APPROACHES TO DEFINING INTERNATIONAL ENERGY SECURITY

E. Amisi

Sukhoi state technical university of Gomel, Republic of Belarus

Scientific adviser R. I. Hramyka

The problems of international energy security are the subject of active study in connection with the dynamics of demand for energy resources, fluctuations in energy prices, the implementation of energy efficiency policies by energy consumers and

the emergence of alternative energy sources. The aim of the study is to consider existing approaches to the definition of the concept of "international energy security".

The difficulty in determining international energy security is due to the fact that, firstly, energy security is part of the national security system and energy problems are considered from the point of view of the priority of their own economic interests. Secondly, at the international level there is no single mechanism for developing and making a consensus decision in the interests of all parties. Thirdly, the development of a unified approach is complicated by the participation of various international players, including international organizations Such as OPEC, the group of international banks and other.

Russian researcher Khlopov identifies the following approaches to the study of international energy security:

1. Institutional, which involves a study of the effectiveness of international institutions and organizations in ensuring international energy security.

2. An approach that builds on the interdependence of energy suppliers and consumers.

3. The study of supply diversification in connection with the development of technology and the deregulation of the energy market [1].

Energy security is usually defined in terms of the interests of energy consumers. Ellen Scholl and Kirsten Westphal in their study of European energy security problems give the following definition: “Energy security can be considered reliable energy supply in the form, place and time in which it is needed. In other words, energy security is “an uninterrupted supply of energy at an affordable price.” Obviously, it reflects the interests of energy consuming countries [2]. The World Energy Council (WEC) defines energy security as “the belief that energy will be available in the quantity and quality that are required in the present economic conditions” The European Commission defines energy security as a multifaceted system. In order to provide energy security, the following principles should be implemented:

– Energy security should be based on the principle of diversification of energy supplies;

– Full integration of the European energy market;

– Energy efficiency and moderate consumption;

– Research in the field of renewable energy sources and the maintenance of the emissions trading system [3]. We see that the above approaches are based on the idea of achieving guaranteed supply and express the position of energy consumer countries.

Some researchers believe that the study of international energy security has a multilevel and interdisciplinary nature. Three main areas should be distinguished: technical, economic and political.

Experts believe that energy security should be universal for both poor and rich countries. This idea is in line with the spirit of the 2002 UN Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. In the last decade, the development of general principles of international energy security has begun. At the G8 summit in 2006, the growing interdependence of the parties, the need to ensure the security of supply and demand and their diversification was noted. Nevertheless, the Energy Summit 2010 did not provide a definition of energy security that would meet the interests of all parties. International energy security is defined as "the state of the global energy system, which ensures a safe and uninterrupted supply of energy materials and products to consumer countries in

conditions ... with minimal damage to the environment and with the aim of ensuring sustainable social and economic development of the world community." The need to include the concept of “security of demand” is recognized by forum participants. During the negotiations on the International Energy Charter in Brussels in 2014, an attempt was made to develop a common concept of energy security for all participants, including energy producing countries. Energy consuming countries, despite the awareness of the problems existing in energy exporting countries, namely, large investments in energy production and transportation require some guaranteed allocation to be financed, take the position of reducing primary energy consumption and are not interested in ensuring “demand security” [4]. Exporting countries emphasize that energy security should be based primarily on stable energy flows at a price that reflects the true value of products to meet energy demand and ensure future investments in energy projects that are consistent with sustainable economic growth.

Modern approaches to determining energy security cannot but take into account fluctuations in energy prices on the world market. Significant fluctuations in oil prices (in particular, their reduction) create risks for oil producers and jeopardize the profitability of its production. The security of energy demand reduces the risks faced by exporting countries. It should be borne in mind that for many countries of energy producers their share in GDP is significant and, given the instability of the world energy market, this leads to a decrease in export revenues and the growth rate of the economy as a whole. In this situation, it is necessary to diversify the economy and reduce its dependence on energy exports.

Thus, the concept of international energy security should reflect the interests of both producers of resources and their consumers. And, as Khlopov emphasizes, the task of the international energy market is to ensure the availability and sufficiency of energy resources at reasonable conditions and prices, which will create the prerequisites for its stable functioning. Events of the current year show that the market may face a loss of stability and unforeseen risks for manufacturers.

Research conclusions.

1. Economic growth in its modern sense determines the growth of energy consumption.

2. Approaches to the definition of energy security are based on the interests of energy consumers. The general concept of energy security, which will include the adoption of the concept of security of demand by importing countries has not yet been developed.

3. However, the solution to the problem of international energy security is possible only if the interests of all participants in the international market, both exporters and importers of energy carriers and transit countries are taken into account. Therefore, consensus is needed in creating a unified international energy security system.

R e f e r e n c e

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