



# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



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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](mailto: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

[Buffet, Gates check out China's gasmask future: William Pesek](#) (Bloomberg, 9/24/2010) China is turning more and more American, and not necessarily for the global good. No, China isn't importing democracy, freeing the Internet or unshackling the yuan. Its Americanization is accelerating in two other ways: pollution and a desire to create armies of [consumers](#) sooner rather than later.

[China's green economy will have to wait](#) (LA Times, 9/23/2010) Last week, I was stuck in a traffic jam in Zhongguancun, the high-technology zone in northwest Beijing that's supposed to be China's Silicon Valley. But right then, it looked more like the 405 on a

very bad day. The air was hot, thick and dark gray with smog. Six lanes of cars, trucks and buses were at a near-standstill in both directions. The driver predicted accurately that the nine-mile drive to downtown would take an hour. I found myself thinking: This is the new, green China I've been reading about?

[China's green laws are useless](#) (China Dialogue, 9/23/2010) Wang Jin is a Peking University professor and expert in environmental law. In a speech in August, he argued that legislation in China is failing to tackle pollution. This is a summary of his remarks.

[China: Energy superpower](#) (Asia Times, 9/21/2010) If you want to know which way the global wind is blowing (or the sun shining or the coal burning), watch China. That's the news for our energy future and for the future of great-power politics on planet Earth. Washington is already watching - with anxiety.

## PUBLIC SECTOR/NGO' S

[China's great green wall grows in climate fight](#) (Guardian, 9/23/2010) China is speeding ahead with its massive tree-planting project to combat climate change - but questions still remain over the great green wall's effectiveness.

[Growing green design in Beijing: A Conversation with Architect Li Hu](#) (Artinfo, 9/22/2010) Despite a seven-year career in New York City and claims that he is "more of a New Yorker than anything else," Chinese architect [Li Hu](#) chose to return to the fast-paced capital city of his home country, Beijing, in 2006 because of the unique cultural dimensions that he feels emanate from there. A graduate of Beijing's Tsinghua University and Rice University in Houston, Li firmly believes that architecture "has to work for the future" and the planning of contemporary cities should account for "spaces of joy," to which people can add their own influences and flavor.

[Packaging reflects changing tastes](#) (China Daily, 9/22/2010) For centuries, it was the quintessential symbol of China's Mid-Autumn Festival, but in recent years it has become a calling card of waste, extravagance and obsequiousness.

But this year - thanks to new packaging rules - the mooncake is returning to a more modest tradition and going green.

[China's urbanization may cost \\$300 billion per year, research report says](#) (Bloomberg, 9/22/2010) China's urbanization of 400 million migrant workers over the next two

decades will require 2 trillion yuan (\$300 billion) of investment a year, a research report quoted by [China News Service said](#).

[Typhoon Fanapi brings worst rains in a century to south China province](#) (Xinhua, 9/21/2010) Typhoon Fanapi, the 11th and strongest typhoon to hit China this year, has brought the heaviest rains in a century to the southern Guangdong Province, triggering landslides in some cities.

## CORPORATIONS

[Chinese consortium mulls \\$20 billion investment in Nigeria's infrastructure](#) (Business Day, 9/17/2010) The Commonwealth Business Council on Thursday disclosed that a consortium from China is perfecting plans to invest about \$20 billion on infrastructure development and capacity building in Nigeria.

[Evergreen Solar CEO bolts amid transition](#) (The Street, 9/24/2010) Evergreen Solar([ESLR](#)) is hoping to emerge from its transition to manufacturing in China as a viable solar company, and if so, it won't be with the CEO who has overseen the transition to China up until now. After the market close on Thursday, the embattled U.S. solar company announced that its [CEO](#), Rick Fedt, had resigned to take over a private company. Michael El-Hillow.

[China tops in world seafood consumption: report](#) (Calgary Herald, 9/24/2010) China is the largest consumer of seafood, but the environmental impact of countries like Japan and the United States is magnified by a taste for fish at the top of the food chain, according to a report released Wednesday.

