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Evaluating the sustainability impact of consolidation policy in China's coal mining industry:

A data envelopment analysis

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Abstract

The highly fragmented coal industry in China has experienced a consolidation process since late 2008. Major coal-rich provinces have adopted nationalization and market-oriented approaches to reduce the number of small coal mines, leading to a marked increase in the proportion of the total output produced by large and medium-sized coal mines. Relying on a Range-Adjusted Measure model of the Data Envelopment Analysis, this article constructs three indicators, namely operational efficiency, environmental efficiency, and unified efficiency, to reflect sustainability impact of this consolidation policy. By comparing two representative

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