



ENERGY SERVICES UNDER THE GATS

TRADE IN SERVICES DIVISION
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION



What are we talking about:

- Description of the sector
- GATS relevance: classification; scheduling; domestic regulation
- Negotiations in the WTO
- PTA negotiations



Energy Sources

- Coal
- Oil
- Gas
- Electricity
- Nuclear power
- Renewable Energy
 - Solar, hydro power, wind, ...

Energy Sector: Key Characteristics

- One of the infrastructure sectors: fundamental to economic and social development
 - Hence, government intervention is required to pursue public service objectives: universal access, consumer protection, supply security, distributional considerations, etc.
 - “New” policy objectives: competitiveness and sustainability

Energy Sector: Key Characteristics

- Highly capital-intensive as exploration, production and transportation all require significant investment
 - Energy infrastructure is costly
 - Prevailing company structure: vertical integration across all production stages
(e.g., from mining to electricity generation)
 - State used to be the main producer and supplier.
 - Recent trends towards privatization and liberalization, especially in the electricity sector: “unbundling” - vertical separation of generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization



Energy Sector: Key Characteristics

- Exhaustibility, scarcity and geographic distribution imbalance of conventional energy resources constantly increase energy prices and cause tensions between countries.
- Environmental impact: pollution; climate change
 - Trends: to develop renewable energy resources and increase energy supply and consumption efficiency.



Goods or Services?

- Energy products are subject to classification problems:
 - Electricity: not tangible and transmitted through grids
- Production or production-related activities?
 - Exploration, extraction, refinery, liquification, gasification
- Problem: Legal treatment of investments

International Trade in Energy



Products

- A lot of variation across sectors
- In general, limited exposure to international trade: Monopolies and public enterprises, dependence on physical infrastructure (electricity grids, pipelines), etc.
- Modes of supply:
 - Mode 3: Importance of local presence

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_5370

