

The Electric Utility Business in Laos

1. Structure of the electric utility business in Laos

The electric utility business in Laos is run by Electricite du Laos (EDL), a state-owned power company. Under the authority of the Department of Electricity, the Ministry of Energy and Mines, EDL takes charge of every phase of the business, from power generation to transmission to distribution.

2. A brief classification of power generation facilities in Laos

Since there is an ample source of waterpower, a high majority of the power generation capacity of Laos is dependent on hydroelectric power generation facilities operated by EDL and independent power producers (IPPs).

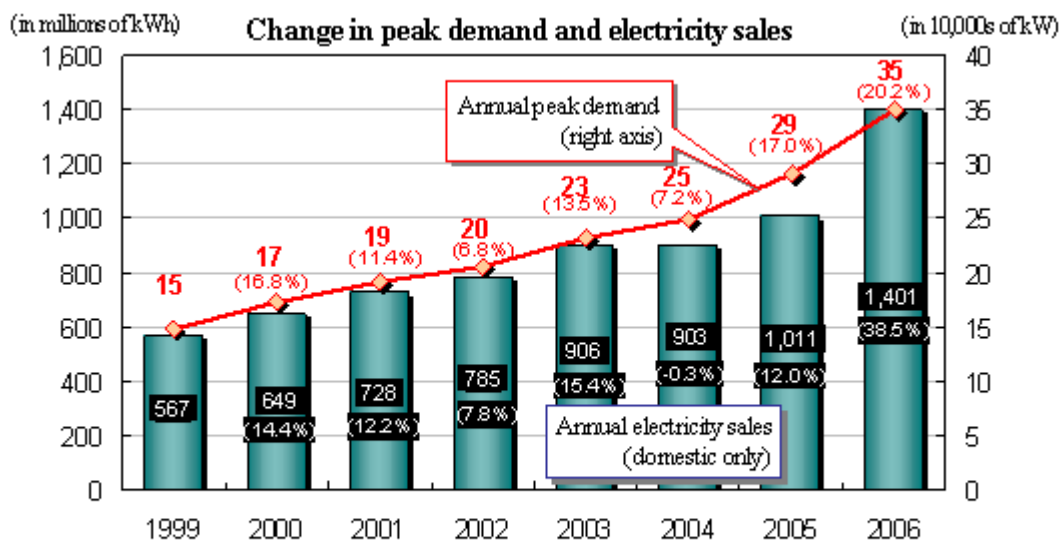
Type	Laos	Japan	TEPCO (for reference)
Power generation facilities	0.673 million kW	275.53 million kW	62.47 million kW
Hydroelectric power	0.672 million kW (99.8%)	47.37 million kW (17%)	8.99 million kW (14%)
Thermal power	-	176.34 million kW (64%)	36.18 million kW (58%)
Nuclear power	-	49.47 million kW (18%)	17.31 million kW (28%)
Other	0.001 million kW (0.2%)	2.35 million kW (1%)	0.004 million kW (0%)

(As of the end of FY 2006 for Laos and Japan, the end of FY 2007 for TEPCO)

Power transmission systems are operated independently in four regions of the country, with additional transmission lines in place for exporting and importing electricity to and from neighboring countries such as the Kingdom of Thailand and Vietnam. The country is implementing projects to improve its power systems, including those for interconnecting domestic systems.

3. Demand for electricity in Laos

Peak demand and electricity sales have been increasing year after year, reflecting the country's economic growth and improved electrification rate.



Source: Statistics of Electricity (DoE)

* The numbers in parentheses denote growth from the previous year