

A History Review and Current Status of Rural Electrification in China

Prof. Xuehao Hu, Wanxing Sheng, Weili Ren

China Electric Power Research Institute, Qinghe, Beijing, China

Abstract

This paper begins with a review of China's rural electrification progress over the past 50 years. The progress is composed of five stages, namely, initiating stage, growing stage, accelerating stage, reform and restructuring stage and new countryside electrification stage. The paper mainly outlines the major tasks, missions and achievements at different stages.

It also reflects the overall level of current development of China's rural electrification by quoting some quantitative indexes, such as, power access rates, electric energy consumption for life and agriculture production and power supply quality.

This paper also addresses the use of green power to develop rural electrification. based on the features of China's countryside such as vast territory, being densely-populated and on that some villages are remote , isolated and not accessible for main power transmission system.

In light of the "Getting Access to Electric Power for All Homes" project being undertaken currently, the paper briefs the latest development of China's rural electrification and its prospect in the coming years.

The paper ends up with what China Electric Power Research Institute has done for China's rural electrification development, including the construction and popularization of small-sized substations in rural areas, the pilot project of comprehensive energy-saving refurbishment of rural power grid, distribution automation and information system construction in rural distribution system, research on new power supply mode of countryside, etc.