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Operational Model Innovation of Hainan Green Logistics Park under the Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism

Yuya Lin, Jingnan Hu

Hainan Vocational University of Science and Technology, Haikou, 571126, China

Abstract: *In the face of global climate change challenges, carbon emission reduction has become a focal point of international concern. This paper first introduces the concept and development status of the carbon emission trading mechanism and green logistics parks. Then, it analyzes the background, planning goals, achievements, and experiences of constructing the Hainan Green Logistics Park. Subsequently, it addresses the challenges faced by logistics park operations under the carbon emission trading mechanism and proposes innovative measures such as establishing a carbon emission accounting system, optimizing operating costs, strengthening policy support, and promoting the application of green technologies to meet the requirements of the carbon emission trading mechanism.*

Keywords: *Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism; Green Logistics Park; Operational Model Innovation; Carbon Emission Accounting; Policy Support; Green Technology Application*

1. Introduction

With the growing severity of global climate change issues, carbon emission reduction has become a shared responsibility and focal point of international attention. The carbon emission trading mechanism, as a market-based tool, plays a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting green development. As an emerging model in the logistics industry, green logistics parks hold great potential for fostering green and intelligent development in logistics. Therefore, exploring the operational model innovation of the Hainan Green Logistics Park under the carbon emission trading mechanism is of great significance for promoting carbon emission reduction and facilitating sustainable economic development.

2. Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism and Green Logistics Park

2.1 Overview of the Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism

The carbon emission trading mechanism is an effective market-driven strategy aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions through economic means. The core of this mechanism is to set a total carbon emission quota and allow trading of quotas between companies that generate carbon emissions. The primary goal of this strategy is to incentivize companies to take measures to reduce carbon emissions and promote the development of environmental technologies through market mechanisms. By pricing carbon emissions, the carbon trading mechanism makes emission reduction a way for companies to save costs and generate profits. Companies can reduce their carbon emissions by improving technology and efficiency. If their emissions are below the quota, they can sell the excess emission allowances to companies that exceed their quotas, thereby gaining economic benefits[1].

Additionally, the carbon emission trading mechanism includes key aspects such as the initial allocation of quotas, the establishment of a trading market, and continuous oversight by regulatory agencies. In this system, regulatory agencies are responsible for ensuring the fairness and transparency of the market and monitoring the emission levels of companies to ensure they meet the prescribed standards. As carbon emission rights are traded, market price signals are generated, which in turn incentivize companies to find more cost-effective ways to reduce emissions. Through such a market mechanism, carbon emission trading not only promotes environmental protection but also drives innovation and application of clean technologies and low-carbon solutions, providing a viable strategy to address global climate change.

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2.2 Overview of Green Logistics Parks

A green logistics park is a regional logistics center that integrates transportation, warehousing, sorting, and other logistics services, adopting green building and energy-saving environmental protection technologies with the core concepts of energy conservation, emission reduction, environmental protection, and low carbon. The design focus of such logistics parks is to provide efficient and environmentally friendly logistics services while ensuring sustainable business development. By implementing these measures, green logistics parks aim to enhance the utilization efficiency of logistics resources, reduce energy consumption, lower logistics costs, and strive to reduce carbon emissions. These efforts collectively drive the logistics industry towards green transformation and upgrading to meet increasing environmental challenges.

In practical operations, green logistics parks particularly emphasize the adoption of green building standards, the development of intelligent logistics facilities, the extensive use of clean energy, and the implementation of circular economy principles. By applying these technologies and methods, green logistics parks can not only optimize their operational processes and improve service quality but also significantly reduce their environmental impact. These efforts make green logistics parks a critical force in promoting sustainable development in the industry while setting new benchmarks for the future development of the logistics sector.

3. Current Status of the Hainan Green Logistics Park Construction

3.1 Background and Significance of the Hainan Green Logistics Park Construction

The construction of the Hainan Green Logistics Park is deeply rooted in the broader strategic need to build Hainan Island into a free trade port, aimed at accelerating economic structural adjustment and green development. As a pilot zone for China's free trade port, Hainan has an urgent need to enhance its logistics infrastructure and improve logistics service levels. Against this backdrop, the construction of a green logistics park can support Hainan’s modernization process in the logistics field and meet the demands for efficient and environmentally friendly operations. By achieving these goals, Hainan can secure a more advantageous position in the global trade network, while promoting comprehensive regional economic prosperity.

