

How can Kuwait keep pace with rising demand for electricity?

Keeping pace with rising demand for electricity will be critical to Kuwait's economic development, and reforms, such as opening up the power generation sector to independent power producers and independent water and power producers, are key to increasing the currently low share of private company involvement in the sector.

Can Kuwait free up oil & natural gas?

According to the International Energy Agency's WEO-2018, worldwide, about a quarter of all electricity generation comes from renewables. Kuwait, like other countries in the GCC, is endowed with world-class solar and wind resources and is increasingly looking to tap this potential as a way to free up oil and natural gas for other uses.

Does Kuwait use oil to generate electricity?

Kuwait relies on oil and natural gas to generate electricity, with oil accounting for 64% of the generating capacity in 2015. Given Kuwait's dependence on oil-export revenues, there are significant financial incentives to move away from burning oil for domestic power use.

Is Kuwait a natural gas exporter or importer?

Today, Kuwait relies almost exclusively on oil products and natural gas to meet its energy needs, with each fuel accounting for about a half of total primary energy consumption. But while Kuwait is a major oil exporter, it is a net importer of liquefied natural gas, due to underdevelopment of its gas reserves.

What is the future of Kuwait's Electricity sector?

The Ministry of Electricity and Water estimates that reserve margins could drop to 8% by 2020. Kuwait plans to increase base-load electricity generating capacity to 32 GW by 2035 (see Chapter 2). Until very recently, the Ministry of Electricity and Water was solely responsible for the development of the electricity sector.

How many power plants are there in Kuwait?

Source: Al-Sayed and Assem (2003). In 2018, Kuwait had an installed electric generation capacity of 18.8 gigawatts (GW), with nine power plants. Steam generation accounted for nearly half of total capacity, with combined-cycle steam and gas plants making up another 40%. Open-cycle gas-fired generation accounted for some 8% in 2018.

This initiative marks Kuwait's first roadmap for energy transition, which is projected to generate net economic gains of \$390 billion by 2060. The roadmap targets major energy consumers, including electricity, transportation, and the oil sector, which together account for 70% of Kuwait's energy usage.

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In 2022 the proportion of Kuwait's total installed capacity for electricity generation contributed by renewable energy sources was 0.35%, equal to 70 MW. That amount was composed of concentrated solar power (CSP) with 50 MW, photovoltaic (PV) solar power (10 MW) and wind power (10 MW).

Kuwait's energy industry stands at a critical juncture, poised for both significant challenges and transformative opportunities. Shifting dynamics in the energy landscape, coupled with growing concerns over climate change and sustainability, have prompted Kuwait to reassess its energy strategy.

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GSSCPD is proud to launch Kuwait Energy Outlook (KEO) in collaboration with its government partner the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) and its strategic international partner the United Nations Development Programme

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