



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving interested readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com. PACE especially welcomes any input or suggestions for news articles and will give due credit to anyone who contributes to the newsletter. If you know anyone who would like to subscribe, please direct them [here](#).

OPINION

[In the new cold-war on energy, China wins](#) (Examiner.com, 1/01/2010) During the Cold War (1945-1991), China was the only major country that stood at the intersection of the two superpower camps, a target of influence and enmity for both

the United States and the Soviet Union. Today, China is creating a path to sustainable energy that could conceivably make it the most powerful nation in the world.

[Top Ten Chinese Energy News of 2009](#) (The Green Leap Forward, 12/31/2009) The [National Energy Bureau](#), which falls under the might NDRC, [released its list](#) of top ten developments in China's energy industry for 2009. Here's the list which I translated, some of which I've blogged before (and hyperlinked) , and some of which I will discuss in future posts.

[Blaming China of foiling agreement on climate incorrect](#) (Xinhua, 12/28/2009) A Pakistani environment expert has said that accusing China of foiling a consensus agreement regarding climate change in the Copenhagen conference is unfair and factually incorrect.

[China's renewable energy law amendments](#) (China Environmental Law Blog, 12/28/2009) China amended its [Renewable Energy Law](#) (Chinese version) on December 26, 2009. Chinese spokespersons have [emphasized](#) the fact that the amendments require the state grid companies to purchase all power produced by renewable energy sources, but they (and the news agencies that have run with the [story](#)) fail to point out that the prior version of the law required the same thing. In fact, the actual amendments to the law are extremely minor.

[China's energy solution: Ignore the cost](#) (The Motley Fool, 12/28/2009) Perhaps you've heard the argument that the world needs to move from coal to renewables at any cost. China now appears to be applying this idea quite literally.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[Green light bulbs may 'pollute water'](#) (China Daily, 12/31/2009) The widely publicized energy-saving bulbs, which now are a source of light in millions of Chinese households, may well be causing mercury pollution in many parts of the country.

[China aims for 'green' buildings](#) (UPI, 12/31/2009) With the world's highest level of greenhouse gas emissions and the largest market in the world by floor space, building "green" is becoming the architectural trend in China.

[Garlic prices soar in China amid flu fears](#) (USA Today, 12/31/2009) Wrapped up in earmuffs and a heavy jacket to fight the Beijing winter, Liu Zhan shows little sign of soaring wealth. Until he removes his gloves — and reveals a large gold ring. At the Chinese capital's biggest vegetable wholesale market, other traders call him "Millionaire Liu."

[Villagers halt waste incinerator](#) (China Daily, 12/31/2009) Garbage plant's operations blocked following failed talks. The pollution saga troubling Chongqing municipality since April is turning ugly as more than 1,200 tons of hazardous, foul-smelling waste pile up in the affected region.

[Chinese painter combines art, activism](#) (Globe and Mail, 12/30/2009) Even as China's vast wildlife is threatened by prodigious air and water pollution, as well as habitat destruction, a growing number of people are coming to its defence. Li Li, a painter and animal rights activist, uses his art and street activism to speak on behalf of China's animal population.

[Shanghai's electricity consumption hits record](#) (Shanghai Daily, 12/29/2009) Shanghai's power load hit a winter daily record of 19.05 million kilowatts yesterday as minimum temperatures fell below minus 4 degrees Celsius in some parts of the city.

[Stomach cancer cases rise rapidly in China](#) (Beijing Review, 12/28/2009) One person dies from stomach cancer every two to three minutes in China as the country witnesses the prevalence of the disease rising sharply, experts warned. About 400,000 Chinese people are diagnosed with stomach cancer each year in the country, accounting for 42 percent of the world's total.

CORPORATIONS

[Chinese coal demand in 2010 to go up by 6 pct – CNCA](#) (SteelGuru, 1/02/2009) Bloomberg quoted China National Coal Association as saying that China may consume between 4% and 6% more coal by 2010 on continued economic growth.

[Golf's secret boom in Hainan, China](#) (Financial Times, 1/01/2010) If you are flying into Haikou from the west, you can see it. Sit on the right-hand side of the aircraft and look out of your window. It's there. Viewed from above, this vast swathe of land may not look like much – fuzzy green vegetation, shadowy pockets of volcanic rock, incongruous veins of reddish brown soil – but in a couple of

years it will make history. Locals refer to this area by its code name: Project 791. Soon, most people will know it as Mission Hills Hainan, the largest collection of golf courses in the world.

China funds green gold rush (ArabianBusiness. com, 01/01/2010) Backed by state loans, renewable energy firms in China are seeking to gain a foothold in global clean technology markets as countries worldwide look to switch out of fossil fuels. When A-Power Energy Generation Systems secured a deal to supply turbines for a US wind farm project in October, the little-known Chinese firm had an ace up its sleeve to help it clinch the deal.

Tech tested in China aims to get kerogen from oil shale (Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, 12/31/2009) An Arizona company is aiming to use technology tested on coal in China to draw kerogen from oil shale in Colorado and send fuel to markets around the globe.

E China builds 105b yuan railway network (China Daily, 12/31/2009) A ceremony was held Thursday to mark the start of construction on seven railway projects and operation of another three high-speed railroads, linking Fujian province with other east China provinces.

Bankers yet to jump on the green bandwagon (China Daily, 12/31/2009) As a pioneering entrepreneur in China's environmental protection industry, Wen Yibo is no doubt upbeat about the prospects for his company. But a major hurdle now facing the 44-year-old is how to raise capital for business expansion.