The construction of a green logistics park holds significant strategic importance. It not only enhances logistics efficiency and reduces operational costs but also contributes to a substantial reduction in carbon emissions from logistics activities. This effort towards green and intelligent transformation aligns perfectly with the overarching development goals of the Hainan Free Trade Port. As the green logistics park progresses, Hainan will be able to attract more domestic and international investments, foster innovation in the logistics industry, and ensure sustainable development. These initiatives will position Hainan as a model of green logistics in China and globally, showcasing its active role in global economic integration[2].

3.2 Planning and Development Goals of the Hainan Green Logistics Park

The planning of the Hainan Green Logistics Park integrates multiple key areas, including optimizing location layout, enhancing infrastructure construction, promoting the application of green technologies, and strengthening industrial collaborative development. This strategy aims to leverage Hainan’s geographical advantage as an international trade node by implementing highly integrated logistics solutions that optimize cargo flow paths and methods. Modernizing infrastructure upgrades will ensure the efficiency and reliability of logistics operations, while the deep integration of green technologies focuses on reducing the environmental impact of the entire park. Additionally, through industrial collaboration, the park not only strengthens the sharing of internal resources but also facilitates seamless connectivity with global logistics networks.

In terms of development goals, the Hainan Green Logistics Park aims to become a world-class green logistics hub, creating an efficient, environmentally friendly, and intelligent logistics transportation system. This includes enhancing the level of logistics services, speeding up cargo flow, and optimizing transportation organization structures to ensure high-speed and efficient logistics activities. The park also promotes the use of clean energy vehicles and actively builds intelligent logistics warehousing facilities, which will significantly reduce operational costs and carbon footprints. Through these innovative strategies, the park aims to promote logistics information management, further improving decision-

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making efficiency and response speed, ultimately achieving sustainable development goals.

3.3 Achievements and Experiences of the Hainan Green Logistics Park Construction

Since its construction, the Hainan Green Logistics Park has made significant achievements and accumulated valuable experiences. Particularly in logistics infrastructure construction, the park has completed several modernization updates and optimizations, greatly enhancing logistics operation efficiency and safety. Moreover, the promotion of green technologies has gradually unfolded, including the use of environmentally friendly materials, intelligent transportation systems, and clean energy vehicles. These measures have effectively reduced the environmental impact of logistics activities. Through the application of these technologies, the park has achieved initial success in green and intelligent logistics activities, significantly improving the level of logistics services[3].

These achievements are evident not only in the improvement of logistics efficiency and the reduction of carbon emissions but also in the heightened environmental awareness throughout the park. The management team and partners are open to continuously improving the environmental performance of logistics operations and are actively exploring more green strategies. These efforts have laid a solid foundation for the continuous development of the Hainan Green Logistics Park and provided valuable experiences and references for the green transformation of other regions and industries. These results demonstrate that through comprehensive measures, green logistics is not only feasible but also economically and environmentally beneficial, serving as a key pathway to promoting sustainable development.

4. Operational Model Challenges of Hainan Green Logistics Park under the Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism

4.1 Difficulties in Carbon Emission Accounting and Management

Under the influence of the carbon emission trading mechanism, Hainan Green Logistics Park faces significant challenges in carbon emission accounting and management. Firstly, accurately measuring the carbon emissions of different operational stages within the park is inherently a complex task. This requires advanced technological means for precise emission measurement and continuous data support to track and assess the environmental impact of various operations. For example, every activity, from simple vehicle fuel consumption to complex logistics operations, needs to be evaluated through detailed carbon footprint analysis to determine its specific environmental impact.

Secondly, establishing a management system and information platform that can effectively manage carbon emission data, monitor real-time emissions, and meet the requirements of the carbon emission trading mechanism is another major challenge. The complexity and diversity of carbon emission data require the park's management to handle large and variable datasets while ensuring data accuracy and consistency. Additionally, existing management systems often have deficiencies, making it difficult to support efficient and transparent data processing, which further increases the management difficulty. Therefore, to address these challenges, the park must seek more advanced and integrated solutions to optimize the carbon emission accounting and management processes.