[Despite labor unrest, plastics firms remain committed to China](#) (Plastics News, 9/24/2010) The rapidly rising wages in China and this summer's wave of wildcat labor strikes prompted a lot of questions about the future of manufacturing in China.

[China's green car plan would force automakers to surrender intellectual property](#) (Auto Guide, 9/23/2010) A controversial Chinese government plan that would force foreign automakers to surrender their electric vehicle technology in exchange for being able to sell vehicles in the world's largest auto-market is drawing the ire of automakers worldwide. China's Ministry of Industry and [Information Technology](#) is currently writing up a 10-year plan designed to transform the country into the "world's leader" in developing and building green vehicles, including hybrids and electric cars.

[China inked a trifecta of energy deals worth over \\$5 billion with Russia](#) (Business Insider, 9/22/2010) China and Russia are continuing their love in by signing yet another series of oil and energy agreements that bolster ties between the two countries state-backed companies. The biggest of the three deals is an oil production agreement between Rosneft, the Russian company, and the China National Petroleum Corp. to build a 13 million ton per year oil refinery, [according to China Daily](#).

[China rare earth mining taxing environment](#) (UPI, 9/22/2010) China's mining of rare earth minerals is taking a toll on the environment. In the town of Beitou in China's Jiangxi province, mining for rare earth minerals -- an extraction process that involves highly toxic chemicals -- began 20 years ago.

[Walmart, H&M pledge to help reduce Chinese textile pollution](#) (OnEarth, 9/22/2010) Two of the clothing industry's biggest names have joined an effort to clean up Chinese textile mills, which are infamous for spewing chemicals into rivers and streams while using massive amounts of water and energy.

[China Industrial Waste Management's Sewage Sludge Treatment Facility Voted 'Best Sewage Sludge Process Application of China'](#) (PR Newswire, 9/21/2010) China Industrial Waste Management, Inc. (OTC Bulletin Board: [CIWT](#)) ("China Industrial Waste Management" or the "Company"), a leading environmental services and solutions provider in China, today announced that its Dongtai Organic sewage sludge treatment facility in Dalian, Liaoning Province, which utilizes anaerobic fermentation to generate clean energy methane gas, was voted "Best Sewage Sludge Process Application of China" at the 2nd Water Specialist Conference which was held in Shanghai on August 31, 2010.

[China's nuclear sector faces shortage of specialists](#) (Reuters, 9/20/2010) China's rapidly expanding nuclear power industry is demanding more professionals than the country can produce, a potential threat to safety, senior government officials said on Monday.

[Jade from China's West surpasses gold in value](#) (New York Times, 9/20/2010) As long as anyone here can remember, the muddy river that flows through this oasis city in southern Xinjiang has yielded creamy white stones, their rough edges polished smooth by the waters that tumble down the mountains from Tibet.

[China trends expands LED energy-saving market with partners](#) (MarketWatch, 9/20/2010) As an energy-saving new light source, LED marks the beginning of the low carbon era. With the growing maturity of its applied technology, LED also obtained all-round advantages. It's believed the market value of global LED lighting market during the year will be close to US\$17.5 billion. China Trends Holdings Limited ("China Trends", Stock Code: [8171.HK](#)) announced earlier that, its subsidiary would cooperate with the subsidiaries of TCL Corporation ([000100.SZ](#)) and China Innovation Investment Limited ("China Innovation", Stock Code: [1217.HK](#)), to work on the sections of R&D, production,

sales and distribution of energy-saving LED products, achieving the mutual sharing on resources.

[China a beacon for foreign clean tech firms](#) (AFP, 9/19/2010) In a laboratory in northern China, technicians are breeding billions of micro-organisms in test tubes to create enzymes -- proteins that can turn [plant waste](#) into clean-burning biofuels.

## GOVERNMENT

[China makes waves over deep-sea energy sources](#) (The Australian, 9/25/2010) In the East China Sea, where a Chinese fishing trawler allegedly rammed two Japanese Coastguard vessels, lies the real reason for the row. One of the first actions Japan promised as the dispute escalated - the worst row since diplomatic relations began in 1972 - was to send drilling equipment to the area near the Senkaku or Diaoyu Islands. The Chinese already have drilling equipment in place and are sending more. The prize: gas trapped beneath the ocean floor.

