

Low-temperature conversion of low-grade organic raw, part 2 (economic aspects)

Alexander S. Zavorin, Roman B. Tabakaev, Pavel Y. Novoseltsev, and Alexander V. Astafev
National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University, 634050 Tomsk, Russia

Abstract. Algorithm for estimating the efficiency of investment in innovative energy technologies has been used as a method of research. Two scripts of the project development (optimistic and pessimistic) were considered. Cost-effectiveness of replacing diesel power plants on the conversion units was determined.

1. Method of research

Algorithm from work [1], devoted to the creation of evaluation tools of the efficiency of investment in innovative energy technologies [2-4] and based on a comprehensive assessment of energy consumption, energy resources, new technology and the environment is selected as a method of analysis of the efficiency of introduction of innovative energy technologies based on the units of intracyclic conversion (the individual heat supply unit, individual heat and power supply unit and unit of solid fuels gasification – gasifier).

Primarily fuel requirement is determined and capabilities of the extraction of energy resources are analyzed for evaluate of energy consumption and energy resources of the distant settlements. Previous technical and economic evaluation, which implies evaluation of the environmental situation in the region and the forecast of technical and economic parameters of local energy resources, is made for this analysis. Inexpediency of the investment of selected energy technologies is concluded in the case of negative results of technical and economic evaluation. Script of the assimilation of innovative energy technologies is formed in the case of positive results. Then, decrease or increase of harmful emissions by using new technologies is concluded based on the evaluation of environmental situation. In case of exceeding of the previous parameters on harmful emissions is made conclusion about undesirability of use these technologies and their introduction is deflected. The evaluation of the overall efficiency and scales of replicating these technologies is made with reducing emissions and on the basis of formed scripts assimilation of innovative energy technologies. Technologies are considered inefficient in the case of negative results of this evaluation. Analysis of commercial and budgetary efficiency, prevented environmental damage is made in the case of positive results. Evaluation of commercial efficiency is included the identification of the risks of assimilation new technologies, the sensitivity analysis, the definition of the borders of break-even, the definition of the expected integral effect to assimilation of technology in borders of break-even. Decision about expediency of the project is adopted in the case of positive integral effect. Evaluation of commercial efficiency including possible third-party investors is made in the case of negative integral effect. The project is considered inexpedient if the expected integral effect remains negative even taking into account investors.

2. Results and discussion

Costs for units (Table 1) are determined of the capital costs and the annual costs on maintaining of operating condition. Capital (nonrecurring closing) costs for units are determined by the size of wage costs, material costs, overhead costs and equipment costs. Operating costs are determined by the size of the fuel costs, maintenance, water costs and amortization. The purpose of the work is experimental research of features of water droplets, kerosene and ethanol deformation in the air.

Table 1. Costs for the units, thousand rubles.

Kind of costs	Individual heat supply unit			Individual heat and power supply			Gasifier		
	100 kW	55 kW	4 kW	100 kW	50 kW	3 kW	100 kW	50 kW	3 kW
Capital	334	205	28	252	178	25	266	177	25
Operating	42	32	19	47	35	24	52	45	33

Such low operating costs, primarily related to the lack of a fuel component, upon condition of administrative and legal assistance in realization of the program of substitution diesel power plants (DPP) under units. In the case of fuel costs, the appropriate calculation of parameters is given below (Table 5-7). Annual fuel costs for DPP with power 100 kW (according to [5]), in the order of 240 thousand rubles. From this it follows that the savings in operating costs are combined at a minimum of 188-198 thousand rubles when working one plant with a power of 100 kW at the appropriate capital costs 252-334 thousands rubles. Parameters of investment performance (Table 2) in reliance on 100 kW of installed power are determined on the basis of cost results. Here, net present value (*NPV*) is defined by the difference between the cost savings (D_t) when introducing the units considering the discount rate ($i=10\%$) and the initial investment (I_t) in production of units:

$$NPV = \sum_{t=1}^3 \frac{D_t}{(1+i)^t} - \sum_{t=1}^3 I_t \quad (1)$$

Table 2. Parameters of investment performance, thousand rubles.

Parameters	Symbol	Assembly, year		Operation, year			
		0	1	2	3	5	
Investment	I_t	Individual heat supply unit	334	–	–	–	–
		Individual heat and power supply	252	–	–	–	–
		Gasifier	266	–	–	–	–
Cost savings	D_t	Individual heat supply unit	–	-136	62	260	656
		Individual heat and power supply	–	-59	134	327	738
		Gasifier	–	-78	110	298	724
Net present value (<i>NPV</i>)	NPV	Individual heat supply unit	-334	-124	51	195	407
		Individual heat and power supply	-252	-54	111	246	458
		Gasifier	-266	-71	91	224	450

NPV calculated by (1) shows that the costs of completely pays for itself and savings starts during the second year of operation. Presented above savings is an indicator of the budget efficiency on condition of the funding of developed project from local budget. This is accompanied by savings in operating costs associated with the generation of electric energy and the substitution of diesel power plants under units. For 5 years, the total savings (*NPV*) in reliance on 100 kW of installed power will range from 509 to 878 thousand rubles with the average savings of 85-146 thousand rubles depending on the type of units. Social efficiency of the introduction of units achieved by reducing of the cost price of manufactured products – heat and electric energy and as a result reducing of the selling price.

Speaking about the potential efficiency of the project to substitution of the entire park DPP under units in Tomsk region, it can be stated that savings of operating costs in reliance on 50 MW of total installed power can reach the level of 97 million rubles annually (Table 3).

Table 3. Potential efficiency of the project, thousand rubles.

