of chartering existing standard-size vessels and building brand-new ones.

3. Plans to increase procurement LNG

(including plans before the disaster)

(1) LNG thermal power plants

According to the electric power supply plans of utility companies, nine electric power companies, except for Chugoku Electric Power, plan to construct new LNG thermal power plants, with expected total power generation capacity of 16,251 MW. Furthermore, after the disaster, Tepco plans to install 1,449 MW LNG-fuelled power plant for emergency to secure electricity supply in the sites of the existing plants. As a result, the generation capacity installed would amount to 17,700 MW, possibly leading to an increase in LNG of 9 million tonnes per year. Moreover, the rising utilization rates of the existing LNG thermal power plants, including those owned by IPPs²⁸/PPSs²⁹, also would lead to an increase of LNG demand.

²⁵ <http://www.mhi.co.jp/en/news/story/1103011409.html>

²⁶ Golar LNG Press Release, April 20, 2011

http://www.golarlng.com/index.php?name=seksjon/Stock_Exchange_Releases/Press_Releases.html&pressrelease=1508001.html

²⁷ Höegh LNG Press Release, April 6, 2011

www.hoeghlng.com/press/news/Pages/Hoegh-LNG-has-entered-into-a-firm-Letter-of-Intent-with-Hyundai-Heavy-Industries.aspx

²⁸ IPP (Independent Power Producer) is an organization that owns facilities to generate electric power for wholesale

Table 2: Construction plans for LNG thermal power plant

	Utility	Name of Plant	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated start	Notes
FY2011 Supply Plan	Hokkaido Electric Power	N.A	around 500	FY 2021	
	Hokuriku Electric Power	Toyama Shinko unit-1	around 400	FY 2018	
		Toyama Shinko unit-2	500	FY 2018	Dual fuel (heavy oil, crude oil, LNG)
	Chubu Electric Power	Joetsu unit-1	1,190	FY 2012	
		Joetsu unit-2	1,190	FY 2013	
	Kansai Electric Power	Himeji unit-2	2,919	2013-2015	
		Wakayama	3,700	after FY 2020	
	Shikoku Electric Power	Sakaide unit-2	280	FY 2016	
	Kyusyu Electric Power	Shin-Oita unit-2	around 400	FY 2016	
	Okinawa Electric Power	Yoshinoura unit-1	251	FY 2012	Supply source: Osaka gas (Gorgon) 400,000 mt/y
Yoshinoura unit-2		251	FY 2013		
Yoshinoura unit-3		251	FY 2016		
FY2010 Supply Plan	Tokyo Electric Power	Kawasaki unit-2	500	FY 2013	
			1,420	2016-2017	
	Tohoku Electric Power	Niigata Shin-Sendai unit-3 Joetsu	109	Jul-2011	
			475	FY 2016	
			475	FY 2017	
			1,440	FY 2023	
	Subtotal	16,251			
Short-term measures	Tokyo Electric Power	Sodegaura	112	Jul-2011	Including 1100°C class GT lent by Thailand
		Kawasaki	128	Aug-2011	
		Ohj	209	Jul-2011	
		Chiba	1,000	2011-2012	
		Subtotal	1,449		
	Total	17,700			

(Source) Electric power supply plans of utilities

(2) LNG receiving terminals and the shift to natural gas in the demand/consumption side

As construction and expansion of LNG thermal power plants and the shift to natural gas in the industrial sector are being accelerated, many new LNG receiving terminals and expansions of existing ones are planned (Table 3).

In the city gas sector, concern over power supply shortage and looming possibility of rolling blackouts, caused by the loss of large-scale power generation capacity after the earthquake, would increase the necessity to decentralize power generation systems, possibly accompanied by smart energy networks. Diffusion of gas cogeneration and gas air-conditioning (GHP³⁰ and absorption type) is expected to accelerate, increasing natural gas demand even further.

The Strategic Energy Plan³¹ of the Japanese government stated even before the earthquake that

to utility companies

²⁹ PPS (Power Producer and Supplier) is an organization that owns facilities to generate electric power for retail to end users

³⁰ GHP (Gas-engine Heat Pump) is an air conditioning system by a gas engine compressor, is adopted mainly for commercial and industrial use.

³¹ The Japanese government will review "The Strategic Energy Plan" by the end of 2011.

the gas cogeneration is a significant measure to achieve the low carbon society, with its advantages of energy savings and low CO₂ emissions.

