

2.2.4 Expand the electrification project to cover 10,700 more villages within the period of the sixth NESDP. At the same time, the budget of the Provincial Electricity Authority must also be taken into consideration.

2.2.5 Increase the level of coal imported for industrial use which was 200,000 tons in 1985 to 500,000 tons in 1991.

2.2.6 Try to achieve the energy saving in transportation, industrial and household sectors by 390 million liters per year of crude oil equivalent within the period of the sixth NESDP.

2.3 Actions to be Taken

2.3.1 Petroleum exploration and development

a) Update the petroleum law in accordance with the policy to accelerate the exploration and development of petroleum in Thailand.

b) Encourage the natural gas market expansion to be in line with the increase in future production as well as to initiate more exploration and development in this area.

c) Accelerate the agreement on coordination to develop petroleum in the joint development area in the gulf of Thailand with Malaysian Government and the companies which have been granted concession. The implementation of the joint development is aimed to be accomplished in the period of the sixth NESDP.

2.3.2 Lessen dependency on limited oil producers

a) The imported crude oil and refined oil should be acquired from diversified producers and not to rely on any particular group of producers.

b) Adjust the content and effective duration of the purchase contracts such that the risks caused by the fluctuation of prices and uncertainties of supply sources are reduced.

2.3.3 Exploration and development of lignite

a) Encourage the Department of Mineral Resources to carry out the exploration of lignite resources in Thailand for the purpose of industrial and electricity generation utilization.

b) Encourage the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand to carry on the detailed exploration of lignite reserves at Mae Moh, Krabi and other areas to search for more commercial quantity of lignite which can be used as fuel for electricity generation.