



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



www.pacechina.net

Issue 87, November 27th to December 3rd, 2010

By CC Huang and Chris Langer

Now in cooperation with
chinadialogue



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

[Why China invests in clean energy](#) (Americans for Energy Leadership, 12/02/2010) It is crucial to examine the underlying reasons for why the Chinese leadership has been largely more effective at making the necessary policies, along with how that compares to the US leadership.

[Air quality in Beijing is 'crazy bad,' but China still beats US in green investment](#) (Christian Science Monitor, 12/1/2010) The US Embassy in Beijing monitors air quality hourly and issues reports on BeijingAir Twitter feed. One Friday late last month, (Nov. 19) the air in Beijing was so polluted, so smoggy, that the tweet had no established term to describe it. So, it simply reported that the air was "crazy bad." I suspect we all pretty

much get the idea, but let me try to be a little more precise about what “crazy bad” means.

[Moving beyond the tired ‘economy vs. environment’ debate](#) (Reuters, 11/29/2010) The "economy vs. the environment" debate is as old as the environmental movement. Despite holding little explanatory power, the debate survives because the leaders in certain highly-polluting industries do not want to see their profits diminished by stricter regulation. They lack the creativity to think beyond 20th century technologies, and oppose environmental regulation with every means at their disposal.

[Taking action to meet its climate pledge – China enacts National Energy Efficiency DSM regulations to dramatically scale up investments in energy efficiency](#) (NRDC, 11/29/2010) As we begin a new round of international climate negotiations in Cancun, China has taken another potentially giant step towards meeting its climate pledge. On November 4, 2010, China’s central government enacted national energy efficiency regulations that will establish national utility demand-side management, or DSM programs.

[“China will be transparent”](#) (China Dialogue, 11/29/2010) Xie Zhenhua is China’s chief climate negotiator. As ministers prepare for two weeks of global warming talks, he tells Meng Si his team will take an open approach.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGO’S

[Pollution could make Hong Kong's brain drain run faster](#) (The National, 12/03/2010) The smog that can shroud the skyscrapers of Hong Kong may be doing more than just blocking out the sun. A survey just released indicates that as many as a quarter of the territory's residents would consider leaving because of the poor air quality.

[China ban keeps up to 100 billion bags from landfills](#) (AFP, 12/2/2010) As many as 100 billion plastic shopping bags have been kept out of landfills in China since authorities ordered supermarkets to stop giving them out for free, a packaging industry group official said.

[China's coal addiction](#) (Foreign Policy, 12/2/2010) As the U.N. climate summit continues in Cancún, the Guardian's environment correspondent, Jonathan Watts, looks at one problem not likely to improve soon -- the Middle Kingdom's ravenous appetite for cheap coal.

[Researchers to study effects of e-waste](#) (The News Record, 12/2/2010)

The environmental effects on people from electronic waste is the focus of a new study occurring in China but being led by the University of Cincinnati.

[Xi'an aims to be leader in green living](#) (Global Times, 12/2/2010) Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi Province, is set to be the host city of the Horticultural Expo in 2011, and residents in one neighborhood, Ziwei Urban Garden, voted on Wednesday for the best potted plants cultivated by the amateur gardeners in neighboring communities.

[Chinese and Israeli companies partner for advancement of solar windows](#)

(Reuters, 12/02/2010) China Sunergy (CSUN) and Pythagoras Solar, an Israeli provider of building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) products, announced the signing of an agreement to co-market and advance the development and scale manufacturing of BIPV products from 2010-2015 in China. Research firm NanoMarkets estimates that the BIPV market could increase more than 10-fold to \$8 billion by 2015. Pythagoras is an interesting company which is leading the way in creating solar energy producing windows and this partnership hopes to accelerate the adoption of this exciting technology.

[Hatching a cheap way to live in Beijing](#) (Xinhua, 12/02/2010) Dai Haifei, 24, a newly graduated architect, decided to make his own egg-style home after being unable to afford Beijing's sky-high rental prices. The two-meter high house with two wheels underneath is made from sack bags on the outside wall, bamboo splints on the inside and wood chippings and grass seeds in between. "The seeds will grow in the natural environment and it's cold-proof," Dai explained.

[Afforestation helps suppress sandstorms in North China](#) (Bernama, 12/1/2010) Efforts to improve the ecological environment such as tree planting have helped suppress the desertification at the source of China's sandstorms.

[California pollution: Made in China?](#) (Wall Street Journal, 12/1/2010)

Scientists have long known that pollution and dust from China travels over

the Pacific to the western United States. What they haven't been able to figure out is how much. Until now.

