

Tonga Energy Road Map 2021-2035

Discussion points



Oil supply

Premise

- Oil products will continue to account for a large share of Tonga's total primary energy supply
- To increase security of supply and reduce prices, establishment of direct shipments of oil products from Singapore

Discussion

- Agreement on how to build, finance, and operate infrastructure to accommodate medium-range tankers needed
 1. Past assessments concluded that a privately-owned medium-range tanker terminal with regulated open access is most beneficial option
 2. Alternatively, the GOT could invest in the additional infrastructure for accommodating medium-range tankers, while agreeing on terms to use the existing assets

Options for direct shipments

	Privately-owned terminal with regulated open access	Publicly owned additional infrastructure, ownership of existing fuel assets unchanged
Benefits	Comparatively minor price reductions of 8-9 seniti per liter expected	
Complexity	Single, dedicated company owning and operating the terminal, but some complexity due to open access regulation	Multiple infrastructure owners and operators with agreement, coordination, and supervision of several private sector contracts, for fuel supply, terminal construction, and terminal operations
Supply via tenders	Costs might not be reduced as a result of tendering supply (in addition to cost reduction from medium-range tanker port)	

Electricity generation

Premise

- Electricity generation accounts for a quarter of total primary oil supply
- To reduce usage of oil, electricity generation should switch from oil to renewables
- Available (known) renewable sources are primarily solar and wind

Discussion

- Achieving 100% electricity generation from variable (wind) and intermittent sources (solar) will be costly due to numerous technical challenges

Electricity generation

Challenge	70% electricity generation from renewables	100% electricity generation from renewables
<p>Flexibility</p> <p>Storage, dispatchable electricity generation, expansion of distribution networks, technologies for fast frequency response (loss of inertia), demand side responses</p>	<p>Some dispatchable electricity generation from fossil fuels</p> <p>Considerable storage required</p>	<p>No dispatchable electricity generation from fossil fuels</p> <p>Even more storage required</p> <p>Renewable-firm resource not yet identified</p>
<p>Uncertainty of generation</p> <p>Need for elaborate forecasting of output from renewable sources</p>	<p>Uncertainty somewhat balanced by dispatchable electricity generation from fossil fuels</p>	<p>High uncertainty with only storage as backup</p>
<p>Independent power producers</p>	<p>Careful assessment of and legally binding arrangements concerning curtailment of generation in times of oversupply</p>	

Electricity consumption

Premise

- Electricity consumption for residential sector calculated as 44% of total electricity consumption
- Commercial and public services corresponds to the remaining 56%
- The residential sector is the fastest growing electricity consumer in Tonga

Discussion

- Limiting growth of residential electricity to 1% per year might be challenging for a SIDSs country that is developing

Electricity consumption

Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances and Buildings

Benefits	Reduction in electricity consumption
Complexity and challenges	<p>Minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) for appliances</p> <p>Expansion of MEPS appliances is necessary</p> <p>Application of more stringent standards might be costly</p> <p>Energy efficiency standards for buildings</p> <p>Adoption of energy efficiency standards to building code</p> <p>Passive ventilation, daylighting, cooling techniques to reduce energy consumption</p> <p>Increased use of solar water heaters to replace electric heaters</p>
Issues and requirements	<p>Government subsidies on MEPS appliances and loan programs</p> <p>Curtailment of import of non-compliant appliances</p> <p>Identification of baseline and common practice for various appliances</p> <p>List of eligible equipment and suppliers</p> <p>Building awareness and knowledge</p>

Transport

Premise

- Oil products will continue to account for a large share of Tonga's total final energy consumption,
- Transport represents nearly 90% of total final oil consumption
- Electrification of transport (EoT) could reduce oil consumption

Discussion

- Electric vehicles might contribute to reduce oil consumption, but there are numerous obstacles (costs, increased electricity load and sufficient charging infrastructure)
- Fuel efficiency standards for vehicles with some EoT might be a more practical approach to reduce oil consumption in the transport sector

Transport

	Electric vehicles	Fuel efficiency standards
Benefits	Reduction in oil consumption by switching from oil products to electricity	Reduction in oil consumption due to lower fuel demand
Costs	Higher cost of electric vehicles High costs for charging infrastructure	Higher cost of more efficient vehicles
Issue and uncertainties	Education, acceptance and uptake of electric vehicles by consumers Requirements towards electricity generation, network and dispatch	Acceptance of higher vehicle prices by consumers Enforcement of efficiency standards

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