



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's (Professional Association for China's Environment) 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

[China's dams a threat to Cambodia](#) (Radio Australia, 9/10/2010) In Cambodia, where the damming of the Mekong River is being blamed for drought conditions in parts of the country, where irrigation water has dried up. There's also pressure on fish stocks, with

shortages leading to steadily rising prices. Warnings about the downstream impact of dams, particularly those built by China, have been growing and now there are calls for ASEAN a body frequently criticised for IN-action to take a stand. The issue was aired as part of two days of talks in the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh, organised by the Melbourne University-based Asialink which was also an opportunity to assess Cambodia's overall progress.

[So, what did happen after the Chinese oil-spill?](#) (Oil Price, 9/9/2010) On the 16th of July, China experienced its first major oil-spill. The Chinese incident was also caused by an explosion (this time during the transfer of oil from a tanker to a reserve owned by the China National Petroleum Corp), but is nothing like the size of the BP spillage in the Gulf of Mexico. The amount of public information released in any level of detail has so far been scant, but in this month's Chemistry World, the British Royal Society of Chemistry has published an article which provides some update of the state of play in the aftermath of the event.

[Their own worst enemy](#) (China Dialogue, 9/7/2010) Zijin Mining's environmental disasters have overshadowed the firm's meteoric rise. Li Taige wonders when polluting companies – and the officials who protect them – will realise the value of proper supervision.

[China may cap-and-trade before US](#) (China Dialogue, 9/6/2010) While the US Senate has backed off on climate legislation, China is considering launching emissions-trading programmes within five years, write Alexander Ochs and Haibing Ma.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGO' S

[Shortage of farms and water threatens grain output targets](#) (Xinhua, 8/27/2010) The growing shortage of farmland and water resources may prevent China from achieving its ambitious grain output targets in the next decade, warned both officials and experts.

[China's nature reserves club together to protect endangered Tibetan antelopes](#) (Xinhua, 9/9/2010) Four leading nature reserves in western China have vowed to work together to protect Tibetan antelopes, an endangered species on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

[China to have 200 million vehicles by 2020](#) (AFP, 9/9/2010) The number of vehicles on China's roads will more than double to at least 200 million by 2020, a top official was quoted Monday as saying, further straining the nation's environment and energy supply.

[Gates, Buffet to sell giving to China's richest](#) (AP, 9/8/2010) Microsoft Corp. co-founder Bill Gates and billionaire investor Warren Buffett plan to sell the art of giving to China's super rich in a visit later this month that's already sparked some soul searching among the world's second-largest number of billionaires.

[Record Hong Kong air pollution sparks protest](#) (Reuters, 9/8/2010) Roadside air pollution in Hong Kong hit record highs in the first six months of the year, hurting public health and economic competitiveness compared with Asian rivals, activists and lawmakers said Tuesday.

[Environmental pollution sparks protest, then crackdown, in Zhejiang](#) (The Epoch Times, 9/7/2010) Beginning in late July, villagers-cum-environmental activists have been protesting against chemical companies in eastern China, whose pollution has badly damaged their living conditions. Local authorities in Zhejiang Province deployed armed police in response on Sept. 1.

[Serious pollution ails 20% of Chinese cities, auto exhaust main source](#) (People's Daily, 9/6/2010) About one-fifth of cities in China have serious air pollution, air quality of one-third of 113 key cities does not reach the national secondary standard and vehicle emissions have become the main source of air pollution, said Liu Zhiquan, Deputy Director General of Department of Science, Technology and Standards, Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China.

CORPORATIONS

[Ernst and Young: China now offers better investment environment for renewable than the USA](#) (Industrial Fuels and Power, 9/9/2010) According to a quarterly index

maintained by the global accounting firm, Ernst & Young, China has overtaken the USA as the most attractive country in the world for investing in wind and solar power projects. The two countries had shared joint place in the first quarter, but the failure of the US congress to pass legislation that would have required American utilities to generate a percentage of their power from renewable sources, has reduced the USA's appeal.

[Steelworkers union targets China on green-energy exports](#) (The Washington Post, 9/9/2010) The United Steelworkers union launched a broad challenge Thursday against what it alleges is illegal support for China's growing dominance in the renewable energy industry. The move targets China's practices in a sector that President Obama has said is central to U.S. economic renewal.

[Solar power station built with Chinese aid opens in Czech Republic](#) (Xinhua, 9/9/2010) The largest solar power station in the Czech Republic opened on Wednesday in the village of Veprek, some 20 kilometers north of Prague.

[China's August passenger-car sales growth accelerates](#) (Bloomberg, 9/9/2010) [China's passenger-car sales](#) to dealerships grew at a faster pace in August as dealers offered discounts to clear rising inventories. Wholesale deliveries of passenger cars rose 18.7 percent to 1.02 million units in August, compared with 13.6 percent growth in July, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said today in an e-mailed statement.

[Lack of charging stations bites](#) (China Daily, 9/8/2010) Electric vehicles may soon hit China's roads, but automakers are worried that slow development of charging stations will hinder sales of the new energy vehicles.

[Surfing China's Green IPO wave](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/7/2010) Propelled in part by the backing of powerful Beijing bureaucrats, green-themed Chinese companies are poised to reap billions of dollars from public offerings to new investors in coming months.

