



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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By CC Huang and Chris Langer

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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

[How to make coal 'clean\(er\)'](#) (Greenbang, 8/19/2010) What exactly does clean coal mean? We know that mining coal creates dust and releases methane gas. We know that burning it liberates CO₂ and emits particulates including SO₂ and NO_x. And we know that it creates wastes that are often stored in unsightly and potentially dangerous slag heaps and lagoons. When clean coal technology is discussed, it sometimes seems

that creating modern or “ultra super critical” coal-fired power stations is presented as the main or even the only answer. I argue for a more holistic approach.

[Targeting companies that pollute China's waters](#) (Forbes, 8/17/2010) As China's economic growth powers on, seemingly unabated, it's important to remember the consequences of such rapid development. One of its many side effects is a careless attitude toward the environment, and that's one thing that Ma Jun is trying to fix.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[China hatches first emperor penguin](#) (Xinhua, 8/19/2010) An emperor penguin couple hatched their first chick in an ocean park in northeast China, a long way from their previous home in the Antarctic. The hatching at Dalian's Laohutan Ocean Park in Liaoning Province was the first successful one in China.

China's rise and the life of seahorses (Technorati, 8/19/2010) China's rise as an economic powerhouse leaves a powerful impact to one form of life in the ocean: seahorses. As the standard of living improves for millions of Chinese, the number of people who can afford to buy what is considered to be a luxury – consuming dried seahorses as aphrodisiacs—significantly rises.

[Hong Kongers campaign against eating shark's fin](#) (AP, 8/18/2010) When Steven Leung and Sylvia Cheung celebrated their nuptials in this southern Chinese financial center recently, they

lavished their guests with one sumptuous dish after another — bird nest soup, lobster, abalone. One traditional dish, however, was missing from the 13-course Cantonese banquet. The newlyweds chose not to serve [shark fin soup](#).

CORPORATIONS

[China Everbright Bank launches zero-carbon credit card](#) (ChinaCSR, 3/5/2010) In cooperation with Beijing Environment Exchange, China Everbright Bank has formally launched a zero-carbon credit card.

[Rio Tinto asks how much metal China can consume](#) (Wall Street Journal, 8/19/2010) Rio Tinto PLC's chief executive, Tom Albanese, had some big thoughts on the future of China in his highest-profile appearance in Shanghai this year, at a dinner of the Melbourne Mining Club. But judging from his prepared remarks, Albanese chose his words very carefully in speaking about the role his company could play alongside its biggest — but not always happiest — customer.

[Alliance drives promotion of electric cars](#) (People's Daily, 8/19/2010) An alliance of sixteen of the largest State-owned companies wants to accelerate development of electric vehicles in China, a move which underscores the country's ambition to be a world leader in new energy vehicles.

[Coca-Cola on the Yangtze: A corporate campaign for clean water in China](#) (Knowledge@Wharton, 8/18/2010) The Yangtze River -- the longest river in Asia and the lifeblood of millions of Chinese -- was once said to be so clear you could see the bottom. Today, as China's massive economic growth takes its toll on the environment, it is at the top of the list of the 10 most-threatened rivers in the world, according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

[IFC equity investment in Muyuan Food Supports Chinese farming sector](#) (Media-NewsWire, 8/18/2010) IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is taking a \$10 million equity stake in Muyuan Foodstuff Company Limited, China's leading integrated hog-raising company, to help increase production capacity and elevate its food safety standards, while providing a more reliable source of income for nearly 50,000 farmers.

[With no climate bill in sight, investors turn to China](#) (Washington Independent, 8/17/2010) It turns out that an economy-wide cap on carbon emissions really is necessary to spur investment in what President Obama likes to call the "clean energy economy." At least for Deutsche Bank. Politico pointed today to an Aug. 11 Reuters story that says Deutsche Bank will funnel the \$6 billion to \$7 billion in investment money it puts aside for climate change not to the United States, but to Western Europe and, wait for it, China.

[“Straddling Bus” offered as traffic fix in China](#) (New York Times, 8/17/2010) What do you do if your roads are congested and polluted? Try designing a vehicle that takes up no road space. And make it partly solar powered.

[China coal: Confident coal output will reach 200 million tons in 2014](#) (Dow Jones, 8/17/2010) China Coal Energy Co. ([1898.HK](#)), the country's second-largest coal producer by revenue after Shenhua Energy Co., said Tuesday it is confident it will be able to raise its coal output to 200 million metric tons in 2014, from the 108.56 million tons it produced last year.

[China Clean Energy, Inc – Ruby in the rough](#) (The Motley Fool, 8/16/2010) China Clean Energy (OTC Bulletin Board: CCGY) through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Fujian Zhongde Technology Co., Ltd. and Fujian Zhongde Energy Co., Ltd, is engaged in the development, manufacturing, and distribution of biodiesel fuel and specialty chemical products made from renewable resources. Since its inception, the Company has been engaged in the manufacture of high-quality specialty chemical products from renewable resources. Through its research and development efforts, the Company developed a proprietary process for refining biodiesel fuel from waste grease and certain vegetable oils. Using this proprietary process, the Company began producing biodiesel in 2005 and commenced selling biodiesel commercially starting in December 2005. The Company is headquartered in Fuqing City in the Fujian Province of the People's Republic of China (“PRC”).

