



BABCOCK
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COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

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RT: Law and Policy on Renewable Energy in Nigeria: A Path to Sustainable Development

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AB: Energy sustainability is the key to the development of any nation's economy and renewable energy is one of the means of attaining this sustainability. Renewable energy is energy derived from natural sources that are replenished at a higher rate than they are consumed. This includes solar, wind, hydropower and geothermal. In the quest of driving sustainability with renewable energy, the government of Nigeria had put in place legal and policy mechanisms to pilot the use and development of renewable energy resources. Despite government intervention, the regulatory framework in Nigeria is yet to engage renewable energy to the extent needed in attaining sustainable development goals. This has therefore led to energy insufficiency and an imbalance in its distribution. This research examined the extent to which the country's existing laws and policies support the use and development of renewable energy in driving sustainability.

This study adopted a doctrinal approach. Primary and secondary sources of information were relied upon. The primary sources included the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, Energy Commission Act (ECN) Cap E10-Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, Electricity Power Sector Reform Act 2005, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The secondary sources comprised books, scholarly peer-reviewed journals, periodicals, articles, and manuals. Data from these sources were content analyzed and presented thematically.

This study revealed that there is disharmony between existing energy laws and policies in Nigeria. The policies were insufficient and unenforceable, while legislation is not aligned to engage the use and development of renewable energy. This study also found that all energy sources in Nigeria are linked to the national energy grid. The study showed that renewable energy has difficulty in competing favourably with the conventional source in the energy market, due to the absence of laws to enhance its expansion for transmission from the source to the final consumers.

The study concluded that sustainability must be driven with the use and development of renewable energy in Nigeria. It is recommended that the Federal Ministry of Power in conjunction with the National Electricity Regulatory Commission should facilitate the integration of renewable sources into the country's energy mix and expand access to the national energy grid. The functions and duties of regulatory agencies in the energy sector should be streamlined by the Energy Commission of Nigeria, so as to avoid instances where there are conflicts in the performance of their functions. It is also recommended that the fixed-in-tariff mechanisms in the renewable industry should be regulated by legislation so as to make its contents enforceable.

Keywords: Energy sector, Energy transmission, Legal framework on energy, National energy grid, Renewable energy, Sustainable development

Word Count: 423

Abbreviations: RFN: Researcher's Full Name, RD: Researcher's Department, RS: Researcher's School, RE: Researcher's Email, RAE: Researcher's Alternate Email, RP: Researcher's Phone Contact, RT: Registered Title, MS: Main Supervisor, ME: Main Supervisor's E-mail Address, SP: Main Supervisor's Phone Contact, CS: Co-Supervisor, CE: Co-Supervisor's E-mail Address, CP: Co-Supervisor's Phone Contact, AB: Abstract

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