After the disaster, the gas cogeneration, as a decentralized power system, would play a more important role in terms of the supplementation with the supply of a large-scale centralized power plants and the electric-load levelling. If the installed capacity³² of gas cogeneration reaches the 8,000 MW target in the Strategic Energy Plan, its consumption amount, the expected total LNG demand would be 2.9 million tonnes per year³³.

The gas air conditioning system helps mitigate the peak electricity demand in summer³⁴. GHP, in particular, is effective, as its power consumption is one tenth³⁵ of its electric power counterpart. Therefore, it is expected that the installation of the gas air conditioning system would be accelerated. Assuming that the introduction pace increases to twice that of the past decade performance, the additional capacity would lead to an incremental demand of 100,000 tonnes per year³⁶.

However, in case the gas air conditioning replaces some electricity generated by LNG thermal power plants, and natural gas consumption is reduced by the waste heat from the gas cogeneration, the increase of LNG demand in the city gas sector would be offset by reduction of LNG demand in thermal power generation.

³² the installed capacity of the gas cogeneration at the end of fiscal 2009 was 4,487 MW

³³ The estimated condition: generating efficiency 35%, the rate of operation 50%

³⁴ The effectiveness of mitigating the peak electricity demand by GHP installed is 3-4 GW

³⁵ Source: Home Pages of the Japan Gas Association and GHP manufacturers

³⁶ The estimated condition: COP (Coefficient of Performance) 1.2, the operation hours 1,200 per a year

Table 3: Construction plans for LNG receiving terminal

Location	Name of Plant	Storage capacity (kL)	Estimated start	Owner
Hokkaido	Ishikari LNG facility	180,000	2012 (Under Construction)	9 Gas companies in Hokkaido
	Yufutsu LNG receiving terminal	3,000	2011 (Under Construction)	JAPEX
	Kushiro LNG Terminal	45,000	2015 (Planned)	JX Nippon Oil & Energy
Aomori	Hachinohe LNG Terminal	280,000	2015 (Planned)	JX Nippon Oil & Energy
Miyagi	Shin- Sendai Thermal Power Station	N.A.	2016 (Planned)	Tohoku Electric Power
Niigata	Joetsu Thermal Power Plant	540,000	2012 (Under Construction)	Joetsu Co-operative Thermal Power Company (Chubu Electric Power 50%, Tohoku Electric Power 50%)
	Naoetsu LNG terminal	360,000	2014 (Planned)	INPEX
Toyama	Toyama-Shinko thermal plant	N.A.	2018 (Planned)	Hokuriku Electric Power
Ibaraki	Hitachi LNG Terminal	200,000	2015 (Planned)	Tokyo Gas
Kanagawa	Ohgishima LNG Terminal	250,000	2013 (Expansion plan)	Tokyo Gas
Mie	Kawagoe thermal power plant	360,000	2013 (Expansion plan)	Chubu Electric Power
Osaka	Senboku I LNG Terminal	230,000	2015 (Expansion plan)	Osaka Gas
	Sakai LNG Terminal	N.A.	N.A. (Expansion plan)	Sakai LNG (Kansai Electric Power 70%, Iwatani 12.5%, Cosmo Oil 12.5%, Ube Industries 5%)
Wakayama	Wakayama Power Plant	880,000	after 2020 (Planned)	Kansai Electric Power
Okayama	Mizushima LNG	160,000	2011 (Expansion plan)	Mizushima LNG (Chugoku Electric Power 50%, JX Nippon Oil & Energy 50%)
Fukuoka	Hibiki LNG Terminal	360,000	2014 (Under Construction)	Hibiki LNG (Saibu Gas 90%, Kyusyu Electric Power 10%)
Okinawa	Yoshinoura thermal power plant	280,000	2012 (Under Construction)	Okinawa Electric Power