4.2 Increased Costs and Operational Pressure

Introducing the carbon emission trading mechanism promotes environmental goals but also presents significant operational challenges for Hainan Green Logistics Park, particularly in cost management. On one hand, to meet emission reduction requirements, the park needs substantial investments in green technologies and equipment. This includes updating the fleet to electric or hybrid vehicles, installing energy-saving lighting systems, and upgrading to more efficient warehousing facilities. These initial investments and their maintenance costs will significantly increase the construction and operational expenses of the park. Additionally, implementing these measures requires time and expertise, which may impact the park's operational efficiency in the short term.

On the other hand, directly participating in carbon emission trading also brings additional financial burdens. This includes the costs of emission rights trading and purchasing carbon quotas. With the increase in carbon pricing and market fluctuations, these costs may vary, adding uncertainty to the park’s financial planning. Moreover, compliance with regulatory requirements and reporting necessitates specialized management resources and system support, further increasing operational pressure[4]. Thus,

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while the carbon trading mechanism promotes environmental actions, it also challenges the economic benefits and operational stability of the logistics park.

4.3 Unclear Policies and Regulations

Under the context of China's carbon emission trading mechanism, the ambiguity of policies and regulations presents a series of challenges for Hainan Green Logistics Park. Since the national legal framework for carbon trading is still developing, specific policy details often lack clarity, leading to considerable uncertainty for the logistics park in planning and implementing carbon reduction strategies. This uncertainty can affect the park's long-term investment decisions and inadvertently introduce legal liability and compliance risks, especially in carbon emission reporting and trading.

Additionally, different regions may adopt various local regulations when implementing national carbon market policies, adding complexity and challenges to the cross-regional operations of Hainan Green Logistics Park. The park needs to constantly adapt to regulatory changes across regions, increasing operational complexity and management costs. In this environment, the logistics park must allocate additional resources to ensure operations comply with local regulations while maintaining flexibility to respond to rapid policy changes and regional regulatory differences.

4.4 Insufficient Technological Application

Under the carbon emission trading mechanism, Hainan Green Logistics Park faces challenges in the insufficient application of technology, particularly in implementing low-carbon technologies and green logistics solutions. Despite significant incentives to reduce carbon emissions, many existing technologies and equipment have not achieved the desired efficiency or have not been widely implemented. This insufficient technological application limits the park's ability to achieve its environmental goals in practice. Additionally, a lack of professional knowledge and technical support hampers the adoption and effective implementation of new technologies, affecting the park's overall carbon reduction performance.

On the other hand, although some advanced green technologies can significantly reduce carbon emissions, they may face technical barriers and economic cost constraints in practical application. For example, the initial investment for new technologies is high and may require long-term maintenance and upgrades, posing a significant financial burden for the logistics park. Furthermore, implementing high-tech solutions may require complex training and technical support, further increasing operational complexity and costs. Therefore, these factors collectively constitute the main challenges for the logistics park in promoting and implementing green technologies, which need to be overcome through comprehensive strategies and sustained investment[5].

5. Operational Model Innovation of Hainan Green Logistics Park under the Carbon Emission Trading Mechanism

5.1 Establishing a Carbon Emission Accounting System

To effectively address the challenges in carbon emission accounting and management, the Hainan Green Logistics Park can establish a comprehensive carbon emission accounting system. The park can introduce advanced monitoring technologies and equipment, such as infrared sensors and automated data collection systems, to monitor carbon emissions in key areas like transportation and warehousing in real-time. These technologies ensure real-time data updates and accuracy, providing a better understanding and control of carbon emissions. Additionally, by setting up a dedicated monitoring center, the park can continuously track carbon emissions and adjust operational strategies promptly to optimize energy efficiency and reduce emissions.

Furthermore, the park should establish a carbon emission data management platform, responsible not only for collecting and organizing data from monitoring devices but also for data analysis and report generation. Through such a platform, the logistics park can regularly generate carbon emission reports, conduct emission trend analyses, and formulate reduction strategies accordingly. The platform should also support data traceability and tracking functions, ensuring the accuracy and transparency of reported carbon emission data. This not only helps park managers make informed decisions but also provides a solid data foundation for participating in domestic and international carbon trading markets, enhancing the park's competitiveness in the green logistics sector.

