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U.S. natural gas supply, demand continues to grow



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Pence accuses China of 'malign' campaign to undermine Trump

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Vice President Mike Pence escalated Washington's pressure campaign against Beijing on Thursday by accusing China of "malign" efforts to undermine President Donald Trump ahead of next month's congressional elections and reckless military actions in the South China Sea.

In what was billed as a major policy address, Pence sought to build on Trump's speech at the United Nations last week in which he alleged that China was trying to interfere in the pivotal Nov. 6 midterm elections. Neither Trump nor Pence provided hard evidence of Chinese meddling.

Pence's speech at the Hudson Institute think tank in Washington marked a sharpened U.S. approach toward China that goes beyond the bitter trade war between the world's two biggest economies and includes disputes such as cyber activities, Taiwan, freedom of the seas and human rights.

Pence alleged China was waging a sophisticated effort to sway the Nov. 6 elections against Trump's Republican Party in retaliation for his trade policies against Beijing and vowed to continue to expose Beijing's "malign influence and interference."

China has previously denied Trump's accusation.

Pence said Beijing, with an eye not only to the congressional elections but also to Trump's re-election bid in 2020, had "mobilized covert actors, front groups, and propaganda outlets to shift Americans' perception of Chinese policies" and was targeting its tariffs to hurt states where Trump has strong support.

"China wants a different American president," Pence said, adding that the "meddling" was intended to undermine support for Trump and his agenda.

The allegations, however, have raised questions as to whether Trump and his aides are trying to deflect attention from an investigation of his campaign's possible ties to Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election and also set up China for the blame if Republicans do poorly in next month's elections. The vote will determine whether they keep control of Congress. The Chinese Embassy in Washington referred queries about Pence's speech to an interview that China's ambassador, Cui Tiankai, gave to National Public Radio on Wednesday.

Cui said Beijing wanted to resolve the trade war through negotiations but that would require goodwill from both sides. He said this was currently not sufficient from the U.S. side.



FILE PHOTO: U.S. Vice President Mike Pence delivers a speech in Washington

CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS
Washington has long cited China as a major culprit in the cyber hacking of U.S. government and corporate databases. But U.S. officials and independent analysts say they have not detected the kind of systematic manipulation of social media and hacking of emails that Russia is alleged to have engaged in during the 2016 election, which

Trump won. Despite that, Pence said, "As a senior career member of our intelligence community recently told me, what the Russians are doing pales in comparison to what China is doing across this country."
Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen told the Washington Post this week there was no indication of any foreign effort to disrupt election infrastructure but added that "we know they (China) have the capability and the will."

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Editor's Choice



A lone demonstrator protests in opposition to U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh in Washington



Activists hold a protest march and rally in opposition to U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh in Washington



U.S. first lady Melania Trump tours a school in Lilongwe, Malawi, October 4, 2018. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri



Woman prays as she holds her dog after getting it blessed by a priest at Sao Francisco de Assis (Saint Francis of Assisi) Church in Sao Paulo



U.S. First Lady Melania Trump is pictured as she arrives at the State House in Lilongwe



Woman with a Louis Vuitton-branded shopping bag looks towards the entrance of a branch store by LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton in Vienna



FILE PHOTO: U.S. Assistant Attorney General for the National Security Division John Demers announces an indictment charging seven Russian military officers with malicious cyber activities against the U.S. and its allies at the Department of Justice in Washington, U.S., Oct. 4, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque/File Photo



Activists hold a protest march and rally in opposition to U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh in Washington

A Small Business Export Seminar was held On Wednesday, October 3, 2018, at the International Trade Center, 11110 Bellaire Blvd. in southwest Houston, Texas.

The event attracted over 100 visitors to the center and offered a range of speakers who covered their individual areas of expertise as related to U.S. exports to overseas markets, focusing on small businesses operating in Houston, Texas, and surrounding region.

The program included speakers, luncheon and an awards ceremony recognizing the achievements of individuals who have contributed to the growth of the community in the areas of trade, marketing, finance, education, hospitality and more. Among the dignitaries in attendance was Chinese Consul General in Houston, Li Qiangmin, who praised award recipients for their contributions.



