

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AS A PART OF NATIONAL SECURITY OF UKRAINE

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In today's difficult economic and political situation, there is the challenge of economic security of Ukraine. Thus the issues of high energy consumption, energy efficiency improvement and renewable energy development are very important for our country. In addition, the problem is misunderstanding the necessity to reduce energy consumption by citizens.

The economic security ensuring, along with the protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, applies to the most important functions of the state according to the Constitution of Ukraine [1].

The issue of energy efficiency in recent years received much attention in Ukraine, which is reflected in the current legislation. In order to better understand the importance of energy saving technologies in ensuring the economic security of Ukraine, the clarification of such definitions as "energy security", "energy saving technologies", "alternative and renewable energy sources", "economic security" should be provided.

An energy security is the state of economy that assists the efficient use of energy resources of the country, the presence of sufficient number of energy producers and suppliers in the energy market, as well as accessibility, differentiation and environmental friendliness of energy resources [4].

As one of the most important components of economic security, an energy security appears, firstly, as the state of provision by fuel and energy resources which guarantee the full country livelihood and, secondly, as the security of energy industry and the ability to ensure the proper functioning of the economy and energy independence of the country. The political and energy independence are interdependent [5].

At the same time, an energy security is the state of economy that provides protection of national interests in the energy sector from existing and potential internal and external threats and allows meeting the real needs of energy resources to ensure the livelihood of population and reliable operation of national economy within the normal state, the state of emergency and the martial law [3].

An energy saving technology is a method of manufacturing accompanied by the rational use of energy, which makes possible to simultaneously reduce the energy load on the environment and shorten the amount of energetic waste products obtained during the production and operation of the manufactured product.

Ukraine has considerable potential for biomass utilizing. The incentive tariff for heat energy production from any type of fuel, other than gas, was introduced last year in the country for the creation and development the heat production from biomass. According to statistics, installed thermal power facilities put into operation only in the fourth quarter of 2014 was 450 MW. In general, more than 3650 MW thermal energy production based on biomass are utilizing today.

In addition, the new direction of development of energy efficient technologies in Ukraine is geothermal energy. A unique experience in this matter has Iceland. It should be noted that the annual technically achievable heat potential of geothermal energy in Ukraine is equivalent to about 90 million MWh per year, and its use saves about 10 billion m³ of gas.

Taking into account the current economic and political situation in Ukraine, the issues of energy efficiency and energy saving in the context of economic security are particularly relevant. Ukraine occupies one of the leading places in the world in terms of energy consumption. Most of energy resources are imported. The challenge of energy independence of our country was sharply raised in 2014. The only logical way of energy development of the country, which spends huge costs on resources' import, is increased focus on energy saving [2, 6, 7]. Thus the issues of prudent use of energy resources, replacing natural gas by alternative fuels, energy saving technologies have become a priority tasks in ensuring the economic security and need to be addressed immediately.

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