

## **Exclusive-China looks to lock in U.S. LNG as energy crunch raises concerns -sources**

By Chen Aizhu, Jessica Jaganathan and Scott DiSavino / Reuters / Oct 15, 2021

SINGAPORE/NEW YORK (Reuters) - Major Chinese energy companies are in advanced talks with U.S. exporters to secure long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies, as soaring gas prices and domestic power shortages heighten concerns about the country's fuel security, several sources said.

**Natural gas prices in Asia have jumped more than fivefold this year, sparking fears of power shortages in the winter.**

At least five Chinese firms, including state major Sinopec Corp and China National Offshore Oil Company (CNOOC) and local government-backed energy distributors like Zhejiang Energy, are in discussions with U.S. exporters, mainly Cheniere Energy and Venture Global, the sources told Reuters.

Sources expected fresh deals to be announced over the coming few months, after privately controlled ENN Natural Gas Co., headed by the ex-LNG chief of China's largest buyer, CNOOC, announced a 13-year deal with Cheniere on Monday. It was the first major U.S.-China LNG deal since 2018. [Full story](#)

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## **A US small-town mayor sued the oil industry. Then Exxon went after him**

By Chris McGreal in Imperial Beach / The Guardian / Oct 16, 2021

**Serge Dedina is a surfer, environmentalist and mayor of Imperial Beach, a small working-class city on the California coast.**

He is also, if the fossil fuel industry is to be believed, at the heart of a conspiracy to shake down big oil for hundreds of millions of dollars.

ExxonMobil and its allies have accused Dedina of colluding with other public officials across California to extort money from the fossil-fuel industry. Lawyers even searched his phone and computer for evidence he plotted with officials from Santa Cruz, a city located nearly 500 miles north of Imperial Beach.



The problem is, Dedina had never heard of a Santa Cruz conspiracy. Few people had.

The lawyers found no evidence to back up their claim. But that did not stop the industry from continuing to use its legal muscle to try to intimidate Dedina, who leads one of the poorest small cities in the region.

The mayor became a target after [Imperial Beach filed a lawsuit](#) against ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP and more than 30 other fossil-fuel companies demanding they pay the huge costs of defending the city from rising seas caused by the climate crisis.

[One assessment](#) calculated that, without expensive mitigation measures, **rising sea levels will eventually swamp some of the city's neighbourhoods, routinely flood its two schools and overwhelm its drainage system.** [Full story](#)

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## **Vietnam's coal-fired power may double by 2030 under draft energy plan**

Reuters / Oct 15, 2021

HANOI (Reuters) - Vietnam may double the amount of coal-fired electric generation it installs by 2030 under a draft power development plan submitted to the prime minister for approval this week.



Vietnam, with a population of 98 million, is seeking to boost its power generation to **support the growth of production bases for firms such as South Korea's Samsung Electronics and LG Electronics Inc.**

Natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, will make up 22.4% of installed capacity by 2030 from 13% at the end of 2020 and then rise to as much as 26.9% by 2045, while coal slips to only as much as 19.4% by then.

Hydropower will fall in the energy mix to only about 20% by 2030 from 30.3% at the end of 2020, the plan showed. [Full story](#)

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# Biden's clean electricity program is likely to be scrapped because of opposition from Sen. Joe Manchin, who has made millions off the fossil-fuel industry, reports say