[China firework plant blast kills 13, injures 148](#) (AP, 8/16/2010) A massive explosion ripped through a fireworks factory in northeast China early Monday, killing at least 13 workers, damaging nearby buildings and causing secondary blasts. In another industrial accident Monday, an elevator plunged on a construction site, killing 11 workers riding in it.

[China dangles rare-earth resources to investors](#) (Wall Street Journal, 8/16/2010) China is cautiously using rare-earth resources as bait for foreign investment that could bring in sophisticated technologies that it needs. Industry and government officials have begun talking about a Chinese government plan to offer access to its rare-earth resources—which are used in products such as hybrid-car batteries and missiles and are under strict export restrictions—to get companies including electronics manufacturers and auto makers to set up rare-earth-processing plants in China.

[Tensions over Chinese mining in Peru](#) (New York Times, 8/14/2010) In its worldwide quest for commodities, [China](#) has scoured South America for everything from [Brazilian](#)

[soybeans](#) to Guyanese timber and [Venezuelan oil](#). But long before it made any of those forays, China put down stakes in this desolate mining town in [Peru](#)'s southern desert.

[2000 evacuated due to gas leak in China](#) (Times of India, 8/14/2010) Toxic gas leak from a chemical plant in China's [Zhejiang province](#) forced the evacuation of over 2,000 people late Friday, officials said. Around 7 p.m. Friday, thick fumes of thiocarbamide gas were detected from inside a warehouse at the [Hangzhou Hexiang Fine Chemical Co. Ltd.](#) in Xiangfu town, [Xinhua](#) reported Saturday citing local officials.

GOVERNMENT

[China to shut copper smelters violating environment](#) (Bloomberg, 8/19/2010) China, the biggest smelter of copper, may shut plants that violate environmental rules, as the government tightens regulations after a series of industrial accidents led to waste spilling into rivers and seas.

[Congo, China to sign forestry cooperation pact](#) (Afrique en ligne, 8/19/2010) Congo and China will soon sign a cooperation agreement in the area of forestry, an official source said Wednesday in Brazzaville.

[China honors quake relief organizations, individuals in Yushu](#) (Xinhua, 8/19/2010) A ceremony to honor relief and rescue workers and organizations who helped in the Yushu quake zone was held in northwest China's Qinghai Province Thursday. The event was jointly held by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, the State Council and the CPC Central Military Commission.

[Cement may pave Africa's road to the future, but will China undercut that too?](#) (Christian Science Monitor, 8/18/2010) Cement may lack the luster of diamonds or the geopolitics of oil, but it forms the foundation of what might be Africa's industrial big bang. Now China is moving in, undercutting African producers.

[China anti-tobacco efforts tailing, officials say](#) (AP, 8/18/2010) Efforts to curb tobacco use in the world's most populous nation have had no real impact and 301 million Chinese are still smoking, China's Center for Disease Control said in a report.

[China to spend \\$3B on alternative energy, trees](#) (Bloomberg, 8/18/2010) China plans to invest \$3 billion in the next 10 years to develop alternative energy fuels, combat desertification and prevent landslides. Wu Jian, a senior engineer with State Forestry Administration, said at a news conference on Wednesday that the trees will fight climate change by absorbing carbon and will produce material for bio-diesel and ethanol fuels by 2020.

[China: Helping poor matters more than economy rank](#) (AP, 8/17/2010) China's government said Tuesday it still is a developing country despite becoming the second-largest economy, reflecting its reluctance to take on new obligations on climate change and other issues.

[China floods increase pests, threaten crops, Ministry says](#) (Bloomberg, 8/17/2010) China's mid-season and late-season rice crops face increasing threats from pests after widespread floods this summer made conditions ideal for insects to breed, the Ministry of Agriculture said today.

[China province to cut power to 500 factories](#) (AFP, 8/16/2010) Authorities in eastern China have cut off electricity to more than 500 factories for a month after they failed to meet emission reduction targets, state media reported Monday. The news came after China warned more than 2,000 companies in high-polluting and energy-intensive industries to shut down outdated equipment or risk having bank loans frozen, approvals for new projects dry up, and their power turned off.

[China, IAEA to ink nuclear safety deal](#) (Xinhua, 8/16/2010) China and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are expected to sign an agreement on nuclear safety, as the UN nuclear watchdog's chief, Yukiya Amano, visits China.

[China approves 24 power plant, grid projects as demand climbs, NDRC says](#)

(Bloomberg, 8/16/2010) China, the world's largest energy user, approved 24 power projects last month to help meet rising energy demand in the country's less developed northern and western provinces. The government has approved grid projects in provinces including Qinghai, Tibet, Liaoning, Inner Mongolia and Shaanxi, according to a statement posted on the [website](#) of the National Development and Reform Commission today. The economic planner didn't give any investment values.

[China's fight against disposable chopsticks](#) (LA Times, 8/15/2010) China's Ministry of Commerce, together with five other ministries, issued this warning in June: "Companies making disposable chopsticks will face local government restrictions aimed at decreasing the use of the throwaway utensil.... Production, circulation and recycling of disposable chopsticks should be more strictly supervised."

[Chinese Health Ministry clears milk powder in latest scare](#) (New York Times, 8/15/2010) [China](#)'s health ministry announced Sunday that it had found no clinical evidence that milk powder had been responsible for apparent breast development in three infant girls in south-central China.

[China approves inter-city rail projects](#) (People's Daily, 8/14/2010) China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the top economic planning body, gave approval Friday to the building of a batch of inter-city rail transit networks spanning more than 2,000 kilometers in a bid to promote regional integration.