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The Thailand interview: Areepong Bhoocha-oom, permanent secretary of the ministry of energy

Thailand is seeking to license new offshore blocks and expand its LNG regasification capacity to meet ever-growing power demand. The Thai government's long-term power sector development plan predicts the country will import 22 mtpa of LNG by 2036 – a more than six-fold increase on the 3.6 mtpa imported in 2015, according to BP data. Concurrently, the country's ministry of energy recently launched “Energy 4.0”, a blueprint to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy to reduce reliance on fossil fuel imports. Gas Matters spoke to Areepong Bhoocha-oom, permanent secretary of Thailand's ministry of energy on the sidelines of Gastech in Tokyo, to shed some light on the future role of natural gas and LNG in the country's shifting energy mix.



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