

Kattariya Phankulee 2014: The Economic Cooperation on Hydropower between Thailand and Lao PDR (2007-2011). Master of Arts (Political Science), Major Field: Political Science, Department of Political Science and Public Administration. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Nadhawe Bunnag, Dr.rer.soc 166 pages.

This research entitled Economic Cooperation on Hydropower between Thailand and Lao PDR. (2007-2011) had 3 main objectives. The first objective was to study the stability of electric power in the period between 2007 and 2011. The second objective was to study the factors underpinning the economic cooperation in the period, while the third objective was to study the relationship between the two countries's economic cooperation programs during the time and Thailand's electric power stability. Interdependence Theory of Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye was applied as the research main theoretical concept.

The findings indicated that the demand for the betterment of Thailand's electric power stability, which has been in line with the country's economic development, and the capital requirement to support the development of Lao PDR are the major factors facilitating the cooperation between the two countries. The Thai government has tried to diversify the country's electric energy source to reduce the risk of electric energy insecurity. In so doing, the Thai government has realized that Lao PDR has great potential to produce hydropower. On the other hand, Lao PDR has developed a vision of "Battery of Asia" and perceived that the country's increase in hydropower production for export to its neighboring countries with high demand would bring a tremendous amount of revenue to the country. With this in mind, Thailand has been seen as the one with great potentials in terms for both capital and technology. Such corresponding benefits drove the two countries to increase their economic cooperation on hydropower during the time period. Moreover, the two countries have had the diversified channel for interaction between the various actors, and they have also developed closer and multi-dimensional relationship. Such aforementioned interdependent conditions facilitated an increase in the economic cooperation on hydropower between the two countries during the time under studied.

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