By Kelsey Vlamis / Business Insider / Oct 16, 2021

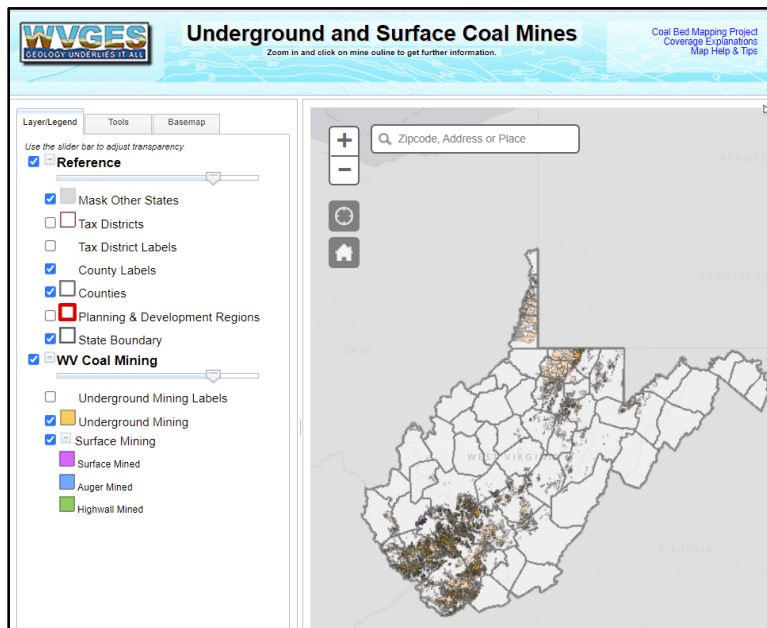
President Joe Biden's clean electricity program will likely be scrapped from the Democrat's reconciliation bill because of Sen. Joe Manchin, according to reports from [The New York Times](#) and [CNN](#) published Friday.



Three sources told The Times that Biden staffers are removing the program from the legislation after the Democratic senator told the White House he strongly opposed it. The program would have encouraged oil- and gas-fired power plants to transition to renewables like wind, solar, and nuclear. ([Sanders-Manchin war of words](#))

Manchin, who represents the coal state of West Virginia, has made [millions](#) off the fossil fuel industry. **He owns a \$5 million stake in Enersystems, a private coal brokerage he founded in 1988 that is now run by his son,** [The Guardian](#) reported earlier this year. Manchin raked in \$500,000 from the company in 2020 alone. According to Senate disclosure forms, he has made more than \$5 million in dividends from 2011 to 2020, [Salon](#) reported.

Manchin has also received nearly [\\$65,000 in campaign funding](#) from political action committees and lobbyists **associated with oil and gas giant Exxon.** [Full story](#)



Interactive map: [http://www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/GIS/CBMP/all\\_mining.html](http://www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/GIS/CBMP/all_mining.html)

## Shutting Down Old Oil Rigs Is Harder—and More Expensive— Than it Sounds

Alejandro de la Garza / TIME / Oct 15, 2021

As workers continue to comb beaches for tar balls in California's Orange County after an [underwater pipeline ruptured](#) on Oct. 2, another massive fossil fuel cleanup operation is just getting underway on a 55-year-old rig anchored 120 miles up the coast. It's a taxpayer-funded, \$60 million debacle that reveals just how difficult and costly it may be to shut down aging oil rigs in the Pacific Ocean and decarbonize the country's energy supply.

Anchored two miles off Santa Barbara, the rig in question, known as Platform Holly, was built by ARCO in 1966, sold to Mobil in 1993, then sold again to a small Colorado-based oil company called Venoco in 1997. In 2015, a corroded onshore pipeline carrying crude oil from Holly and other nearby platforms burst, [hemorrhaging oil](#) onto the beach and into the Pacific Ocean. With the pipeline shuttered, **Venoco declared bankruptcy in 2017**, abruptly notifying California authorities that it would be abandoning its lease and letting its rig workers walk off the job. [Full story](#)

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## Prince Harry: Don't 'pillage' my African sanctuary for oil, Duke tells Canadian company

The Telegraph / Oct 14, 2021

The Duke of Sussex has pleaded with corporate oil drillers not to “pillage the ecosystem for potential profit” as he launched a new environmental campaign.

*“Drilling is an outdated gamble that reaps disastrous consequences for many, and incredible riches for a powerful few.”*

In a joint opinion piece for The Washington Post, [the Duke](#) and activist Reinhold Mangundu described the Okavango River Basin in southern Africa as a “natural beating heart that has nourished humans and wildlife for generations”.

The opinion piece is part of the Duke's campaign with conservation group Re:wild.

