Singapore gears up to be natural gas hub in Asia-Pacific

Its location near demand centres, suppliers creates strategic advantage, says roundtable

Caroline Geoh

Singapore is looking to be the Asia-Pacific hub for imported natural gas (LNG) as demand for the energy source grows. The global demand of 230 million tonnes a year is projected to rise to 450 million tonnes in the next two to three decades, creating huge opportunities for nations to diversify their energy supplies.

Mr Noel Rahim, chief economist and head of roundtable discussion at Trifurca, a gas consultancy brand of Enerpower, said a gas roundtable held last month that Singapore’s gas infrastructure is well positioned to take advantage of opportunities to produce and export energy.

"We are looking at more than just the opportunities that come from the LNG trade," he said. "We are looking at the opportunities to become a hub for natural gas and the infrastructure development that comes with it."

Mr Rahim pointed out that Singapore has the right infrastructure and market conditions to become a gas hub. The country has a strong gas infrastructure, which includes the TGL and TGL2 terminals, as well as the TPL terminal in Singapore. These terminals have the capacity to store large volumes of LNG, allowing for the efficient storage and delivery of gas.

In addition, Singapore has a well-established gas infrastructure, with extensive pipelines and connections to other markets. This infrastructure allows for the easy transport of gas to other regions, enabling Singapore to become a gas hub.

"The infrastructure and market conditions are in place for Singapore to become a gas hub," Mr Rahim said.

Natural gas offers reliable electricity generation that is not affected by weather patterns as wind energy and solar power are. Coal is less favoured these days as it contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, while gas gives off significantly less greenhouse gas emissions compared to fossil fuel plants, said Mr Saad Rahim, chief economist of Dutch-based commodity trader Trifurca.

Tune in to our webinar & get a head start on retirement planning

Wednesday, 12 October 2016, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Debunk retirement misconceptions and learn how to manage the inevitable prelils of inflation, health care expenses, longevity and more in your golden years.

For registration and more details, go to gbds.com.sg/sunwebinar

Organised by

Presented by