Speakers for the event, as introduced by MC James Noteware included the following: **Wea H. Lee**, Chairman of Southern News Group and the International Trade Center who delivered the opening remarks; **Mark Winchester**, Deputy District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, Houston, Texas; **Alale Allal**, Regional Export Finance Manager, SBA, Houston, Texas; **LeeVera Smith/Carmen Strong**, Export Business Advisor – Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Houston, Texas; **Mindy Fryer**, Lead Grants Coordinator, Trade & Business Development, Texas Department of Agriculture, Austin, Texas; **Eric Miller**, Regional Director, Export-Import Bank, Houston, Texas;

Small Business Export Seminar Held At International Trade Center - Houston

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Will Whitehouse, Senior Trade Development Manager, Port of Houston; **Constance Jones**, Vice President of Operations, Houston Minority Supplier Development Council (HMSDC) and special guest, **Dr. Laura Murillo**, president and CEO of Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, spoke on the importance of the community coming together, citing the challenges faced following Hurricane Harvey.



The event program was followed by the awards presentation, a buffet luncheon and a networking opportunity. The event was presented in collaboration with Southern News Group, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Caribbean Chamber of Commerce, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Pakistan Chamber of Commerce, Lamar University and the International Business Council.

About ITC

Our Mission

The International Trade Center's is dedicated to the arts, education, international and cultural exchange.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER Houston Texas

The International Trade Center sponsors seminars on various topics of interest to our community including; Art Exhibitions, Cultural Festivals/Events, Business Financing: Banking, Letters of Credit, SBA Loans, XM Bank, Alternative Financing Commercialization, Marketing and Sales

Legal: Contract Administration, International Law, Electoral Property Rights, Strategic Alliances and Partnering We work with our valuable partners in the West Houston Community to reach out not only to the community but to small and medium sized businesses as well. We believe this partnering, or "multiplier effect" expands everyone's reach.

ITC Beginnings

The International Trade Center - Houston was founded by businessman and entrepreneur, Wea H. Lee. Mr. Lee, a publishing magnate with a global perspective, publishes the Southern Chinese Daily News and prints more than fifty other international news publications in Houston, Texas. He also headed the effort to establish the new International District in Houston's booming west side. "My Vision has become a reality. With the opening of the US International Trade Center in Houston, Houston will continue to innovate and redefine the international marketplace." -Wea H. Lee



ITC Facility Services

We have excellent facilities for meetings, conferences, trade shows, and other functions. Here are some of the facility services we offer our members: Full Service Executive Suites Office Location in the Heart of Houston's International District International Business Office and Networking On-Site Product Showroom On-Site Kitchen



Business Development Services

The International Trade Center is available to help its members with the following: Company Site Tours Business Matchmaking Facilitate Business Opportunities International Business Network Mixers Trade Delegations Trade Missions

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(For a complete list, go to <http://www.itchouston.org/our-accomplishments.html> .



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\$3 Billion Hoover Dam Project Plans To Bring Power Plant Into The 21st Century

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Hoover Dam is one of the greatest engineering feats of the 20th century. Built during the Great Depression, it was the biggest public works project in the country. Now, as California and the West expand into renewable energy, there's a \$3 billion plan to bring the power plant into the 21st century.

Close to a million people come each year to the Arizona-Nevada border to be awed by the mighty dam, a 726-foot high wall of concrete housing 17 power generators, reports CBS News' Jamie Yuccas.

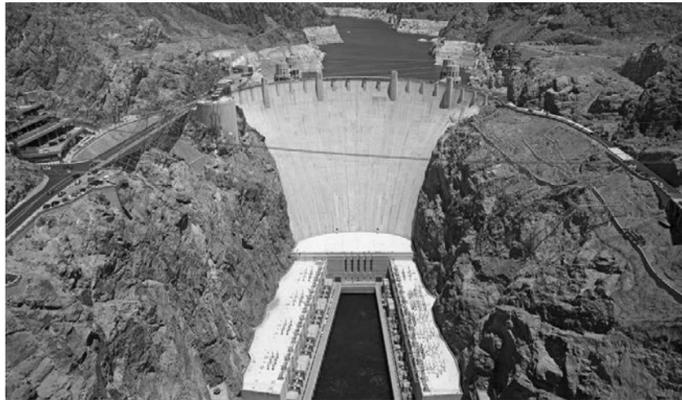
"3.25 million cubic yards of concrete. Basically you could pave a road from San Francisco to New York with the concrete in the dam," Len Schilling said. He manages the Hoover Dam, which provides power to three states and water to more than 20 million people, producing enough power to support more than a million homes.

