

A weekly update of China's environmental news and analysis from PACE



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PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

Bodies pile up after quake kills 600-plus in China (AP, 4/15/2010) Rescue teams fought gusty winds and altitude sickness Thursday as survivors faced a second night outside in freezing weather after strong earthquakes left more than 600 dead and 9,000 hurt in a mountainous Tibetan area of western China.

Zookeepers in China eat monkey meat (Thaindian News, 4/15/2010) Zookeepers at a zoo in China are eating monkey and giraffe meat believing

that these have extra nutritional value, a media report said. The bizarre report came from a soon-to-be-opened zoo in Dongguan in China's Guangdong province, where dead animals were reportedly given away as gifts or eaten by zoo workers, Global Times reported.

<u>Visit to China's five low-carbon scenic zones</u> (Xinhua, 4/15/2010) The limelight is on low-carbon living, which has been fashionable for quite a while, and low-carbon travel is now gaining increasing popularity among travel lovers.

<u>China Green and Safe Mining Summit 2010</u> (CSRwire, 4/14/2010) China Green & Safe Mining Summit 2010 is to explore the green mining market and recently released policy and regulations in China.

Two caught illegally transporting marmots put under medical observation in NW China (Xinhua, 4/13/2010) Two men who were caught transporting more than 100 illegally caught live marmots in mountains in northwest China's Gansu Province have been put under forced medical observation out of plague fears, local authorities said Tuesday.

<u>Lingering drought threatens endangered bird species in SW China</u> (People's Daily, 4/13/2010) The persistent drought in China's southwest is eroding the habitat of the Hume's Bar-tailed Pheasant, one of the world's endangered bird species.

Record drought exposes water woes (IPS, 4/12/2010) In South-east Asia, where a number of countries have also been hit by the drought, the blame has fallen squarely the thirsty neighbour to the north, where many areas have not seen rain since October. Around 24 million people in Yunnan, Sichuan, Guizhou and Guangxi provinces – totalling roughly 48,280 square kilometres of farmland – are short of water.

China has overtaken Germany as second-leading wind power nation (Bloomberg, 4/12/2010) China overtook Germany as the second-leading wind power nation last year, the Global Wind Energy Council said today in a statement. The council also forecast that the world's wind power capacity will increase by 160% over the next five years in a statement issued in Brussels.

OU geophysics group teams with China on seismic projects (EurkAlert, 4/12/2010) University of Oklahoma researchers are working with Chinese colleagues to better understand intraplate earthquakes—those occurring far from a tectonic plate boundary—in an effort to minimize the loss of life and property in both China and Oklahoma.

<u>Death toll from contagious disease in China doubles</u> (AFP, 4/10/2010) Forty children in China died from the highly contagious hand, foot and mouth disease in March, almost doubling the death toll in the previous two months, state media reported.

'Green super rice' benefits Asian and African countries (People's Daily, 4/9/2010) The "Green Super Rice for the Resource-Deprived of Asia and Africa" project was launched in 2008 with the goal of breeding high-yielding rice varieties based on local resources and China's mature rice technology and then providing them to 15 Asian and African countries as well as four provinces in southwestern China.

<u>Beijing's water consumption defies ongoing drought</u> (Probe International, 4/7/2010) The number of businesses in Beijing that are using water lavishly continues to grow, despite a decades-long drought and a stressed watershed, say Chinese environmental researchers in a recent report.

CORPORATIONS

China Environment secures three contracts worth \$15.3 million (Channel News Asia, 4/15/2010) China Environment has secured three contracts to design, contract and install electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) for thermal power projects in Hebei, Jilin and Inner Mongolia.

LED tunnel lighting yields 60% energy savings for Chinese highway project (Business Wire, 4/15/2010) LED-based tunnel lighting for two new highway tunnels in central China is saving up to 60% in energy consumption and related costs over fixtures built with traditional light sources. Utilizing LUXEON Rebel LEDs from Philips Lumileds, the 3,900 fixtures involved in the project were developed by Xi'an Liming Electronic Technology Co., Ltd., with engineering assistance and LED inventory management supplied by Future Lighting Solutions.