They accused **ReconAfrica**, a Canadian oil and gas company that undertaking exploratory drilling in Namibia and Botswana, of keeping the river basin “under siege”. The delta is **one of the largest freshwater wetlands in southern Africa, the main source of water for a million people, and one of Africa's richest places for biodiversity.** [Full story](#)

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## William Shatner issues dire warning following space flight:

***'Destruction of the planet is suicide'***

Yahoo / Oct 15, 2021

William Shatner appeared on "Cuomo Prime Time" Thursday, just one day after traveling into space on the Blue Origin rocket. The emotional 90-year-old actor revealed that since his return he has been filled with dread over climate change.



"I wish I had better news and more entertainment and jokes to tell you but I was moved to tears by what I saw," Shatner said. "I come back filled and overwhelmed with sadness and empathy for this beautiful thing we call Earth."



Shatner referenced the climate change agenda in President Biden's embattled \$3.5 trillion spending bill, and warned that if we don't do something about the industrial pollution we will not only be stripping the planet of its natural resources, we will be stripping it of the future.

***"What is tragic is if our children, especially our children's children, don't have a chance to be part of this beautiful thing we call Earth...and it's just sad," Shatner lamented.***

[Full story](#)

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## Parts plants prepare for rEVolution in Canada's switchover from gas-powered vehicles

By Dave Molnar / CBC News / Oct 15, 2021

Manufacturers that make parts for vehicles using gasoline, diesel, gas-turbine and other internal combustion engines (ICE) are preparing to change over to electric vehicle (EV) parts production in the lead-up to [the federal government's 2035 target of seeing every new light-duty vehicle sold in Canada be zero emissions](#).

Flavio Volpe, president of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association, agrees there will be after-market demand for ICE parts, but said most of his members are preparing to pivot and many have already diversified anyway. [Full story](#)

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***MEMO: Don't scatter my ashes at Heinz Field***

## Heinz Field management: Fans aren't allowed to scatter a loved one's ashes inside stadium

By Megan Guza / TRIBlive / Oct 11, 2021

A fan scattered ashes of a family member at Heinz Field during the Steelers' 27-19 win over the Denver Broncos on Sunday, a team spokesman said. "Heinz Field management does not permit or condone such actions," Steelers spokesman Burt Lauten said in a statement.

**Rivers Casino, Heinz Field, and the 3 'sister bridges'**  
*Photo: MARCELLUS AIR*

Pennsylvania does not have a state law controlling where one can scatter ashes, according to the Funeral Consumer Alliance of Pennsylvania, but it is



suggested that those wishing to scatter ashes on private land other than their own seek permission. The team did not say in its statement what it did with the ashes found Sunday or whether they would take action against the fan who spread them. [Full story](#)

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**Years ago, our house was a favored stop on Halloween, when I would remove the chain from one of my chain saws and hide in the bushes.... BRrrraap BRrrraap!**

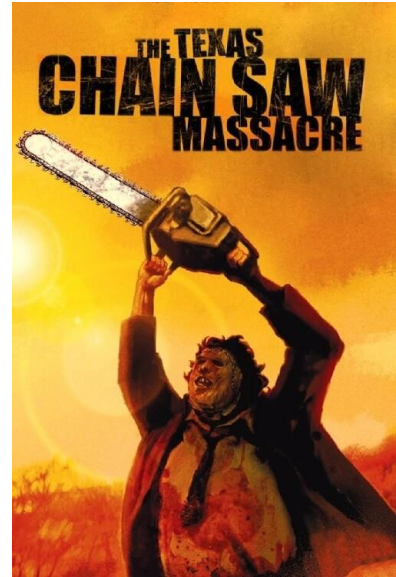
## **Double your Halloween fun by making your own one-of-a-kind costume**

