Overview of the West-East Gas Pipeline Project

Originally know as the First West-East Gas Pipeline which became operational in 2004, the West-East Gas Pipeline Project is now a natural gas supply system stretching from across China from east to west, including the completed First and Second West-East Gas Pipelines as well as the ongoing Third West-East Gas Pipeline. Consisting of trunk and branch pipelines and gas storages, the project delivers natural gas from Western China and Central Asia to the major target consumer markets in Southeast China, as well as users along the lines. Once the whole project is completed, it will have a total length of more than 20,000km, with an annual delivery capacity of 77 billion cubic meters.

The First West-East Gas Pipeline is mainly supplied by the Tarim gas province in Xinjiang. It runs from Lunnan Oil and Gas Field in the Tarim Basin to Baihe Town in Shanghai, with a total length of 4,380km. Consisting of one trunk, three branches and other support pipelines, it can transmit 17 billion cubic meters of natural gas each year. The pipeline passes through 10 provinces (municipalities and autonomous regions), i.e., Xinjiang, Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Henan, Anhui, Jiangsu, Shanghai, and Zhejiang. The pipeline was kicked off on July 4, 2002, completed and put into trial operation on October 1, 2004, and became commercial operational on December 30, 2004.

The Second West-East Gas Pipeline is mainly supplied by gas from Central Asia. The 8,819km-long pipeline, consisting of one trunk and eight branches, runs from Horgos in Xinjiang, where it is connected with the Central Asia-China Gas Pipeline, to Shanghai and Hong Kong. This pipeline is capable of delivering 30 billion cubic meters annually for over 30 years. It passes through 14 provinces (municipalities and autonomous regions) including Xinjiang, Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Henan, Hubei, Jiangxi, Guangdong, Guangxi, Zhejiang, Shanghai, Jiangsu, Hunan, and Shandong, as well as Hong Kong SAR. Construction of the second pipeline was started in February 2008, and it was completed and put into operation in December 2012.

The Third West-East Gas Pipeline is mainly supplied by gas from Central Asia, with SNG in Xinjiang as the supplementary. It will run from Horgos in Xinjiang to Fuzhou in Fujian, crossing Xinjiang, Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Fujian, and Guangdong. Consisting of one trunk and five branches, it stretches a total length of 6,840km with a designed annual delivery capacity of 30 billion cubic meters. Construction of the third pipeline was started on October 16, 2012, and it will be completed and put into operation in 2016.

The First, Second and Third West-East Gas Pipelines are interconnected and can be controlled in an integrated manner through the hubs in Zhongwei, Jingbian, Zaoyang and Ji'an. The four major gas provinces including Tarim, Changqing, Sichuan-Chongqing and Qinghai are connected through the Ji-Ning, Zhongwei-Jingbian, Huai-Wu cross-link lines, and Zhongxian-Wuhan and Sebei-Xining-Lanzhou pipelines, laying a solid foundation for the forming of a nationwide gas pipeline network.



↑ Source of the First West-East Gas Pipeline——Kola-2 plant



Road-map of the West-East Gas Pipelines



↑ Pipeline laying site