

# China's Discovery of Major Gas Reserves in the Bohai Sea: How Will it Affect LNG Gas Imports from the US?

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)  
Global Research, February 27, 2019

Region: [Asia](#)  
Theme: [Intelligence](#), [Oil and Energy](#)

*The China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) has confirmed "the discovery of a high-quality and high-yield oil" in the Bohai Sea with proven reserves of natural gas exceeding 100 billion cubic meters. (see [RT News](#))*

"The flow has been discovered in CNOOC's Bozhong 19-6 gas field, China Central Television reported. It is the largest oil and gas discovery in the Bohai Bay Basin in the past 50 years, and could be used by millions of city dwellers for hundreds of years, reports the China Daily.

According to Liu Baosheng, a project manager with the CNOOC, 11 wells have found oil and gas in the Bohai Sea, and a 12th well has reached 4,700 meters below the seabed.

Although the Bohai Oilfield is the second-largest crude oil production base in China, its discovered reserves in the past 50 years were mainly crude oil. Until now, few natural gas discoveries have been made due to the complex's geological structure.". ([RT News](#) quoting China Daily)



How will this major discovery in the Bohai sea affect the energy market, including the configuration of oil and gas pipeline corridors?

The CNOOC has confirmed that the Bohai natural gas would be directly transported to major Chinese urban areas through existing pipelines.

According to the Global Times: "Most domestic natural gas bases are located in western China, while 70 percent of the natural resource is used in the central and eastern part of the country".

The Bohai discovery will reduce North Eastern China's dependence on gas from Western China. It will also have an impact on the import of LNG via maritime routes.

The Bohai deposits are close to major urban areas including Beijing and Tianjin. Dalian is a strategic port in North Eastern China.

**Figure 2: China's main gas supply pipeline corridors**



Map credit: *TheGasGrid*

China is the world's largest importer of natural gas and the second-largest of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

In January, prior to the CNOOC announcement regarding the Bohai discovery, China announced plans to quadruple its LNG imports.

As of November [2018], Chinese LNG imports are up by a whopping 43 percent year-over-year. Total gas imports have grown by nearly one-third in the same period. (Forbes)

Coupled with the US-China trade war, will the Bohai discovery have an impact on China's import of LNG from the US?

\*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons below. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

Featured image is from Xinhua

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

#### About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has taught as visiting professor in Western Europe, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. He has served as economic adviser to governments of developing countries and has acted as a consultant for several international organizations. He is the author of 13 books. He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at [crgeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:crgeditor@yahoo.com)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)