By Shirley McMarlin / TRIBlive / Oct 15, 2021

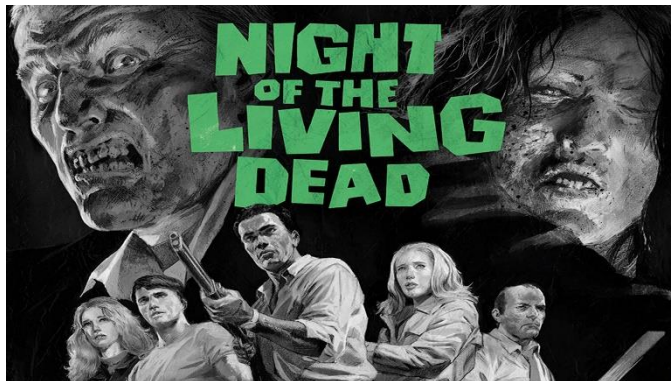


The average American shells out about \$162.29 on Halloween, according to a 2019 survey from the online financial marketplace LendEDU. Spending on the three major Halloween expenses broke down into \$47.06 (27%) for decorations, \$55.18 (34%) for candy and \$60.05 (37%) for costumes.

***Those pierogie costumes look a bit tamer!***



***Our county is also known as the filming location (Buffalo, Pa) for the 'Night of the Living Dead' movie (1968) directed by George Romero, co-written by John Russo.***



All the films:

- *Night of the Living Dead* (1968)
- *Dawn of the Dead* (1978)
- *Day of the Dead* (1985)
- *Land of the Dead* (2005)
- *Diary of the Dead* (2007)
- *Survival of the Dead* (2009)
- *Night of the Living Dead II* (2022)
- *Road of the Dead* (TBA)
- *Twilight of the Dead* (TBA)

**NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD** (Rotten Tomatoes 97%) - The plot of the film follows Ben ([Duane Jones](#)), Barbara Cole ([Judith O'Dea](#)), and five others, who are trapped in a rural farmhouse in Pennsylvania and attempt to survive the night while the house is being attacked by [mysteriously reanimated corpses, known as ghouls or zombies](#).

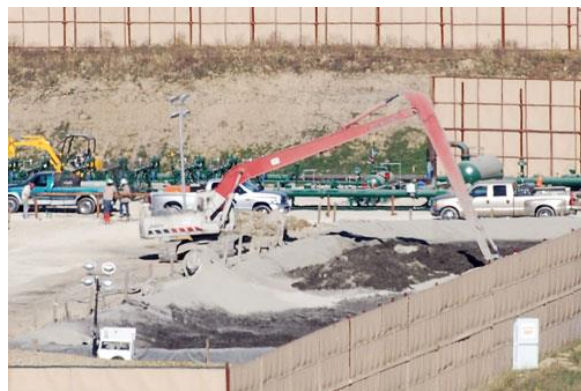
After *Night of the Living Dead*'s initial success, the two creators split in disagreement regarding where the series should head, and since the film was in the [public domain](#), each were able to do what they liked with the continuity of their projects. Romero went on to direct five additional *Dead* films, while Russo branched into literary territory, writing *Return of the Living Dead*, which was later loosely adapted into a [film of the same name](#) and would have its own franchise, and [Escape of the Living Dead](#).

Labeled "*Trilogy of the Dead*" until [Land of the Dead](#), each film is laden with social commentary on topics ranging from racism to consumerism. The films are not produced as direct follow-ups from one another and their only continuation is the theme of the epidemic of the living dead. This situation advances with each film, **showing the world in a worsening state**, but each film is independent of its predecessor. This is exemplified by the fact that each movie is set within the era it is filmed, with *Land of the Dead* being set in modern times with current (as of 2005) technology such as game consoles, flatscreen televisions, and cell phones. The fifth film does not continue the depiction of progress, but shows events at the very beginning of a zombie outbreak, similar to the first film. The films portray how different people react to the same phenomenon, ranging from citizens to police to army officials and to citizens again. Each takes place in a world worsened since its previous appearance, the number of zombies ever increasing and the living perpetually endangered, but with each entry being a standalone film that is not directly continuing global events from the previous. [Full story](#)

**Fracking locations within a few miles of the 'Night of the Living Dead' movie set:**



**Wonder how radioactive that Best Impoundment sludge was?**



**Burying the drill cuttings pit at the Chappel site is also pretty creepy!**

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