

Energy and Environmental Policy in Japan

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Japan's energy and environmental policy is presently at a historical turning point. Although the fundamental goals should be pursued as before to ensure stable energy supply, to sustain the Japanese economy by economical and efficient energy, to work on measures against global warming, and to achieve the three "E" s concurrently, debates are ongoing about the degree of future dependence on nuclear power and targeted measures against anti-global warming for 2020 and thereafter, in order to devise practical and concrete measures.

The author believes that to achieve the fundamental goals, it is important to maintain the widest possible range of Japan's energy and environmental policy options. It is necessary to retain the nuclear power option, further the energy-saving efforts, actively introduce renewable energy, and use fossil fuels cleanly and stably. Among them, as Japan's energy and environmental policy frontiers, it would be important to recognize the options for using CCS.

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