(Source) Utilities' Home Pages

(3) Operation status and construction project of nuclear power plant

As of the end of May, 19 nuclear power plants (installed capacity 17,580 GW) of total 54 existing plants are operating (Table 4). Immediately after the earthquake, 26 nuclear power plants (installed capacity 24,442 GW) were operating. Since the Fukushima accident, the Hamaoka nuclear power plant (Units 4 and 5) stopped operations at the Japanese government's request and five reactors were shutdown due to periodical inspections³⁷ and other causes. The operating plants are due to shutdown one by one for periodical inspections. The extension of inspection period is to cope with various additional checks that were resulted from the disaster. Utilization rates of the nuclear plants are expected to fall in general. Decommission of Fukushima Daiichi (I) units 1-4 (total installed capacity 2,812 MW) was determined and Fukushima I units 5 and 6 (total installed capacity 1,884 MW) and Fukushima Daini (II) (total installed capacity 4,400 MW) are to lose 9,096 MW generation capacity for the time being. It is expected that LNG thermal power plants have a role partially to cover electricity shortages in such a situation, and LNG demand would rise.

³⁷ The Electricity Utilities Industry Law provides that "periodical inspection" must be conducted within a period of not exceeding 13 months after the date of commissioning or the completion of the previous inspection.

Table 4: Status of nuclear power plants

Utility	Name of Plant (Unit Number)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Latest Start of Operation	Next Periodical Inspection	Periodical Inspection	Completion of Periodical Inspection (planned)	Status (after the earthquake)	
Japan Atomic Power	Tokai Daini	1,100	Apr-2010	May-2011			Shutdown (due to the quake)	
	Tsuruga (1)	357			Jan-2011	Mar-2012	Outage for periodical inspection	
		(2)	1,160	Aug-2010	Sep-2011			Operating until unplanned outage on 7 May
Hokkaido Electric Power	Tomari	(1) 579	Apr-2010	Apr-2011			Operating until planned outage on 22 April	
		(2) 579	Jul-2010	Aug-2011			In Operation	
		(3) 912	Apr-2011	uncertain				Test operation for restart during periodical inspection
Tohoku Electric Power	Onagawa	(1) 524	Aug-2010	Sep-2011			Shutdown (due to the quake)	
		(2) 825			Nov-2010	Restart unclear	Outage for periodical inspection	
		(3) 825	Nov-2010	Dec-2011			Shutdown (due to the quake)	
	Higashi-Dori (1)	1,100			Feb-2011	Restart unclear	Outage for periodical inspection	
Tokyo Electric Power	Fukushima Daiichi	(1) 460					Shutdown (to be decommissioned)	
		(2) 784						
		(3) 784						
		(4) 784						
		(5) 784			Dec-2010	Restart unclear		Shutdown
		(6) 1,100			Aug-2010	Restart unclear		(the site of the disaster)
	Fukushima Daini	(1) 1,100	Oct-2010					Shutdown (affected by the quake) (near the site of the disaster)
		(2) 1,100	Jul-2010					
		(3) 1,100	Apr-2010					
		(4) 1,100	Feb-2011					
	Kashiwazaki Kariwa	(1) 1,100	Aug-2010	Sep-2011				In Operation
		(2) 1,100			Feb-2007	Restart unclear	Restart unclear	Outage for periodical inspection
		(3) 1,100			Sep-2007	Restart planned within 2011	Restart unclear	Outage for periodical inspection
		(4) 1,100			Feb-2008	Restart unclear	Restart unclear	Outage for periodical inspection
		(5) 1,100	Feb-2011	Mar-2012				In Operation
		(6) 1,356	Mar-2011	Apr-2012				In Operation
		(7) 1,356	Jul-2010	Aug-2011				In Operation
Chubu Electric Power	Hamaoka	(3) 1,100			Nov-2010	Apr-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(4) 1,137	Mar-2011	Apr-2012			Operating until shutdown upon the government's request on 13 May	
		(5) 1,380	Feb-2011	Mar-2012			Operating until shutdown upon the government's request on 14 May	
Hokuriku Electric Power	Shika	(1) 540			replacing parts	Restart unclear	Outage for equipment replacement on 1 March	
		(2) 1,206			Mar-2011	Jul-2011	Outage for periodical inspection	
Kansai Electric Power	Mihama	(1) 340			Nov-2010	Apr-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(2) 500	Nov-2010	Dec-2011			In Operation	
		(3) 826	Apr-2010	May-2011			Operating until planned outage on 14 May	
	Takahama	(1) 826			Jan-2011	Apr-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(2) 826	Oct-2010	Nov-2011			In Operation	
		(3) 870	Jan-2011	Feb-2012			In Operation	
		(4) 870	Jun-2010	Jul-2011			In Operation	
	Ohi	(1) 1,175	Apr-2011	uncertain				Test operation for restart during periodical inspection
		(2) 1,175	Nov-2010	Dec-2011				In Operation
		(3) 1,180			Mar-2011	Jul-2011		Outage for periodical inspection
	(4) 1,180	Jun-2010	Jul-2011				In Operation	
Chugoku Electric Power	Shimane	(1) 460			Nov-2010	Mar-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(2) 820	Dec-2010	Jan-2012			In Operation	
Shikoku Electric Power	Ikata	(1) 566	Jul-2010	Aug-2011			In Operation	
		(2) 566	Nov-2010	Dec-2011			In Operation	
		(3) 890	Mar-2010	Apr-2011			Operating until planned outage on 29 April	
Kysuyu Electric Power	Genkai	(1) 559	Nov-2010	Dec-2011			In Operation	
		(2) 559			Jan-2011	Mar-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(3) 1,180			Dec-2010	Apr-2011	Operation delayed after planned outage	
		(4) 1,180	Nov-2010	Dec-2011			In Operation	
	Sendai	(1) 890	Jun-2010	May-2011				Operating until planned outage on 10 May
		(2) 890	Aug-2010	Sep-2011				In Operation
Total		48,960						

