

Gazprom Wants Advance Pay

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Gazprom wants [China](#) to pay upfront for gas to meet 40 percent of the costs of building a pipeline between the countries, Russia's energy minister said Thursday, after the company reported progress in talks with [Beijing](#).

Top energy producer [Russia](#) has been in negotiations to supply fuel-hungry [China](#) with natural gas for years, but the talks have stalled due to failure to agree a price.

"It's 40 percent of the pipeline construction costs. That's the figures Gazprom is using during the talks," Alexander Novak said when asked whether [Russia](#) wants [China](#) to pay in advance for the pipeline construction.

"We made a step forward today," Gazprom's chief executive Alexei Miller said.

(Reuters)

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