More China companies are going green (Wall Street Journal, 12/31/2009) Chinese entrepreneurs and private citizens are starting to become more active in trying to address concerns over global warming, a nascent trend that could have significant long-term impact on the ability of the world's largest greenhouse-gas emitter to curb its effects on the climate.

China starts to build petroleum reserve base in its northwest (Xinhua, 12/30/2009) China has launched the construction of a national petroleum reserve base in northwest China's Gansu Province.

China's oil ambitions in Canada receiving new government scrutiny (New York Times, 12/30/2009) Earlier this year, PetroChina and Canada's Athabasca Oil Sands Corporation hatched a deal that would give the Chinese state-owned oil giant a 60 percent stake in two Alberta oil sands projects for about \$1.7 billion.

Four injured, 1000 evacuated after gas blast in north China (Xinhua, 12/29/2009)

A gas explosion early Tuesday left at least four injured and 1,000 homeless in Hohhot, capital of north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, a local official said.

Nearly 600 workers under medical test for mercury poisoning in south China

(Xinhua, 12/29/2009) The samples of 591 workers in south China's Guangdong Province are under medical test after 23 of their fellows in the same workshop have been diagnosed as suffering from mercury poisoning, local health authorities said Tuesday.

Mine explosions kill 17 in China, 6 more trapped (Business Week, 12/28/2009)

A coal mine explosion has killed 12 people in northern China, while five other miners were killed and six trapped in an accident in the southwest of the country, state media reported Monday.

From salt water to green islands: A Dutch vision (Green Leap Forward, 12/28/2009)

This excellent clip by Radio Netherlands Worldwide tells of Dutch consultancy and engineering firm, DHV, and their efforts in Tianjin on the "Delta Diamonds ocean city development project."

China Integrated Energy acquires three gas stations in Shaanxi Province (RTT

News, 12/28/2009) China Integrated Energy, Inc. (CBEH: News), a non-state-owned biodiesel producer and distributor in the People's Republic of China, Monday said that it has reached separate agreements to acquire three gas stations distributing gasoline and diesel, bringing its total number of operating gas stations to ten.

China plant shuts after children poisoned by lead (Business Week, 12/28/2009)

Chinese authorities Monday started administering health checks on all children living near a battery factory in the south of the country and closed the plant after more than 40 children were found with lead poisoning.

China coal demand may rise 4%-6%, China Securities Journal says (Bloomberg,

12/28/2009) China, the world's second-largest energy user, may consume between 4 and 6 percent more coal next year on continued economic growth, China Securities Journal said, citing a forecast from the China National Coal Association.

Tosoh to build vinyl chloride resin plant in China, Nikkei says (Bloomberg,

12/27/2009) Tosoh Corp. will spend 10 billion yen (\$109 million) to build a vinyl

chloride resin plant in Guangzhou, tripling its production capacity in China by 2012, the Nikkei newspaper reported, without saying where it obtained the information.

GOVERNMENT

Tainted dairy shut in China (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 1/02/2010) Chinese authorities shut down a dairy in Shanghai and arrested three of its executives after tests found some of its milk products were tainted with the same industrial chemical at the center of a milk safety scandal more than a year ago, state media said yesterday.

Concern as China clamps down on rare earth exports (The Independent, 1/02/2010) Britain and other Western countries risk running out of supplies of certain highly sought-after rare metals that are vital to a host of green technologies, amid growing evidence that China, which has a monopoly on global production, is set to choke off exports of valuable compounds.

Chinese customs seizes toxic US waste tires (China Daily, 01/01/2010) The Chinese customs authority said it had seized more than 8,500 tons of highly-polluting used tires smuggled from the United States, the biggest amount in recent years.

China's first inter-city energy and emissions reduction manifesto published (ChinaCSR, 12/31/2009) An inter-city energy conservation and emission reduction manifesto, which is said to be the first of its kind in China, was published at the 9th China Economic Forum held in Harbin, Heilongjiang province.

Green plans on track, NDRC says (China Daily, 12/31/2009) China is making concrete efforts toward a low-carbon economy by curbing overcapacity and boosting strategic emerging industries, a senior official at the nation's top economic planner said yesterday.

Nowhere for the garbage in Chinese capital (China Daily, 12/30/2009) China's capital city is running out of space to bury garbage, but plans to burn waste remain controversial over health concerns, chinanews.com.cn reported.

China, Venezuela sign new round of energy agreements (Oil and Gas Journal, 12/30/2009) China and Venezuela signed five agreements, one concerning refining and two touching on exploration and development of oil fields in the Orinoco Belt.

China to become world's 3rd largest wind power producer (Xinhua, 12/31/2009) China will become the world's third largest wind power producer this year, an official with the National Energy Administration (NEA) said Wednesday.

China to establish emergency environmental management system (Xinhua, 12/29/2009) China is speeding up construction of a system for environmental management to handle emergent environmental incidents, an official said on Tuesday.

Hong Kong's water security (New York Times, 12/29/2009) Drinking water has rarely been a concern in Hong Kong where the supply has historically been plentiful and affordable. But a series of droughts in China, including some earlier this year, has raised concerns that Hong Kong's water supply might not be as secure as first thought.

China's first environmental industry fund established (Xinhua, 12/28/2009) China's first fund for environmental industry was launched Monday in Beijing, aiming to promote investment in the country's environment- related sectors.

Government help for lead poison victims (People's Daily, 12/28/2009) Forty-four children diagnosed with excessive lead levels in their blood will be treated at government expense, a local city government in Guangdong province has promised.

China enacts law to promote renewable energy (BusinessWeek, 12/27/2009) China's utilities will be required to buy all the power produced by wind farms and other renewable sources under a new law meant to promote the industry and reduce heavy reliance on coal.