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5.2 Optimizing Operating Costs and Reducing Operational Pressure

To alleviate the operational pressure brought by the carbon emission trading mechanism, the Hainan Green Logistics Park can optimize operating costs to improve operational efficiency. The park can introduce energy-saving and environmentally friendly technologies and equipment to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. Specific measures include promoting the use of clean energy vehicles, which significantly reduce reliance on fossil fuels and thus lower carbon emissions; adopting intelligent logistics equipment, such as automated loading systems and smart shelves, to improve warehousing and handling efficiency; and optimizing transportation route planning using advanced GPS and route planning software to reduce travel distances and empty mileage. These technologies not only reduce energy costs but also help shorten delivery times and enhance customer satisfaction.

Furthermore, the park should strengthen logistics process management and optimize supply chain management to improve resource utilization efficiency and reduce costs. This can be achieved by introducing lean logistics and inventory management techniques to ensure optimal inventory levels, reducing storage space and logistics costs. Additionally, by establishing closer cooperation with suppliers and customers, information sharing and demand forecasting can be achieved, thereby optimizing the responsiveness and flexibility of the entire supply chain. Through these integrated and optimized measures, the logistics park can effectively mitigate the economic pressure of carbon emission trading while enhancing its competitiveness in the market[6].

5.3 Strengthening Policy Support

To address the challenges posed by unclear policies and regulations, the Hainan Green Logistics Park can actively seek government support and policy preferences. The park can establish close cooperation with government departments and related institutions, participating in the formulation and improvement process of carbon emission trading and related environmental policies. Through this cooperation, the park can not only secure favorable conditions for businesses during policy formulation but also ensure that the implementation of policies and regulations aligns with the park's actual needs. Additionally, the park can leverage these relationships to promote understanding of green technologies and innovative practices, disseminating best practices and leading the industry in sustainable development.

Moreover, the park can seek financial support and tax incentives from the government. Subsidy policies and funding support from the government can reduce the initial financial pressure of constructing and upgrading the park, making it easier for enterprises to adopt green technologies and equipment. Tax incentives and other measures, such as corporate income tax reductions and research and development grants, can also encourage enterprises to actively participate in carbon emission trading and adopt energy-saving and emission reduction measures. Through these policy supports, the park can enhance its operational economic benefits, strengthen the market competitiveness of enterprises, and improve sustainable development capabilities.

5.4 Promoting Green Technology Application

To address the issue of insufficient technological application, the Hainan Green Logistics Park can strengthen the research and application of green technologies. Firstly, the park can actively introduce advanced domestic and international green technologies and equipment, such as intelligent logistics management systems and clean energy vehicles. Intelligent logistics management systems can optimize cargo allocation, warehousing management, and transportation scheduling, improving overall operational efficiency, while the use of clean energy vehicles can directly reduce the park’s carbon footprint. The introduction of these technologies not only enhances the operational efficiency of the logistics park but also significantly improves environmental standards.

Secondly, the park can enhance cooperation with research institutions and universities to jointly develop and promote new green technologies. Through these collaborations, the park can access the latest achievements in environmental protection from research institutions and innovative resources from universities, jointly conducting technical trials and application demonstrations. This synergy accelerates the commercialization of technologies and promotes the widespread application of green technologies in the logistics field. By comprehensively applying these strategies, the park can effectively reduce carbon emissions while achieving both economic and environmental benefits, driving the logistics industry towards a greener and more sustainable future.

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6. Conclusion

In discussing the operational model innovation of the Hainan Green Logistics Park under the carbon emission trading mechanism, this paper proposes a series of innovative measures, including establishing a carbon emission accounting system, optimizing operating costs, strengthening policy support, and promoting green technology applications. These measures help improve the operational efficiency of the Hainan Green Logistics Park, reduce carbon emissions, and achieve a win-win situation for economic and environmental benefits. In the future, further strengthening cooperation with research institutions and conducting in-depth studies on the development paths and model innovations of green logistics parks under the carbon emission trading mechanism will provide more valuable insights and references for promoting carbon emission reduction and green logistics development.

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