Research on the charging rules of shore power service charge in China

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Abstract. Firstly, this paper defines the definition and attribute of shore power service charge, and combs the current situation of shore power service charge and electricity charge in China. At the same time, the paper analyses the cost of shore power service, electricity charge of the power supply department and the cost of ship's using fuel oil for self-generation, and makes a comprehensive comparison between the cost of ship's using shore power and the cost of ship's self-generation. Finally, according to the principle of ensuring that the cost of using shore power (shore power service charge plus electricity charge) is lower than the cost of self-generation for ships, the paper puts forward suggestions that the shore power service charge should be collected according to the power usage and the government should issue guidance prices.

1 Introduction

The use of shore power for ships refers to the use of clean energy provided by the port to supply power to the main shipboard system when berthing ships close their own auxiliary generators, which is a more environmentally friendly way of ship energy supply. In addition to the construction cost, the long-term use cost of shore power facilities is higher. At present, there is a great difference in the form and amount of charge for shore power service, which is not conducive to the use and promotion of shore power. For this situation, in order to improve the enthusiasm of using shore power for ships, relevant subsidy policies and government guidance prices of shore power service charge should be studied.

2 Definition and attribute of shore power service charge

Shore power service charge is the cost of shore power operation and maintenance charged by the port, with the unit of yuan / kWh. It is a part of the cost of ship’s using shore power, mainly including the purchase cost of shore power equipment for port investment and construction, shore power operation and labor cost, operation income, etc. This paper does not consider the part of operating income in the analysis. The cost of ship’s using shore power includes shore power service charge and electricity charge.

Port shore power facilities are generally built at the front of the terminal and invested by the port enterprise or the third party authorized by the port enterprise. Each berth is generally equipped with only one set of shore power equipment. If the ship docked at the terminal need to use shore power, there is no other shore power equipment to choose from. Therefore, the shore power service charge is not formed through market competition, and government guidance prices should be issued for the charge.

3 Current situation of shore power service charge and electricity charge in China

3.1 Local government stipulates the guidance price for ship’s using shore power, and subsidizes the difference between the guidance price and the actual cost

In this case, local government stipulates the guidance price for ship’s using shore power charges collected by port enterprises from ships, which is significantly lower than the cost of ship’s self-generation, and also lower than the electricity charge of the power supply department. The government subsidizes the difference between the cost of ship’s using shore power and the electricity charge of the power supply department. And the government has a separate subsidy for port maintenance fees, which guarantees the interests of both port enterprises and shipping enterprises. At present, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Xiamen and Guangzhou all adopt this charging mode.

3.2 Local government issues the rules for the charges for ship’s using shore power

Jiangsu Province issued the shore power policy document, which stipulates that shore power is exempt from basic electricity charge and the local price control departments should issue the charging rules for ship’s
using shore power. The charging rules shall be based on the above electricity charge plus the shore power service charge (port maintenance charge).

3.3 Port enterprise independently determine the charge for ship’s using shore power

Zhejiang Province, Hubei Province, Qingdao city and other local governments issued documents which state that the shore power service charge (belonging to the ship supply service charge) is subject to market adjustment price, which is independently determined by the port enterprise according to the market.

In addition, due to the initial stage of using shore power, many ports have not yet started to charge for ship’s using shore power.

4 Cost analysis of using shore power

4.1 Cost analysis of shore power service of port enterprises

4.1.1 Cost analysis of shore power service of coastal port enterprises

Taking a container terminal with a shore power capacity of 3MVA as an example, considering the investment and operation cost, this paper analyzes the cost of shore power service of coastal port enterprises, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Cost calculation of shore power service of coastal port enterprises.

|                                | One set | Three sets |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------|
| Construction cost              | Facilities (yuan / year) | 411,667   | 1,235,001 |
|                                | Buildings (yuan / year)  | 83,333    | 249,999   |
| Operation and maintenance cost | Safety test, typhoon prevention and flood control, reimbursement, labor (yuan / year) | 952,214   | 1,285,214 |
| Financial cost                 | Loan fee, 5.9% interest (yuan / year) | 472,000   | 1,416,000 |
| Taxes                          | (yuan / year)            | 116,008   | 253,037   |
| Total cost                     | (yuan / year)            | 2,035,222 | 3,014,930 |
| 30% usage rate                 | Annual average power usage of ships (kWh) | 1,619,200 | 4,857,600 |
|                                | Cost of shore power service considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) | 1.26      | 0.91      |
|                                | Cost of shore power service without considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) | 0.62      | 0.28      |
| 100% usage rate                | Annual average power usage of ships (kWh) | 5,399,654 | 16,198,963 |
|                                | Cost of shore power service considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) | 0.38      | 0.27      |
|                                | Cost of shore power service without considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) | 0.19      | 0.08      |

As can be seen from Table 1, if the scale of shore power increases (for example, increase to three sets), the average labor cost will be reduced, and the total service cost will be correspondingly reduced. The range of shore power service cost under the above calculation model is 0.08–1.26 yuan / kWh.

