Women at the top: 21. Li Xiaolin

11/15/2011

Company: China Power International Development

Last year’s position: 27

Age: 50

Nationality: Chinese

Sector: Power generation

Location: China

The daughter of former Chinese premier, Li Peng, Li Xiaolin, has led the company since China Power International Development was incorporated in Hong Kong in 2004.

The parent organisation of the business, China Power Investment Corporation, is one of the five largest power-generation companies in the country. While coal-fired generation remains at China Power International’s core, it has recently increased capacity from hydropower through its 63 per cent stake in Wu Ling Power, one of China’s leading players in hydro energy.

Li has also introduced new technologies that reduce coal consumption rates and with them, carbon emissions.

Li’s career in power generation started at Tsinghua University where she took a masters degree in engineering in power systems and automation. She was a visiting scholar at the MIT Sloan School of Management and has served in various government positions.