[Chevron acquires oil exploration rights in China](#) (CNBC, 9/7/2010) Chevron Corp.'s Chinese subsidiary has acquired rights to explore for oil on 8,100 square miles (20,980

square kilometers) in the South China Sea's Pearl River mouth basin, the oil company said Tuesday.

[NZ microbe to produce ethanol from Chinese pollution](#) (New Zealand Herald, 9/8/2010) A New Zealand biotech firm is set to use its patented microbe technology to convert the polluting byproducts of one of China's biggest coal producers into ethanol.

[China Ming Yang wind power files IPO for \\$400 million ADS](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/7/2010) China Ming Yang Wind Power Group Ltd. filed plans to hold an initial public offering of up to about \$400 million American depositary shares, with the wind turbine manufacturer planning to use the proceeds to expand production capacity and for research and development.

[34 rescued for China oil platform accident](#) (AP, 9/7/2010) Emergency teams with helicopters rescued 34 workers Wednesday from an oil drilling platform that was leaning dangerously in the East China Sea after a storm, and searched for two others still missing, officials said.

GOVERNMENT

[China to invest \\$13 billion in Mozambican industry, Energy, Noticias say](#) (Bloomberg, 8/27/2010) China will invest \$13 billion in Mozambique over the next five years to develop industrial, tourism, mining and energy projects, the Noticias reported, citing Planning and Development minister Aiuba Cuereneia.

[Beijing gets tough on targets for energy](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/10/2010) Some local governments in China are rationing power to factories, homes and hospitals—and even shutting down traffic lights—in a scramble to fall into line with Beijing's unyielding energy-efficiency targets that also underscores the challenges in finding apt and lasting measures.

[China orders power cuts for carbon cuts](#) (Radio Australia, 9/10/2010) China's efforts to reduce its air pollution usually attract praise - but now they are copping criticism from within China itself. Authorities are ordering power cuts and factory shut downs in an all out effort to meet a 20 per cent carbon reduction target by the end of the year. Steel mills are especially hard hit and prices are likely to rise. Households aren't being spared, and demand for Australia's iron ore and coal could also be affected.

[On clean energy, China skirts rules](#) (New York Times, 9/9/2010) Until very recently, Hunan Province was known mainly for lip-searing spicy food, smoggy cities and destitute pig farmers. Mao was born in a village on the outskirts of Changsha, the provincial capital here in south-central [China](#).

[China blacks out towns to meet energy goal](#) (AP, 9/9/2010) Chinese steel mills and mobile phone factories are being idled and thousands of homes in one area are doing without electricity as local governments order power cuts to meet energy-saving targets set by Beijing.

[MIIT: China's energy saving targets can be achieved by end of year](#) (Steel Orbis, 9/9/2010) On September 9, Xin Guobin, director of the operation supervision department of China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), stated that the country's energy saving and emission reduction targets for the current year can be achieved.

[China to boost surveillance of superbug that resists antibiotics](#) (CNN, 9/9/2010) China's capital will step up surveillance of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in response to a superbug that first emerged in South Asia and is spreading globally, state media said.

[China-US collaboration on clean energy research](#) (AFP, 9/9/2010) Chinese and US scientists will be collaborating on research into clean energy with millions of dollars in backing by the two nations, according to a US national laboratory.

[Tax on resources to be levied nationwide](#) (Global Times, 9/8/2010) China plans to take its resource tax nationwide by the end of this year after successfully pass-ing a test-run in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, the official *Economic Information* newspaper reported Tuesday.

[105 prosecuted for deadly coal mine accidents in China](#) (Xinhua, 9/8/2010) A total of 105 people will be prosecuted in relation to three deadly coal mine accidents in China in thepast 12 months, the State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS) announced here Wednesday.

[China hints at tighter regulation on gas sector](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/7/2010) China's push for cleaner fuels has kept urban gas distributors in a sweet spot, but an industry regulation being tested in the northern province of Hebei suggests they face a bumpy road ahead.

[China to import more Russian coal, lend \\$6 billion](#) (Bloomberg, 9/7/2010) China, the world's biggest coal consumer, agreed to increase imports of the commodity from Russia by two-thirds in return for a \$6 billion loan.

[China mulls coal limit](#) (Radio Free Asia, 9/7/2010) China's government is considering a radical change in energy policy that would cap coal production over the next five years. The proposal by a top energy official is likely to spark serious debate in a country that leads the world in coal production and has doubled its output since 2002.

[China should establish state mineral reserve system, group official says](#) (Bloomberg, 9/6/2010) China should establish a mineral resource reserve system comprised of state and company stockpiles to fuel the country's long-term economic growth, said an industry official today. "Mineral reserves should include both mineral resources and finished products," Xu Xu, president of the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals and Chemicals Importers and Exporters, said in a printed speech to be delivered at an industry conference in Beijing.

[China to join international cooperation for marine sustainable development](#) (Xinhua, 9/5/2010) Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang has pledged China would work with the international community to promote the sustainable growth of the oceans. Li made the remarks Friday when meeting with representatives to the 33rd Pacem in Maribus (Latin for Peace in the Oceans) Conference, which was held in Beijing Friday and Saturday.