
Chinese thermal coal price trends in September

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It is reported that Thermal coal prices at the end of September showed varied trends in producing areas as compared with main transferring centers and consuming areas.

Thermal coal price kept stable and remained high in main coal producing area. By end September, the VAT included purchase price of coaling stations in Datong, Suozhou and key coal producing areas in Shanxi province stayed at CNY 780 per tonnes to CNY 800 per tonnes for thermal coal with calorific value of 5800 Kilocalories per kilogram and CNY 730 per tonnes to CNY 750 per tonnes for coal with calorific value 5500 Kilocalories per kilogram.

However, thermal coal of different qualities dropped sharply in Qinhuangdao port. The FOB price of thermal coal with calorific value of 5800 Kcal per kilogram, 5500 Kcal per kilogram and 5000 Kcal per kilogram, fell to below CNY 1000 per tonnes, CNY 860 per tonnes to CNY 920 per tonnes and CNY 770 per tonnes to CNY 790 per tonnes, down CNY 120 per tonnes to CNY 150 per tonnes compared with the record highs this year.

A small decline was also seen in main consumer areas. As of end September, the price of premium thermal coal, 5500 Kilocalories per kilogram was about CNY 990 per tonnes to CNY 1010 per tonnes in Ningbo Port and CNY 1020 per tonnes to CNY 1040 per tonnes at Guangzhou port, down CNY 30 per tonnes from last month and falling CNY 180 per tonnes to CNY 200 per tonnes compared with the highest earlier this year.

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