

NOVEMBER 28, 2019 / 14:17 CET

Asian coal prices ease as pollution controls bite

Nathan Witkop

(Montel) Benchmark Asian coal prices slid 1% in the week through to Thursday amid signs of growing pressure to cut air pollution among northeast Asian consumers as well as elevated Chinese inventories.

The Newcastle index, a reference price for high grade (6,000 kcal/kg) Australian coal exports to Asia, last stood at USD 67.77/t, down USD 0.74 week on week.

Traders highlighted pressure from regulatory announcements this week after paper prices for December delivery slumped as much as 5% from a high of 71/t on Monday.

"Pat Markey, managing director of Singapore-based Sierra Vista Resources, said Taiwanese restrictions on the 5.5 GW Taichung power plant were likely to reduce the country's demand by 2m tonnes next year, including 1m tonnes of high calorific Australian fuel.

~Montel

June 7, 2019, 10:29 CET By Nathan Witkop, Sydney

Australian coal miners reroute lost volumes to China

By Nathan Witkop

(Montel) Australia managed to grow its thermal coal exports by 2% in the year through April, despite customs delays forcing a sharp slowdown in volumes to China, analysts told Montel.

Australia shipped 66.4m tonnes of thermal coal in the first four months of the year, compared to 65.2m tonnes over the same period last year, said IHS Markit director of coal Scott Dendy.

This was despite a 17% drop in exports to China that came in at just 14m tonnes.

"A plunge in sales of the 5,500kcal/kg thermal coal that is typically sold to China has compelled Australian miners to look for alternative markets or to blend their coal to meet other customers' specifications", said Pat Markey, managing director of Singapore-based Sierra Vista

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MAY 31, 2019, 04:03:00 AM EDT By Reuters

China, India thermal coal imports hit multi-year highs in May

By Henning Gloystein

SINGAPORE, May 31 (Reuters) - Seaborne thermal coal imports by China and India hit multi-year highs in May, shipping data showed on Friday, contrasting with trends in other regions where there is a shift towards cleaner electricity sources like natural gas and renewables.

China's shipped imports of thermal coal, which is used mostly for power generation, will reach 17 million tonnes in May, data in Refinitiv showed, the highest level since at least 2015, and up from around 12 million tonnes a year ago.

Sierra Vista's Markey said, "India's economic growth of 7% this year "will help to continue to support the need for increased power generation."

MAY 24, 2019 / 1:58 AM

In Vietnam's booming energy sector coal reigns, but renewables play catchup

Khanh Vu, Henning Gloystein

HANOI/SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Vietnam has become a hot spot for energy investors eyeing a spend of up to \$150 billion over the coming decade to meet surging power demand, with coal set to dominate despite signs of a government effort to go green.

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"Vietnam is a big growth story for the coal industry. Coal demand will be extremely strong," said Pat Markey, Managing Director of Sierra Vista Resources, a Singapore-based commodity advisory.

~Reuters

APRIL 5, 2019 / 2:12 AM

Australia coal posts biggest weekly drop in a decade amid weak demand

Henning Gloystein

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Australian thermal coal prices this week registered their biggest weekly fall since the financial market turmoil of a decade ago as demand plunged with the end of winter and amid worries over the strength of the global economy.

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"Many times in the past, we've seen Newcastle soften after the April-March negotiations have been finalised," said Pat Markey, managing director of Singapore-based commodity consultancy Sierra Vista Resources.

~Reuters