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Signing of the Sino-Danish Pilot Project Agreement aims to improve District Heating and Energy Efficiency in China

As of today the “Sino-Danish Pilot Project on District Heating (DH) and Energy Efficiency (EE) Improvements in China” has been signed by the Danish Energy Agency (DEA), the National Energy Conservation Center (NECC), the Development and Reform Commission of Shaanxi Province (SXDRC) and the People’s Government of Tongchuan City of Shaanxi Province (SXTC), in Xi’an-Shaanxi Province. Based on Danish experiences, the new pilot project will be setting the benchmark and foundation for future nationwide planning

methods and district heating projects in China.

Denmark's cooperation with China builds on beyond 100 years of Danish experiences with district heating. The Chinese Government has ambitious targets for improving energy efficiency and effectively using excess heat resources to district heating in order to reduce coal consumption, improve air quality, ease the fast-growing heating demand (including demand for space heating and domestic hot water) due to the rapid urbanization process and, last but not least, to protect the environment. Both parties agree that with the use of the Danish experience regarding district heating, engaged partners from different sectors and with the qualified support from the Sino-Danish Expert Panel established as a part of the pilot project, the goals of reducing energy consumption, costs and emissions will be met.

Project agreement

The project agreement signed today aims to introduce and demonstrate advanced Danish methodologies and technologies as well as experiences in the field of energy efficiency and district heating. Hereby the purpose is to advance the Sino-Danish Pilot Project under the guidance of the Ministry of Energy, Utilities and climate of the Kingdom of Denmark (MEUC), and the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China (NDRC). This pilot project will be implemented in Tongchuan City of Shaanxi Province, working with key stakeholders for the district heating planning process, assessing the possibilities for increasing energy efficiency and utilising e.g. excess heat from Huaneng Tongchuan Zhaojin Power Plant.

Subsequent signing the pilot project agreement followed a tour at Huaneng Tongchuan Zhaojin Power Plant with a presentation of the aim and content in the pilot project by the NECC and the DEA.

Tongchuan City

Tongchuan had a population of 950.000 in 2015, with a total heating area of 15.99 million square meters. Its weather is characterized by long winters and short summers, where minimum temperatures between October and April are always below zero (-6°to -22°). It is predicted to reach up to 1.06 million inhabitants, covering a heating area of 33.46 million square meters. Its main industry and source of energy is coal, however their industry also includes building materials, machinery, textile and aluminum. Heating is needed in

the cold and long winters by the increasing population. The industries and power plants might have excess heat currently not utilized in the district heating system. This untapped resource is a potential the pilot project will investigate and give suggestion on how to utilize in a long termed sustainable way supporting the green goals of the government.



Collaboration

This project agreement is a result of a larger framework of cooperation that started with the Memorandum of Understanding on Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, signed in 2013 by the NDRC and the MEUC. In addition, a new three year Sino-Danish collaboration, between the DEA and the NECC, that aims to focus on DH and EE, is currently underway. This cooperation includes the hiring of a long-term Danish district heating expert based in Beijing, who will support the implementation of the pilot project.

One of the most important tools to be used in this collaboration is the District Heating Assessment Tool (DHAT), launched last month by the DEA. The tool performs economic feasibility studies for establishing district heating compared to individual heating. It can be adjusted to local conditions

worldwide. [Find more information about DHAT.](#)

Pilot Project

In this [fact sheet](#) you can read more about the district heating pilot project.

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The work of the Danish Energy Agency involves matters relating to energy supply and consumption, as well as Danish efforts to reduce carbon emissions. The Agency is also responsible for Danish building policy and promotes more sustainable building with regard to energy consumption, use of materials and economic issues.

The Agency is responsible for the entire chain of tasks linked to energy production and supply, transportation and consumption, including energy efficiency and savings as well as Danish national CO2 targets and initiatives to limit emissions of greenhouse gasses. The Agency supports building-policy initiatives to increase the productivity and quality of building as well as the operation and maintenance of buildings, with focus on sustainable building. The Agency also collaborates with the building sector to establish a good framework for the industry.

The Danish Energy Agency was established in 1976, and is an agency under the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Building. The Agency employs about 360 persons.

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