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Contents

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Thailand's recommitment to gas spells bright future for LNG

Thailand's near 40-year relationship with natural gas is set to continue. In a region struggling to shake off a growing addiction to coal, the south-east Asian country's new power development plan (PDP 2018), which was approved earlier this year and covers the period 2018-2037, aims to keep gas at the heart of Thai electricity, while boosting the role of renewables.

At the same time, Thailand has seen a notable increase in its LNG imports in the past three years, making it the region's leading LNG importer. With volumes from Myanmar – Thailand's sole source of pipeline imports – continuing to fall and domestic resources being depleted with no signs of an upstream revival, LNG is seen as the logical source to support the Thai government's bullish gas plan.

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