China sets pace for green energy

Country expects to reach its goals well ahead of stated 2030 deadline

By ZHENG JINSHAN and YANG JUN in Guiyang

China has cut coal consumption, reduced its carbon emissions, and increased renewable power capacity in the past decade, according to a new report.

An estimated 397 million metric tons of coal, and 1.4 billion tons of coal derivative, were replaced by renewable power in 2015, according to the report, Renewable Energy Industries Association.

National data accounted for 13 percent of China’s primary energy use in 2015, growing from 7 percent in 2005, and it is expected to account for 20 percent by 2020, said Xin Zhenhao, China’s chief climate negotiator and former deputy director of the National Development and Reform Commission.

“Renewables are one of the largest countries in the world,” said Xin. “We have already launched the new energy industry, and we have a huge potential for achieving the goals we have set.”

“China is committed to a zero-carbon future, and to achieving the goals we have set,” Xin said.

In 2015, China set 2060 as its target for carbon neutrality, and 2050 as its goal for achieving carbon neutrality.

Contact the author at xzheng@chinadaily.com.cn

World leaders in renewable energy

Capacity increases: adding hydroelectric power capacity

China: 253 GW

United States: 221 GW

Germany: 98 GW

India: 79 GW

Source: Global Status Report on Renewables 2016

Hainan special

Spacecenter fires tourism boom

By HUANG YIJUN AND LU XIANG

A space project in the coastal city of Wenchang, in southern China’s Hainan province, is set to become a major tourist attraction.

“Wenchang is developing into a space city,” said Li Xudong, the director of Wenchang Space Science City.

“What we say is true,” said Li. “The launches in the years to come will bring in more tourists and I am sure my company will benefit from it.”

Zhao Changfu, chief of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee’s Chilean Energy Industries Committee, said the world has a significant opportunity to cooperate in the field of renewable energy.

Xie Zhenhua, chief of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said the world has a significant opportunity to cooperate in the field of renewable energy.

The launches in the years to come will bring in more tourists and I am sure my company will benefit from it. ZHANG CHEN, a fisherman, is satisfied with the development of Wenchang.

China has invested billions of yuan in research and development of renewable energy infrastructure, including roads, bridges, water, and power generation, as well as solar, wind, and geothermal technologies.

The city also plans to pay a role similar to that played by Houston in the United States, said Li. “Houston is a renowned space city that attracts tourists from around the world.”

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