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# 2019 IN REVIEW: King coal hampers LNG's potential in south-east Asia

South-east Asia is often mentioned at industry events as the next 'hotspot' for LNG demand. However, while a handful of planned regas projects saw progress in 2019, coal – on which south-east Asian countries have increasingly relied on in recent years to support their power-hungry economies – continued to hamper LNG's potential in the region.

South-east Asia is home to several developed gas markets, including Vietnam, the Philippines, Thailand and Malaysia – the latter two already being LNG importers. As seen in a series of features on the region published this year by Gas Matters Today's sister publication LNG Business Review, all four have sought new or additional regas capacity in order to offset depleting gas reserves and address growing power needs.

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