Microsoft Chinese supplier lambasted for abysmal labor records (ITPro Portal, 4/15/2010) According to a report released by the National Labor Committee (NLC), a global human rights group, a Microsoft supplier located in Guangdong province in China has been violating human rights by hiring 16-17 year olds to work for an average 15 hours a day, seven days a week.

China sees low CIP in H1; energy, water to cost more (Reuters, 4/15/2010) Chinese annual consumer price inflation will quicken to about 2.5 percent for the first half of 2010 from 2.2 percent in the first quarter, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said on Thursday.

China investment in Australian farms rises 10-fold, agents say (BusinessWeek, 4/14/2010) Chinese investment in Australian farms increased 10-fold in the past six months, real estate agents said, as Australia relaxed rules governing residential property purchasing and buyers see opportunities in agriculture.

<u>China strikes \$4.65 billion oil sands deal</u> (UPI, 4/14/2010) China Petrochemical Corporation will buy ConocoPhillips' stake in the Syncrude Canada oil sands project in Alberta for \$4.65 billion.

China Exim Bank lends Kenya \$97 million for geothermal (Reuters, 4/13/2010) Kenya received on Tuesday a 7.5 billion shilling loan from the Export-Import Bank of China to drill geothermal wells for production of 140 megawatts of energy.

As CDM stall, wind energy drifts in China (Caixin Online, 4/13/2010) Wind-energy advocates fear a recent decision by an international board overseeing the U.N. Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) may have dealt a devastating blow to China's CDM process.

Railway construction leads to sinking residential land in Southern Guangzhou (Xinhua, 4/12/2010) Railway authorities will pay up to 30 million yuan (4.4 million U.S. dollars) in compensation after construction of a high-speed railway caused the earth to sink, damaging houses in parts of Guangzhou, capital city of southern China's Guangdong Province.

Copper consumption in China to grow 14% CRU predicts (Bloomberg, 4/13/2010) Copper consumption in China, the world's largest consumer of

the metal used in appliances and automobiles, may gain 14 percent this year as the economy extends a recovery, according to CRU International Ltd.

<u>China's solar firms get a boost</u> (Forbes, 4/12/2010) It used to take decades for whole industries to shift overseas. Not anymore. Solar panel manufacturing is moving to Asia, and Chinese and Taiwanese companies especially are the beneficiaries- -thanks to their low cost of production. Now come reports that the Chinese government is extending billions of dollars in loans to domestic firms, making life even tougher for U.S. competitors.

Research and Markets: 2010 deep research report on China New Energy Vehicles (Business Wire, 4/12/2010) With the increasingly harsh climate and environment, words, such as environmental protection, low-carbon, energy-saving, emission-reduction and green, are gradually penetrated into the daily life. Automobile, as the main source of city exhausts, has gained particular concern in the issue of emission reduction. Therefore, new energy vehicles become extremely popular. For instance, electric bicycles, electric tricycles and motorcycle, which can be seen everywhere in China, have gradually been accepted and popular. Thus, electric vehicles will soon become the energy-saving environmental automotive products.

Illegal golf course threatens conservation area (China Daily, 4/9/2010) An illegal golf course under construction in an ecological conservation area in Erdos in North China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region is endangering precious plants beneficial to soil and water conservation in such a parched environment.

GOVERNMENT

<u>China demands fair treatment for crew</u> (The Australian, 4/16/2010) China has weighed into the Shen Neng 1 pollution debacle on the Great Barrier Reef, formally requesting fair treatment for two crewmen who appeared in court yesterday over the ship's grounding off central Queensland.

