

Thailand's Solar PV Roadmap Initiative and the Governance of Energy Transition

April 22nd, 2015, The Intercontinental Bangkok

Thailand's Solar PV Roadmap Initiative, which engaged the opinions of various stakeholders, represents a step forward pushing for inclusive policy-making processes. The stakeholders deliberated on the vision, barriers, target installed capacity, future scenarios, and action plans to develop Thailand's solar PV industry. Many questions remain of how the Roadmap can enter the existing policy process. For example, how would a high level of intermittent renewables impact the existing electric grid? What is the impact on electricity tariffs? Dr. Sopitsuda Tongsopit, the lead researcher of Thailand's Solar PV Roadmap Initiative, will discuss results of the initiative and lessons learned that inform strategies for future energy reform in Thailand.

The UK-based iGov Project aims to explain the nature of change towards a sustainable energy system. Part of iGov's work streams compare the UK's energy governance with that of Denmark, Germany, California, and Texas. The UK's electricity system shares many characteristics with Thailand's, including market concentration of power companies, centralized institutions, rising energy costs, and the incentives for renewable connection to the power network. Dr. Matthew Lockwood, a Senior Research Fellow on the iGov Project, will talk about the findings of iGov Project so far and insights that can inform future initiatives on the governance of the transitioning from "supply-oriented energy systems" to "distributed energy resources."

About Dr. Matthew Lockwood:

Dr. Matthew Lockwood is a Senior Research Fellow on the iGov project. He has worked on energy and climate policy in the UK in a variety of roles since the early 2000s. From 2006 to 2011 he was a Senior Research Fellow and subsequently Associate Director for Energy, Climate Change and Transport at the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), where he led projects on a range of issues including household energy efficiency, fuel poverty, the policy framework for coal-fired power generation, personal carbon trading and the framing of climate policies. He has also worked as a consultant and adviser to the Design Council, the London Development Agency, and the Sustainable Development Commission.

About Dr. Sopitsuda Tongsopit:

Dr. Sopitsuda Tongsopit is a Researcher and Member of the Board of Directors at Chulalongkorn University's Energy Research Institute (ERI). She has led numerous research projects related to policy elements for the support of renewable energy in Thailand including Building Blocks for Renewable Energy Policy and Thailand's Solar PV Roadmap Initiative. Her current research focus is on business models and financing options for a rapid scale-up of distributed solar PV. She obtained her B.A. from Dartmouth College and Ph.D. from the University of California Santa Cruz.



British Embassy
Bangkok



Department of Alternative
Energy Development and Efficiency
MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Seminar Program:

Thailand's Solar PV Roadmap Initiative and the Governance of Energy Transition

8:30-14:00, Pinnacle 4-5 (4th Floor), Intercontinental Bangkok

Time	Topic
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:15	Opening Speech By. Assistant Prof. Kulyos Audomvongseree, Deputy Director, Energy Research Institute and Mr. Colin Sykes, Economic and Prosperity Counselor, British Embassy Bangkok
9:15-9:35	“Key Insights from the Solar PV Roadmap Initiative and Recommendations for an Energy Reform” By Dr. Sopitsuda Tongsovit Energy Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University
9:35-9:45	<i>Questions and Comments</i>
9:45-10:15	“How the Political Momentum for Renewable Energy is Built or Sabotaged : Lessons Learned from the UK, Germany, and Denmark” By Dr. Matthew Lockwood Energy Policy Group, School of Geography, University of Exeter
10:15-10:45	Commentator: Ms. Kulwaree Buranasajjawaraporn, Director, Bureau of Solar Energy Development, Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency
10:45-11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:00-11:30	“Toward a Decentralised Energy System: Policy Design and Challenges” By Dr. Matthew Lockwood Energy Policy Group, School of Geography, University of Exeter.
11:30-11:45	Commentator: Mr. Witoon Permpoonsacharoen Director, Mekong Energy and Ecology Network (MEENET)
11.45-12:00	Questions and Comments from the audience
12:00-14:00	<i>Buffet Lunch</i>
End of the Seminar	