

# USSR Energy Atlas



Central Intelligence Agency  
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## Preface

The USSR is the largest country in the world and the second-largest producer and consumer of energy. Its vast landmass and adjacent continental shelves contain enormous energy resources. Only in recent years, however, has the extent of the exploration and development of its fuel resources spanned the entire country.

A nationwide quest for new energy sources has rapidly outdated Soviet energy maps. Names like Samotlor, Fedorovo, Urengoy, Kansk-Achinsk, and Ekibastuz have become as well known to Soviet energy planners as Baku, Romashkino, Orenburg, and Donets were a decade or two ago. Likewise, the construction of oil and gas pipelines, electric transmission lines, roads, railroads, and towns has required extensive development of remote areas of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Siberia, and the Far East.

Soviet energy is a strategic issue that transcends international boundaries. Soviet oil and gas exports have increasingly become available to Western buyers since the 1970s, and the Soviets also import large amounts of Western equipment and technology to upgrade the capabilities of the domestic energy industry.

This atlas uses a wide variety of information to portray many aspects of Soviet energy. Maps, graphics, photographs, and text provide a general understanding and appreciation of the major Soviet energy resources—oil, gas, coal, and primary electricity—as well as minor fuels and alternative energy sources.

Landsat photo on page 19. All others: TASS from SOVFOTO, further reproduction must be approved by SOVFOTO.

The representation of international boundaries on the maps is not necessarily authoritative. The United States Government has not recognized the incorporation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the USSR. The southern islands of the Kurils-Ostrov Iturup, Ostrov Kunashir, Shikotan-To, and Habomai Islands are occupied by the USSR but claimed by Japan.

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