

China's State Grid Envisions Global Wind-and-Sun Power Network

Brian Spegele Wall Street Journal March 30, 2016

Chairman says network could be running by 2050; concern over vulnerabilities could weigh on interest

Wall Street Journal — China's State Grid Corp. already dominates its home market, operating most of the electricity grid that powers the world's second-largest economy. Now it has big plans for the world: a \$50 trillion global power network that harnesses Arctic winds and equatorial sunlight.



(Liu Zhenya speaks at a conference in Houston)

State Grid Chairman Liu Zhenya outlined his company's vision Wednesday, saying a new global electricity network is the world's best bet for overcoming resource scarcity, and limiting the effects of pollution and climate change. Knitted together by new, efficient, long-range transmission lines, the world grid, he said, could be running by 2050 and would tap advanced technology for renewable solar and wind resources.

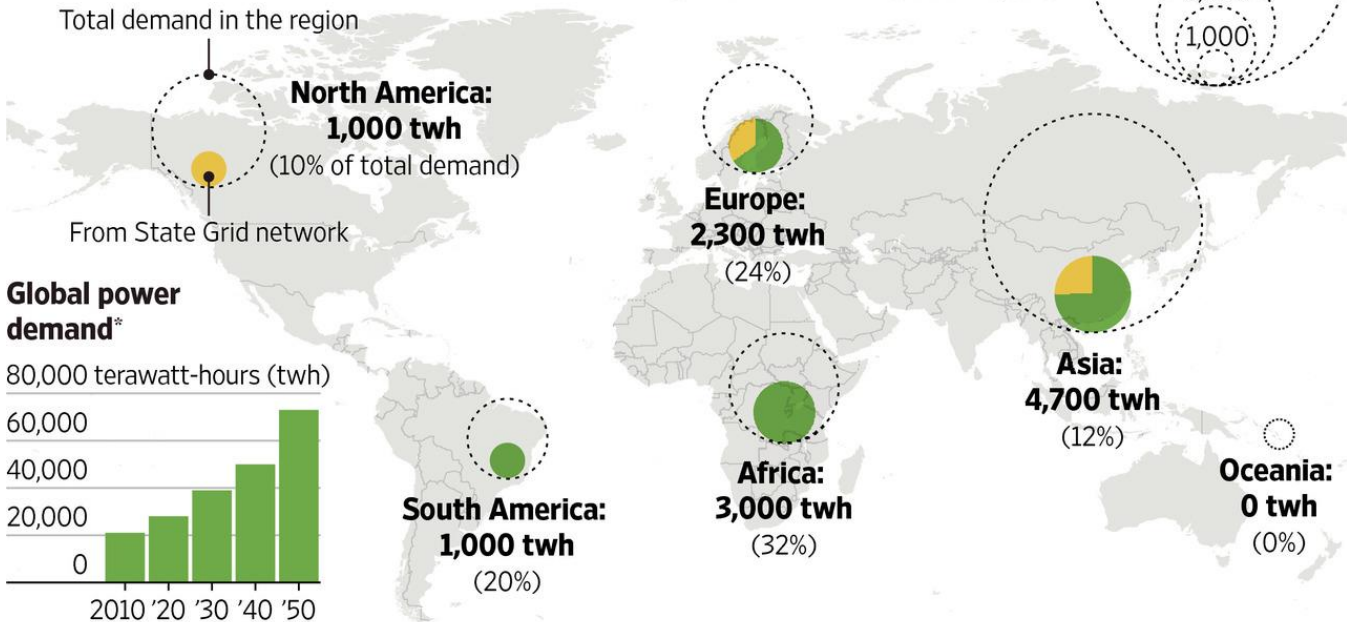
"This is the right thing to do to benefit all the people of the world," Mr. Liu said at a media briefing during an international symposium on the project.

Global Power

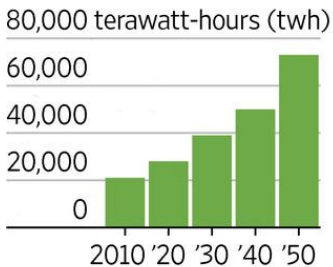
China's State Grid wants to power the world with Arctic wind and equatorial sun.

State Grid's projected power supply in 2050

Wind power from the Arctic Solar power from the equator



Global power demand*



*Estimate for 2010; forecasts for 2020-50
Source: the company

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China's State Grid envisions delivering this (percentage) of the electricity market on each continent using wind & solar.