Accelerating Clean Coal Technology Diffusion in China – ten draft recommendations from an IEA study
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1. Market-based, energy and resource pricing must be used as the primary means of balancing supply and demand in China, so that resources are exploited, transported and used efficiently and effectively, including those that are imported and exported.

2. Greater accountability and transparency that allows reliable delegation to lower levels of Chinese government are prerequisites to the proper functioning of existing environmental laws and hence the successful deployment of clean coal technologies.

3. Environmental charges on coal mining must be directly linked to levels of pollution (i.e. “polluter pays principle”) and not simply applied to augment government revenues.

4. Make market-based mechanisms, such as international carbon trading, central to China’s CO₂ abatement strategy and clean coal technology development for domestic and international markets.

5. Help to establish and apply minimum international performance standards for coal-fired plants to promote the wider deployment of clean coal technologies, both in China and elsewhere.

6. China should adopt well-proven technologies, management practices and policies that deliver immediate and sustainable improvements along the entire coal supply chain, from mine to end user.
7. Coal industry restructuring needs to address the legitimate concerns of those affected and should be founded on a belief in the power of properly regulated markets to deliver efficient results, optimised by competing companies of varying sizes from small to large.

8. Train and empower coal mine workers to take responsibility for their own safety, complementing the role of a properly resourced mines inspectorate.

9. International and national partnerships, supported by governments, industry and academia, can stimulate the development of new technologies prior to their commercialisation.

10. Encourage Joint Ventures and Foreign Direct Investments in the energy sector to promote technology transfer, both into and out of China.