

threats and demonstrations issued by China and Japan towards each other are not seen as elements contributing to escalation. Instead, they are considered coercive cooperation, used to signal red lines in an ongoing process of territorial bargaining over disputed space. This assumption seems problematic in view of events such as the Chinese declaration of an Air Defence Identification Zone (ADIZ) that encompassed the Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands. Irrespective of whether this move is blamed on Japanese or Chinese actions, it doubled the competitive patrolling of the area in the vicinity of the disputed islands to encompass the airspace as well as the surrounding seas. This event seems to contribute to escalation because China's red line was immediately challenged by Japan and the United States, thus increasing the likelihood of collision. Of course one could also argue that this type of behaviour made both parties realize that some kind of dialogue must be opened. Even if one does present a case for cooperation, it is not clear that the establishment of the ADIZ was intended to lead to cooperation. Another problematic assumption that gives rise to bias towards identifying cooperation in the case studies is the assertion that resource issues are of marginal political salience because they relate to mundane economic concerns and not to matters of national security or national identity. It is easy to think of conflicts over resources such as oil and gas that have become highly politically salient. For example, Iraq's intervention in Kuwait in 1990 and the Western response were in many ways driven by the political salience of resource concerns and conflicts. And strategic issues between adversaries can give rise to deep inter-state cooperation: Chinese–South Korean cooperation on North Korean issues is perhaps a case in point.

These theoretical concerns do not change the general impression that Manicom has written a well-documented and theoretically and empirically innovative book on one of the most important issues in contemporary Asia-Pacific security. The book should appeal to a wide scholarly and policy-oriented audience that is interested in an original take on Sino-Japanese relations and the East China Sea. The book is also useful for postgraduate courses discussing Asia-Pacific and maritime security issues.

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*Energy Security and Sustainable Economic Growth in China*

Edited by SHUJIE YAO and MARIA JESUS HERRERIAS

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There have been many books written about China's economy, and the number analysing its energy sector and policies is growing, but few have set out to examine the links between energy and the nation's economy. This book makes a useful contribution in this respect. The editors have assembled a number of scholars, many of whom are relatively young, to analyse different aspects of China's economy and its use of energy. The question which underlies many of these accounts is the rate at which the country can move away from the highly energy- and carbon-intensive growth that has characterized the early years of this century.

The first two chapters provide useful background by comparing China's pattern of rising energy demand with other industrializing economies (Carlos Aller and Lorenzo Ductor) and by demonstrating the impact of this growing demand on international

markets (Atanu Ghoshray and Javier Ordonez). They show, respectively, that China has great potential relative to many other countries to reduce carbon emissions and that its import requirements continue to have significant consequences for international commodity markets.

Six chapters provide qualitative analyses of different aspects of China's energy sector, namely: energy diplomacy via the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (Elzbieta Maria Pron), the institutional setting of China's energy policy (Karolina Wysoczanska), national energy security (Dan Luo and Shujie Yao), the domestic oil market (David Broadstock), the country's alternative energy sources (Maria Garcia) and institutional barriers to the government's renewable energy strategy (Evan Hills and Zhengxu Wang). These accounts provide useful summaries of recent developments in China's energy policies for those readers new to the topic, but mostly fail to yield new insights into the forces that have shaped them.

The later, mainly quantitative chapters are different, for they do report relatively original analyses which examine different aspects of the link between energy consumption and economic growth. Two chapters look at regional variations. Maria Jesus Herrerias and Roselyne Joyeux show how the causal relationship between economic growth and electricity consumption has varied across the country. Their principal conclusion is that there is long-run causality from per capita GDP to electricity consumption in all the major grids in China, except for the eastern grid; the implication being that the government can continue to enforce energy-saving measures without harming economic growth. In the next chapter, Herrerias examines regional variations in the link between energy intensity and productivity. Her analysis shows that higher productive efficiency yields lower energy intensities. The one exception is the energy sector itself which remains under state control with highly regulated prices.

During the 30 years from 1980, China's energy intensity declined by almost 70 per cent. Ana Cuadros and Vicente Orts conclude, in line with other scholars, that this remarkable achievement owes more to the adoption and diffusion of improved technology and management practices than to structural changes in the economy. This leads them to argue that the government should continue to promote inward investment by foreign companies in order to support the continued improvement of technology and reduction of energy intensity. This line of thinking is supported by the succeeding chapter which shows how foreign direct investment has improved energy efficiency in the Yangtze River Delta area around Shanghai, driven by a combination of better technology and management and by international pressures for greener practices (Maoliang Bu and Huajiang Luo).

The last two chapters focus on the nation's emissions of carbon dioxide. Chaoxian Guo and Yanhong Liu aim to identify the relative contributions of consumption, investment and export to carbon emissions over different periods of time between 1992 and 2007. They conclude that export and investment have been the principal drivers, with consumption playing a significantly smaller role, and they recommend, as others have done, that the government continue to promote domestic consumption and to shift its manufacturing industry up the value chain. In the final chapter, Xiumei Guo and Dora Marinova remind us of the environmental challenges that China faces in relation to its energy sector, and they review some of its strategies to combat this pollution, which include investing huge amounts of money in cleaning up heavy industry, improving accountability and raising public awareness.

Overall, this book provides a useful account of many aspects of China's energy sector and its relationship to the country's pattern of economic development. Whilst they yield few truly innovative insights, these accounts give the reader a good

understanding of the challenges facing the government as it seeks to reduce energy intensity and to tackle the appalling levels of pollution. The volume makes useful reading for undergraduate or graduate courses where students require an overview of the world's largest energy sector, but is probably not sufficiently enticing for researchers seeking new insights, with the exception of a few of the quantitative accounts.

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*Chinese Research Perspectives on the Environment (Volume 3): Public Action and Government Accountability*

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The latest volume in the series *Chinese Research Perspectives on the Environment* is a timely publication. It features a selection of articles translated from the original Chinese volume *Zhongguo huanjing fazhan baogao* (known in English as *The China Environment Yearbook*) and includes some of the most prominent voices among civil society activists and Chinese academics working on environmental issues. The focus on public action and government accountability is important given the recent rise in both NGO activity and direct action by concerned citizens, particularly in 2012. The book is prefaced by a useful overview by Li Bo, former director of Friends of Nature, which is China's oldest environmental NGO and is responsible for compiling the yearbooks. It contextualizes environmental problems within China's rapid urbanization and provides a useful backdrop for the more specific topics tackled by each chapter.

The volume is then divided into ten parts. Part one, on public action, includes a chapter by Wu Fengshi and Peng Lin which describes recent mobilizations against pollution as a signal of a more mature civil society. It suggests that the increase in public protests in 2012 was met with faster response by local government and with more "rational and professional" (p. 33) action by NGOs, shifting from violent protests to demands for better monitoring and for policy change. The following chapter, by Huo Weiya, is an example of these developments, documenting the use of portable equipment for environmental testing (made famous by the controversy around PM2.5).

Part two covers government accountability and good governance. Economist Zhang Shiqu advocates combining government, market and societal forces in environmental protection. Guo Weiqing similarly emphasizes the importance of social and political aspects in managing China's water crisis and the need to establish new institutions to enhance governance. Part three, on government policies, includes chapters on strengthening national standards for drinking water and policies controlling pollution (Song Guojun and Zhang Zhen) and on the controversy over revisions to the environmental protection law which legalized environmental public interest litigation (Qie Jianrong).

Part four, on livability, includes a chapter by journalist Yang Changjiang which documents the rapid increase of incineration plants and the resultant public concern, and calls for the replacement of incineration with carbonization, gasification and