



Impact of China Energy Sector on Asia Focus of Study

*Rice's Baker Institute to Release Findings on Year-long Project at April 13 Media Briefing
1 April 1999*

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An in-depth review of emerging trends in China's energy sector and how these trends will impact future energy security in Asia is the focus of a year-long study to be released by Rice's James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy in April.

Findings from research papers covering key areas of China's energy sector will be discussed during a media briefing at noon on April 13 in the International Conference Facility of Baker Hall on the Rice campus.

Edward Djerejian, director of the Baker Institute, and Amy Jaffe, senior energy analyst for the institute, will present an overview of the project and then answer questions from reporters.

The project is being funded by the Center for International Political Economy (CIPE) of Washington, D.C.

As with past Baker Institute energy studies, the China project is multi-disciplinary and provides an analysis of economic, political, social, technological, environmental and cultural factors that will influence the development of Asian energy markets in the coming decade or so. Among the topics covered are:

- Trends in the development of China's natural gas sector;
- Economic reform and interplay between China's transnational oil companies and provincial entities involved in energy businesses;
- Sectoral analysis of China's growing energy demand;
- Forecasts for the size of the increase in Chinese and Indian oil imports and the impact of this incremental demand on oil geopolitics;
- The Impact of the Asian economic crisis on competition for energy resources in the Asia-Pacific;

- Analysis of economic costs of China's compliance with Kyoto environmental accords;
and
- The role of energy, trade and oil geopolitics in China's foreign relations.

The study will be available on the Web at <http://riceinfo.rice.edu/projects/baker/index.html> along with other energy studies on the Caspian Basin and Persian Gulf.

Media outlets interested in covering the media briefing should contact Michael Cinelli, director of Rice's Office of Media Relations, at (713) 831-4794.

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