Parameter	Installation			
	DPP	Individual heat supply unit	Individual heat and power supply	Gasifier
Operating costs in reliance on 100 kW of power	240	42	47	52
Operating costs in reliance on 50 MW of power	120 000	21 000	23 500	26 000
Savings of operating costs inreliance on 50 MW of power	–	99 000	96 500	94 000

Operating costs for DPP (Table 3) are given based on the cost of diesel fuel as of 2002 [1]. Accordingly it is possible count on fold increase of the savings of operating costs during the transition to the production of electric energy with help of units in reliance on 50 MW of total installed power for covering of the needs of isolated areas in Tomsk region.

Evaluation of prevented environmental damage from air pollution by emissions makes according to the chosen method of analysis of the efficiency of introduction innovative energy technologies [6]. Thus, the relative detriment to atmospheric air, which is placed by ejection of the unit of reduced mass pollutants, is 5510.6 rubles/ton, reduced mass of pollutant emissions from stationary sources of emissions not received into the atmospheric air – 6.33 ton, and prevented environmental damage from air pollutions by emissions is evaluated at 38.37 thousand rubles.

Evaluation of commercial efficiency involves the identification of technical, financial and economic, environmental and social risks, which allows to determine the probability of the risk as a whole. Technical risks are determined by the dependence of the use of technology from quality of energy resources (low-grade fuel), reliability and safety of the introduced technology of low temperature intracyclic conversion, the actual amounts of energy and resource conservation. Financial and economic risks are determined by instability of the volume of demand, change in the taxation system, change of penalties on environmental emissions, rising of the cost of used low-grade energy resources. Environmental risks are determined by the magnitude of environmental pollution during operation of units, as well as the possible consequences of crashes involving harmful emissions. Social risks are determined by the possible rise of tariffs on manufactured products, the lack of subsidies from the state budget. Definition of all these risks has predicted the magnitude of the overall risk (Table 4) for introduction of units.

Table 4. Predicted magnitude of the overall risk.

Designation of risk	Magnitude of risk
Technical	0.07
Financial and economic	0.08
Environmental	0.12
Social	0.06
Overall	0.33

Results of calculation are showed that probability of occurrence of the overall risk is below average and closer to the criterion “sooner will not occur”. The highest magnitude poses environmental risks associated with importance of the preventing of occurrence such development. Technical risks are primarily caused by reliability and safety of introduced technology. Financial and economic risks are mainly depended by the cost of used raw materials, and social risks are entirely depended on the policy pursued by the local authorities.

Analysis of the sensitivity of project to substitution of the active park DPP under units is performed for optimistic and pessimistic scripts associated with changes in the cost of low-grade fuel in range of 0-300 rubles/ton, and norm of discount (rate of return) of 10-25 % in the case of the attracting of private investors. Thus, the optimistic and pessimistic scripts are characterized by the following parameters (Table 5).

Table 5. Predicted magnitude of the overall risk.

Script	Prospective range of change parameters	
	Fuel cost, rules/ton	Norm of discount, %
Optimistic	0	10
Pessimistic	300	25

Magnitude of the net present value (*NPV*), calculated by two scenarios is used on sensitivity analysis. *NPV* for optimistic script is values calculated according to data of Table 2. *NPV* for pessimistic script are given in Table 7 (values are given in reliance on 100 kW of installed power in 5 years).

Table 6. *NPV* for optimistic and pessimistic scripts.

Script	NPV, thousand rubles		
	Individual heat supply unit	Individual heat and power supply	Gasifier
Optimistic	509	878	787
Pessimistic	68	353	283

Savings of fuel component is 19-49 thousand rubles in monetary terms in second year of operation according to calculations by the pessimistic script depending on the type of installation with power of 100 kW. Calculation of the potential efficiency of the project produced of similar calculations, the values of which are given in Table 3 by the pessimistic script in reliance on 50 MW of total installed power in the form of the savings of operating costs on average for 1 year. These savings is 6.8 million rubles in year for the individual heat supply unit, 35.3 – for the individual heat and power supply and 28.3 – for the gasifier. Evaluation of the efficiency of project, taking into account the existing uncertainty in the form of two scripts of the development, is carried out by determining of the expected integral effect (\mathcal{E}_{ex}), which depends on the maximal (\mathcal{E}_{max}) and minimum (\mathcal{E}_{min}) integral effects (*NPV*) on considered scripts, given of normative (λ), which reflects the preferences of respective economic entity in the conditions of uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{E}_{ex} = \mathcal{E}_{max} \cdot \lambda + (1 - \lambda) \cdot \mathcal{E}_{min} \quad (2)$$

The values of the expected integral effect from project realization to substitution of the entire park DPP under units in Tomsk region in reliance on the 5 years, taking into account uncertainty are given in Table 7.

Table 7. Values of the expected integral effect in 5 years.

Type of installation	Expected integral effect, million rubles
Individual heat supply unit	100.15
Individual heat and power supply	255.25
Gasifier	217.10

Thus, realization of project to substitution of the entire park DPP under units in conditions of uncertainty, based on the results of Table 7, is appeared economically viable in terms of attracting investment from budgets of various levels and private equity.

3. Conclusions

1. The capital costs on the production of units exceed cost of the existing DPP, but low operating costs, determined by fuel cost, are led to a rapid payback.

2. The budget efficiency of the project to substitution of the entire park DPP under units is determined by savings on fuel component in the process of generating electric energy, which can attain the level of 97 million rubles in year.

3. The sensitivity of the project to change of external factors in the form of optimistic and pessimistic scripts, depending on the fuel cost and the discount rate, is changed in the range of 2.5-7.5 times, while showing a positive effect.

4. The expected integral effect of the realization of project to substitution of the entire park DPP under units in Tomsk region for 5 years is founded at the level of 100-255 million rubles, which is evidence of the economic feasibility of replicating units.

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