The generators take in water from Lake Mead. The water is funneled through spinning turbines to create electricity. Then the water is released to flow downstream. Los Angeles is its largest customer. "Fifty-five percent to California, 25 percent to Nevada, and then 20 percent to Arizona customers," Schilling said.

The dam was built to tame the Colorado River after devastating floods. Now the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is looking to turn it into a giant energy storage system, similar to the job a battery performs.



"In fact it's one of the simplest technologies: pump water up hill when there's too much energy and let it run down hill when there's not enough energy," said David Wright, general manager of the Department of Water and Power. They have already implemented the plan that works on a much smaller scale in Castaic, California.



"This isn't something we're looking at lightly. This is something that has been thought about and now it's, let's look at the engineering, let's look at the feasibility," Wright said.

The project calls for a wind- and solar-powered pump station to be built 20 miles downstream. Water would be pumped back up to Lake Mead through underground pipes and sent back down during periods of higher demand.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, a proponent of green energy, is also behind the plan.

"You're talking about a price tag of \$3 billion. That's a lot of money," Yuccas said. "The cost of inaction is more," Garcetti responded. "We've got drought and fires in the West... We're going to be talking about 100 billions, trillions of dollars of costs if we don't confront climate change now."

California has a mandate of zero carbon emissions by 2045, and stands to gain the most from the plan. Some of the businesses down river are concerned there may not be enough water for recreation.

"So how do you sell people down river that this is going to be a good thing, especially during a drought when water levels are low?" Yuccas asked.



"You have to listen to stakeholders that are there. We can't just do this, and mandate it and say, 'It's our dam... and we're gonna do whatever,'" Garcetti said.

The project is in its infancy. It requires an environmental impact study along with a debate over how the cost will be divided between all of the energy users.

"The western United States might be divided by state borders but we really have the same electricity lines, the same water. We realize that our fates are tied together," Garcetti said.

It's a visionary project that some hope will stem the flow of climate change before it's too late. (Courtesy <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/>)

Related

HOOVER DAM

Hoover Dam is a concrete arch-gravity dam in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River, on the border between the U.S. states of Nevada and Arizona. It was con-

structed between 1931 and 1936 during the Great Depression and was dedicated on September 30, 1935, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Its construction was the result of a massive effort involving thousands of workers, and cost over one hundred lives. Originally known as Boulder Dam from 1933, it was officially renamed Hoover Dam, for President Herbert Hoover, by a joint resolution of Congress in 1947.

Since about 1900, the Black Canyon and nearby Boulder Canyon had been investigated for their potential to support a dam that would control floods, provide irrigation water and produce hydroelectric power. In 1928, Congress authorized the project. The winning bid to build the dam was submitted by a consortium called Six Companies, Inc., which began construction on the dam in early 1931. Such a large concrete structure had never been built before, and some of the techniques were unproven. The torrid summer weather and lack of facilities near the site also presented difficulties. Nevertheless, Six Companies turned the dam over to the federal government on March 1, 1936, more than two years ahead of schedule.



Hoover Dam impounds Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the United States by volume (when it is full). The dam is located near Boulder City, Nevada, a municipality originally constructed for workers on the construction project, about 30 mi (48 km) southeast of Las Vegas, Nevada. The dam's generators provide power

for public and private utilities in Nevada, Arizona, and California. Hoover Dam is a major tourist attraction; nearly a million people tour the dam each year. The heavily traveled U.S. Route 93 (US 93) ran along the dam's crest until October 2010, when the Hoover Dam Bypass opened.

Hydroelectricity is electricity produced from hydropower. In 2015 hydropower generated 16.6% of the world's total electricity, [1] and was expected to increase about 3.1% each year for the next 25 years.

Hydropower is produced in 150 countries, with the Asia-Pacific region generating 33 percent of global hydropower in 2013. China is the largest hydroelectricity producer, with 920 TWh of production in 2013, representing 16.9 percent of domestic electricity use.



The cost of hydroelectricity is relatively low, making it a competitive source of renewable electricity. The hydro station consumes no water, unlike coal or gas plants. The average cost of electricity from a hydro station larger than 10 megawatts is 3 to 5 U.S. cents per kilowatt-hour. [2] With a dam and reservoir it is also a flexible source of electricity since the amount produced by the station can be changed up or down very quickly to adapt to changing energy demands. Once a hydroelectric complex is constructed, the project produces no direct waste, and in many cases, has a considerably lower output level of greenhouse gases than fossil fuel powered energy plants. (Courtesy https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoover_Dam)

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