

Peruvian Minister of Energy: "Peru-Chile electricity interconnection will be a reality."

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The Minister of Energy and Mines of Peru, Gonzalo Tamayo, told Revista ELECTRICIDAD that "during the quinquennium of President Kuczynski, the Peru-Chile electricity interconnection will be a reality", stressing that this initiative will generate resources for exports and imports for both countries.

At the world copper conference held in Santiago in the framework of the Cesco 2017 week, the authority stated that "the electrical interconnection is a further step towards integration. The countries of the Andean region or the Pacific Alliance are seeking increased integration in all aspects. In the Andean community, there are already works for energy integration, as well as in the Alliance of the Pacific".

Tamayo mentioned that, in any case, the process is complex. "The energy market has a specific regulation in each country. Therefore integration implies all sorts of complexities involving a cross-border (or border trade) regulation; not only in how to harmonize the electricity markets but regarding all payment mechanisms and regulations. It is a more complex process, which I we believe should be approached with caution, "he said.

When consulted on the benefits that implies an eventual interconnection for both countries, the Peruvian secretary of State, said that, as this is a trade issue "there are ways in which both countries may benefit, as well as the interconnected countries, because there may be, in the Electrical case, different hydrological cycles".

"Then, there may be situations in which energy flows in one direction or another might act as potential backup when those markets have problems. And it will allow generating resources by exports or imports for each one of the countries and it is an additional economic activity ", added Tamayo. (Source: Electricity Magazine - Chile)