[China seeks binding climate treaty by late 2011: report](#) (Reuters, 9/24/2010) China wants the world to seal a binding climate change treaty by late 2011, a Chinese negotiator said in a newspaper on Friday, blaming U.S. politics for impeding talks and making a deal on [global warming](#) impossible this year.

[Medvedev seeks to diversity China trade as energy exports rise](#) (Bloomberg, 9/24/2010) President Dmitry Medvedev travels to China next week in a bid to diversify trade even as Russia plans to boost oil and gas exports to its Asian neighbor. Medvedev, who took his first presidential trip outside the former Soviet Union to China in 2008, is returning for a three- day visit on Sept. 26 to push his agenda of Russia's modernization away from a "primitive" resource-based economy.

[China AIDS growth slows down: Health Ministry](#) (People's Daily, 9/23/2010) China's AIDS growth has slowed down to 5.8 percent in 2009, lower than the previous year, according to China's Health Ministry. Hao Yang, deputy director general of the Department of Disease Control and Prevention under the Health Ministry, said China had made great achievements in AIDS prevention and treatment since it signed the United Nations Millennium Declaration 10 years ago.

[China winning renewable energy race](#) (CNN, 9/23/2010) Five miles off the coast of Shanghai, the Chinese recently completed the country's first offshore wind farm. The project was completed before construction on the first American offshore wind farm has even begun.

[China bets on panda to take a bite out of land-use emissions](#) (and reduce poverty) (Eco-system Marketplace, 9/23/2010) China generates the lion's share of global offsets under the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), but it doesn't cap its own emissions. It does, however, have its own voluntary carbon standard – the “Panda Standard” – which was unveiled at last year's Climate-Change Conference in Copenhagen and is designed to drive domestic demand for forestry and poverty alleviation with a vehicle that is uniquely Chinese.

[China hold on metals worries Washington](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/23/2010) China's control of a key minerals market has U.S. military thinkers and policy makers alike worried about access to materials that are essential for 21st-century technology like smartphones—and smart bombs.

[Natural disaster “risk map” to help urban planning](#) (China Daily, 9/23/2010) Chinese authorities are drawing up a national natural disaster "risk map" in a bid to improve planning of urban construction projects in western China to avoid potential catastrophes. "We've started many natural disaster risk evaluation projects in China since August this year," Zou Ming, director of the disaster relief department of China's Civil Affairs Ministry, told Xinhua in an interview.

[Beijing embraces car-free day in traffic jams](#) (Xinhua, 9/22/2010) "I don't think you will see a traffic jam in Beijing-- as long as you get up at 3:00 a.m. in the morning to go to work," said a microblog post by netizen "Shawn125" at [sina.com.cn](http://sina.com.cn). This year's Mid-Autumn Festival falls on Sept. 22, which is also Car-Free Day, observed by over 110 cities around China.

[Green energy plan powers development of west China](#) (China Daily, 9/21/2010) Dunhuang, an ancient desert city famous for the Buddhist art in the Mogao Grottoes, will also soon be known for its thousands of photovoltaic panels soaking up the blistering sunshine.

[Chinese minister says carbon reduction plans on target](#) (Asia Pulse, 9/21/2010) China is beating its targets for reducing major air and water pollution for 2010, Environmental Protection Minister Zhou Shengxian said. On the back of that success, the country will include two more pollutants into its compulsory emission control program during the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011 - 15) period.

[China Guizhou orders aluminum smelters to cut output](#) (Reuters, 9/20/2010) Power-hungry smelters in Guizhou, one of China's major primary aluminium producing provinces, have been ordered to cut production, in efforts to help meet Beijing's target to reduce energy intensity, smelter officials said on Monday.

[More than 60,000 resettled for south-north water diversion project](#) (Xinhua, 9/20/2010)  
Some 60,886 residents in central China's Henan Province have been resettled to make way for the country's ambitious south-north water diversion project, the country's water diversion authority said Monday.