4.1.2 Cost analysis of shore power service of inland port enterprises

Table 2. Cost of shore power service of inland port enterprises.

|                                | Dry bulk terminal | Cruise terminal |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Construction cost              | Equipment (yuan / year) | 77,000   | 2,284,200 |
|                                | Buildings (yuan / year)  | 10,000    | 74,300   |

Taking inland dry bulk terminal and cruise terminal as examples, this paper analyses the cost of shore power service of inland port (Table 2). Among them, the shore power of dry bulk terminal is low-voltage 400kVA fixed shore power, which can meet the needs of 10000 ton ships. The shore power of cruise terminal is used for 7500kVA floating terminal, which can provide power for 6 barges and 12 berths of 10,000 ton ships at the same time.
Operation and maintenance cost
Safety test, typhoon prevention and flood control, reimbursement, labor (yuan / year) 280,500 1,470,750

Financial cost
Loan fee, 5.9% interest (yuan / year) 102,660 2,783,030
Taxes (yuan / year) 28,419 399,682
Total cost (yuan / year) 2,035,222 498,579

30% usage rate
Annual average power usage of ships (kWh) 103,478 2,365,200
Cost of shore power service considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) 4.82 2.96
Cost of shore power service without considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) 2.61 0.34

100% usage rate
Annual average power usage of ships (kWh) 344,925 7,884,000
Cost of shore power service considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) 1.45 0.89
Cost of shore power service without considering equipment investment (yuan / kWh) 1.10 0.10

It can be seen that the cost of shore power service of cruise terminal is lower than that of bulk cargo terminal due to the long service time. The cost of inland dry bulk terminal is 1.10~4.82 yuan / kWh, and that of cruise terminal is 0.10~2.96 yuan / kWh.

4.2 Analysis of electric charge of the power supply department

The terminal electricity charge of the power supply department affects the economy of using shore power and the enthusiasm of ship’s using shore power.

At present, there is a certain difference in the electricity price of each port in China (Figure 1). The general price is about 0.66~0.8 yuan / kWh. According to the document issued by the National Development and Reform Commission in July 2018, the capacity electricity charge is exempted for the commercial electricity of port operation. Therefore, the electricity charge of the typical port in Figure 1 will be reduced. Generally, the electricity charge of the coastal port can be calculated as 0.7 yuan / kWh.

![Figure 1. Electricity charges at major ports in China (unit: yuan / kWh).](https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202014502011)

According to the data of the State Grid, the electric charge in the inland river area of China is 0.6418 yuan / kWh.

4.3 Cost analysis of ship power generation

Considering the depreciation cost, maintenance cost and personnel cost, take the 10000 TEU container ship as an example, the calculation of the total power generation cost of the ship is shown in Table 3. If 0.1% bonded fuel oil is used for coastal ships, the calculated total power generation cost of coastal ship is 1~1.48 yuan / kWh. Ordinary diesel oil can be used for inland ships, and the calculated total power generation cost of inland ship is 1.76~2.63 yuan / kWh.

| Oil category | 0.1% bonded fuel oil | 0.5% domestic trade ship fuel oil | 180CST fuel oil | Diesel oil for inland ships |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Fuel oil price (yuan / t) | 3,800 | 4,800 | 4,637 | 7,000 |
| Fuel oil fee (yuan / kWh, e = 235g / kWh) | 0.89 | 1.13 | 1.09 | 1.65 |
## 4.4 Comprehensive cost analysis

### 4.4.1 Shore power supply for coastal ships

See Figure 2 for the comparison between the cost of shore power service in typical coastal ports and the cost of ship self-generation. If considering the investment recovery cost of port power facilities, the service cost of shore power is as high as 0.91–1.26 yuan / kWh when the usage rate of shore power is 30%. Combined with the electricity charge of the power supply department, the cost of using shore power is much higher than the cost of self-generation. When the usage rate of shore power is 100%, the service cost of shore power is reduced to 0.27–0.38 yuan / kWh. In addition to the electricity charge of the power supply department, the cost of shore power is roughly equivalent to the cost of self-generation of the ship.

