



重塑能源：中国

REINVENTING FIRE: CHINA Official Launch

June 19th marked the official launch of Rocky Mountain Institute's most ambitious international effort to date, Reinventing Fire: China, a pan-Pacific partnership between RMI, the Energy Research Institute, the China Energy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and Energy Foundation China. This event initiated an unprecedented collaboration between a U.S. government lab, a division of the Chinese central government, and two nonprofits. The opportunity for positive impact both in China and globally is huge: the world's top economies, top consumers of energy, and top emitters of CO₂, together paving the way toward a clean, prosperous, and secure energy future.

This RMI-led collaborative project will create a blueprint for maximizing China's share of energy efficiency technologies and renewable energy supply through 2050. The goal of the project is to provide knowledge that will lead to actions—policies, technology development, and adoption approaches—that will improve China's energy efficiency and increase adoption of renewables, thereby reducing expected growth in energy use and related CO₂ emissions.

News of the project generated much enthusiasm and interest among influential Chinese energy leaders. Participation in the launch event, originally slated for 50 people, nearly doubled as the day approached. On the morning of the launch in front of a colossal banner in the China People's Palace, Dai Yande, Deputy Director of ERI, opened the meeting by introducing senior officials from the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Tsinghua and other universities, as well as officials representing five provinces. A senior policy advisor from the U.S. Department of Energy, along with project participants from RMI and LBNL, represented the United States.

A representative from the World Bank who is immersed in Chinese energy policy commented that he had never seen this “who's who” of China's energy establishment in one place before—a testament to the timeliness of the project, the enthusiasm that surrounds it, and the ability of RMI to convene at the highest levels.



TWO THEMES EMERGED DURING THE LAUNCH:

- ***China must have an inspirational and aspirational vision to stretch beyond its current thinking.*** The project team was encouraged to challenge existing ideas while charting a visionary energy future for China. Growing resource constraints, rising emissions levels, air pollution issues, and a rapidly urbanizing population pose serious challenges for China, demanding a bold energy vision for the country.
- ***U.S.-China collaboration on matters of energy efficiency and renewables is essential.*** Clean energy and efficient use are points of common interest and benefit not just the two nations, but also the rest of the world. On the heels of the historic summit between Presidents Obama and Xi, many cited cooperation on these topics as an important point of agreement for immediate action.



“We do not yet have a model of sustainable energy development that works for the world. Both the U.S. and China need to work together in this bold effort to reinvent fire. We need to liberate our thinking and be brave in our research.”

— Zhou Dadi, Director General Emeritus of the Energy Research Institute

The most encouraging and exciting opportunity is for Reinventing Fire: China to help guide China's energy strategy in the upcoming 13th Five Year Plan. Several authors of the plan are members of Reinventing Fire: China's advisory committee. Their support, involvement, and guidance throughout the research will advance the analytic findings and turn them into concrete policy options, offering Chinese policymakers an attainable and compelling pathway to a clean, affordable, and abundant energy future.

The work has only just begun, but the momentum is strong and the shared excitement and enthusiasm of all involved is serving as a powerful engine to advance Reinventing Fire: China. As China continues to assert its leadership role in shaping the century ahead, working jointly across continents to help identify the most promising and sustainable energy development pathways is important not just for China, but for the entire world. We have assembled a unique partnership to serve this need. We invite your questions, your thoughts, and your support to help make Reinventing Fire: China an unqualified success.