(Source) Utilities' Home Pages

Table 5: Status of nuclear power plants (under construction, planned)

	Utility	Name of Plant (Unit Number)	Type of Reactor	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated start (before the quake)	Status (after the earthquake)	
Under Construction	Chugoku Electric Power	Shimane (3)	ABWR	1,373	Mar-2012	Expected to delay startup	
	J-POWER	Ohma	ABWR	1,383	Nov-2014		
	Subtotal		2 units	2,756			
Preparing for Construction	Japan Atomic Power	Tsuruga (3)	APWR	1,538	2017		
		(4)	APWR	1,538	2018		
	Tohoku Electric Power	Namie-Odaka	BWR	825	FY 2021	Area of the disaster (Fukushima prefecture)	
		Higashi-Dori (2)	ABWR	1,385	after FY 2021		
	Tokyo Electric Power	Fukushima (7)	ABWR	1,380	Oct-2016	Site of the disaster	
		Daiichi (8)	ABWR	1,380	Oct-2017	Site of the disaster	
		Higashi-Dori	(1)	ABWR	1,385	Mar-2017	Construction Plan rescheduled (expected)
			(2)	ABWR	1,385	after FY 2020	Construction Plan rescheduled (expected)
	Chubu Electric Power	Hamaoka (6)	ABWR	around 1,400	after FY 2020		
	Chugoku Electric Power	Kaminoseki (1)	ABWR	1,373	Mar-2018	Possibility of Construction Plan rescheduled	
		(2)	ABWR	1,373	FY 2022	Possibility of Construction Plan rescheduled	
	Kyusyu Electric Power	Sendai (3)	APWR	1,590	Dec-2019	Construction Plan rescheduled (expected)	
	Subtotal		12 units	16,552			
Total		14 units	19,308				

(Source) Utilities' Home Pages

4. LNG business activities will be affected by possible Tepco restructuring

Tepco has always assumed a central role in the LNG business for decades as the largest private-sector LNG buyer in the world with annual purchase of 20 million tonnes, diversified LNG supply sources, some LNG carrier ships, and existing and planned equity participation in two LNG production projects from where it purchases output³⁸.

Tepco has also been active in expanding its presence in wholesale and large-customer retail gas business in Japan, by starting tank-truck LNG delivery from its Futtsu LNG terminal in September 2007 and signing a heads of agreement (HOA) in June 2010 with Shizuoka Gas on LNG sales to the company.

Although Tepco is shaken by the nuclear crisis, its LNG business is still world-class and continues having significant influence over the entire Asia-Pacific regional market, to say nothing of its own electric power supply area and other LNG user companies in the country.

As international business of Tepco, including investment in LNG production projects, may be restructured in the course of the company's business streamlining and reorganising process, it will be even more important for Japanese players, including Tepco, to structure their proactive involvement in LNG procurement process and value chains as a whole in a manner that enhances security of energy supply.

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³⁸ In 2006 Tepco started importing LNG from Australia's Darwin project in which it has invested jointly with Tokyo Gas. Tepco plans to participate in the Wheatstone project from which it plans importing LNG from 2016.