In view of the fund incentive policy of the Ministry of Transport and the subsidy of local government, without considering the equipment investment, the cost of shore power service is about 0.28–0.62 yuan / kWh when the usage rate of port shore power is 30% and cost is about 0.08–0.19 yuan / kWh if the usage rate is increased to 100%.

![Figure 2](https://example.com/figure2.png)

**Figure 2.** Comparison between the cost of shore power service and the cost of ship self-generation in Typical Coastal Ports (unit: yuan / kWh).

### 4.4.2 Shore power supply for inland ships

See Figure 3 for comparison of shore power service cost and ship self-generation cost of typical inland ports. If considering the cost of investment recovery of port power facilities, the cost of shore power for inland ships is much higher than self-generating power, when the usage rate of shore power is 30%. When the usage rate of shore power is 100%, the cost of shore power service of inland dry bulk terminals is reduced to 1.45 yuan / kWh, and the cost of shore power service of cruise terminals is reduced to 0.89 yuan / kWh. In addition to the electricity charge of the power supply department, the cost of using shore power for ships is roughly the same as the cost of self-generating power for ships, and the cost of cruise terminals is relatively lower.

Even considering the fund incentive policy of the Ministry of Transport and the subsidy of local government, if the equipment investment is not taken into account, the cost of shore power service of inland dry bulk terminal is about 2.61 yuan / kWh when the actual usage rate of shore power is 30%, and that of the cruise terminal is about 0.34 yuan / kWh. If the usage rate of shore power is increased to 100%, the cost of shore power service of inland dry bulk terminal is about 1.1 yuan / kWh, and that of cruise terminal is 0.1 yuan / kWh.

### Table 1: Comprehensive cost analysis of shore power service for typical coastal ports

| Component                        | Formula                                                                 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fuel oil fee                     | $C = P / e^{10^6}$                                                     |
| Depreciation cost of generator unit | $0.06$                                                                  |
| Maintenance and personnel cost   | $0.05$                                                                  |
| Total power generation cost      | $1.67$                                                                  |

*a* Singapore Platt marine oil price.

*b* $C = e \cdot P / 10^6$.

- $C$—Fuel oil cost for ship power generation, yuan / kWh;
- $e$—Fuel oil consumption per unit generating capacity of a ship, g / kWh;
- $P$—Price of ship fuel oil, yuan / t.
Due to the low power and short service time, although the investment is relatively low, the cost of shore power service is significantly higher than that of coastal power.

5 Conclusions and suggestions on rules of shore power service charge

The shore power service charge is greatly affected by various factors, and the price range is large under different conditions. Under the current low usage rate of shore power, shore power service cannot be charged too much. Only by encouraging ships to use shore power and taking into account the interests of both port enterprises and shipping enterprises can the use of shore power be promoted. According to the principle of ensuring that the cost of using shore power (shore power service charge plus electricity charge) is lower than the cost of self-generation for ships, it is suggested that the shore power service charge should be collected according to the power usage and the government should issue guidance prices.

5.1 When the electricity charge of the power supply department higher than or equal to the cost of self-generation

The government guidance price of shore power service charge should be set as 0.2 yuan / kWh.

Due to the high cost of self-generation of inland ships, this case is only applicable to the coastal shore power service charge.

5.2 When the electricity charge of the power supply department lower than the cost of self-generation

The government guidance price of shore power service charge shall be the difference between the cost of self-generation for ships and the electricity charge of the power supply department.

The cost of self-generation for coastal ships is calculated according to the MDO marine fuel oil price of Singapore Platts open market and fuel consumption rate of 235g / kWh. The electricity charge is calculated as 0.7 yuan / kWh. According to Table 3, the cost of self-generation for ships is 1.0 yuan / kWh, then the government guidance price of shore power service charge shall be 0.3 yuan / kWh. Under the charge price, if the usage rate of shore power reaches the best, the port can recover the investment.

The cost of self-generation for inland ships is calculated according to the price of diesel oil and fuel consumption rate of 235g / kWh, and the electricity charge is calculated as 0.7 yuan / kWh. According to Table 3, the cost of self-generation for ships is 1.76 yuan / kWh, then the government guidance price of the shore power service charge shall be 1.06 yuan / kWh. Under the charge price, if the usage rate of shore power reaches the best, some inland ports can recover investment and have operating income.

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