China provinces step up fight against pests (Xinhua, 4/15/2010) Forestry authorities in east China's Shandong Province have ordered prompt reports

on the spread of the American white moth in order to prevent the devastation of crops and forests.

<u>Environmental Protection Experts on way to quake-hit area</u> (Xinhua, 4/15/2010) A team of 20 environmental protection experts are on their way to quake-hit Yushu prefecture to assist local authorities in monitoring environment and quake relief work, according to the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

<u>China revamps FDI rules, curbs non-eco-friendly projects</u> (The Economic Times, 4/15/2010) To attract more<u>foreign direct investment</u> (FDI), China today revamped its regulations to improve conditions for foreign companies while restricting funding for environmentally- unsound projects.

China shift to low-carbon model vital for future: UN (Reuters, 4/15/2010) China should step up its drive to a low-carbon growth model to maintain economic development and preserve achievements that have made it the world's third largest economy, a United Nations report says.

China vows to fight "World War" scale climate destruction (Bloomberg, 4/15/2010) China, the biggest producer of greenhouse gases, vowed to "vigorously" develop a cleaner economy by using energy more efficiently by investing in research and development projects to cut carbon emissions.

Obama says China can't 'wait' on climate change (AFP, 4/15/2010) US President Barack Obama on Thursday said China can't be allowed to wait until its standard of living improves before tackling climate change. Obama, speaking in an Australian TV interview, said China knew the dangers of global warming but appeared to lack urgency about dealing with the problem.

China's trade surplus expected to drop \$100 billion in 2010 (People's Daily, 4/15/2010) In 2010, China's trade surplus may dip another 100 billion U.S. dollars following a 34 percent decrease last year, said Yao Jian, spokesman of China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) Wednesday.

China adjusts policy but avoids rate increase to cool prices (WSJ, 4/15/2010) China on Thursday has again showed its preference for using administrative controls to manage its surging economy, raising down-payment requirements for certain home buyers after announcing that economic growth in the first quarter surged to 11.9% from a year earlier.

Japan, China differ on how to treat Copenhagen pact in future talks (The Mainichi Daily News, 4/13/2010) Japan and China remained apart Monday on how to treat a major climate accord brokered by global leaders during the last U.N. climate conference in December, especially over whether the accord should serve as a basis for a new global framework to combat climate change beyond 2012, a Japanese official said.

China plans to curb foreign investment in polluting sectors (Mother Nature Network, 4/13/2010) China said Tuesday it planned to curb foreign investment in polluting sectors and instead direct it into high technology and new energy.

<u>India to take leaf out of China grime drive</u> (Financial Times, 4/12/2010) India plans to launch a public database of the country's worst polluters, modelled on a list compiled by China last year, according to Jairam Ramesh, environment minister.

<u>Toxic chives poison nine in China: media</u> (AFP, 4/12/2010) Authorities in China have destroyed nearly two tonnes of pesticide-tainted chives after nine people were poisoned by eating food containing the toxic herb, state media said Monday.

India, China, Nepal come together for Mt Kailash (ET Bureau, 4/11/2010) With co-operation between India and China in environment related issues on the ascendant, the two countries, along with Nepal, are now participating in a transboundary project for conservation and sustainable development of the Greater Mount Kailash Region.

<u>France seeks China's green industry investment</u> (Xinhua, 4/9/2010) France is striving to invite more Chinese companies to invest in the country's green industry, a French investment official said here Friday.

China: low carbon sources to supply quarter of electricity by end of 2010 (Guardian, 4/9/2010) New government figures reveal the breakneck pace of China's renewable energy revolution, confirming growth in renewables is now outstripping expansion in coal power.

<u>Judge awards families \$2.6 million over Chinese drywall</u> (AP, 4/8/2010) A New Orleans federal judge on Thursday awarded seven Virginia families \$2.6 million in damages for homes ruined by sulfur-emitting drywall made in

China, a decision that could affect how lawsuits by thousands of other homeowners are settled.