[Air pollution engulfs China's Shanghai after expo](#) (Reuters, 11/30/2010) A month after China's commercial hub of Shanghai finished its World Expo, with a theme of "better city, better life", the city is setting records for air pollution that some warn could scare off investors.

[‘A Billion Chinese’ describes environmental perils](#) (NPR, 11/29/2010) Thousands of environmental groups have sprung up in China, hoping to protect its land and wildlife from the ravages of economic development. "The past 30 years of breakneck economic growth have been a disaster for China's environment," says journalist Jonathan Watts.

CORPORATIONS

[Siemens first blade production plant in China starts operation](#) (Steel Guru, 12/03/2010) China Knowledge reported that Siemens AG, Europe largest engineering conglomerate established its first wind turbine fan blade manufacturing plant in China.

[China bullet trains double rail stocks as boom brings most tracks in the world](#) (Bloomberg, 12/3/2010) Zhu Yi used to nap on the five-hour train ride home to [Wuhan](#) from Zhuzhou in central China. Now that a fast rail line has cut the trip to an hour and 40 minutes, he can spend more time selling information-management systems.

[China's CNOOC Limited wins both ‘producer’ and ‘energy company of the year’ honors at Platts Global Energy Awards](#) (PRNewswire, 12/2/2010) CNOOC Limited, a leading Chinese oil and gas exploration and production company, took top international billing at tonight's [12th annual Platts Global Energy Awards](#), the industry's most recognized awards program, winning both the sought-after **Energy Company of the Year** honors and the **Energy Producer of the Year** award.

[China shares dip, but new energy issues outperform](#) (Reuters, 12/2/2010) China's key stock index dipped by mid-morning on Friday, weighed by

large cap issues, while speculative investors flocked into small cap new energy firms seen benefitting from sizable government spending.

[China hydro push my slow wind, solar growth – media](#) (Reuters, 12/1/2010)

China's wind and solar power sectors could see their expansion moderating in the coming five years as the government focuses on cheaper hydropower, Ouyang Changyu, deputy general secretary of the China Electricity Council was quoted as saying by local media.

[China's search for cleaner coal](#) (PRI The World, 12/01/2010) So what to do?

How can China use coal to reach for a better life for its people, but stop choking on its own growth. Part of the answer was on display at a recent Coal Industry Exhibition in Beijing.

[China Integrated Energy's Biodiesel Business: Cause for Concern](#) (Seeking

Alpha, 12/01/2010) All around the world, biodiesel is a challenging business with high capital costs, cyclical gross margins and returns on capital. There are limited barriers to entry as production processes to make biodiesel are well understood and can be accomplished by specialty chemical plants of all sizes.

[Britain's total global steel joins Chinese team at climate talks in Cancun](#)

(Bloomberg, 11/29/2010) The founder of a London-based metals brokerage joined a Chinese delegation traveling today to Cancun, Mexico, to discuss what the world's biggest emitter can do to fight climate change.

GOVERNMENT

[China turns negotiating tables on US in stalled climate talks](#) (Bloomberg,

12/3/2010) The U.S. pressed China to do more at climate-change talks in Copenhagen last year. Now, as the U.S. falls short of its own goals, China may have gained more credibility in renewed negotiations by moving to clean up its energy industry.

[Chinese vice premier stresses ocean resources development, protection](#) (Xinhua, 12/03/2010) Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang Thursday called for more efforts to tap ocean resources and protect the ocean's environment.

[China to map a switch to efficient lighting](#) (China Daily, 12/02/2010) China will soon release a plan for switching to energy-saving lighting, hopefully by the end of this year, according to a Chinese lighting expert attending the Cancun climate talks Thursday.

[China, US face arduous works ahead to cut gas emission](#) (People's Daily, 12/02/2010) China and the United States face "arduous works ahead" in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, a leading Chinese energy expert said.

[China promises new support to solar development](#) (NPR, 12/2/2010) Beijing is promising new subsidies to develop China's solar power industry — policies already under fire from the United States as a possible trade violation. The Finance Ministry announcement late Thursday came amid global talks in Cancun, Mexico, on controlling output of gases blamed for changing the climate. China and the United States are the world's biggest greenhouse gas emitters.

[China says 2010 pollution goal met](#) (AFP, 12/2/2010) China has met its 2010 target to cut emissions of key pollutants and is on track to meet its energy efficiency goal, state media on Wednesday quoted the country's top climate change official as saying.

[US: China rise a "Sputnik moment" for clean energy](#) (AFP, 11/30/2010) A senior US official called China's growing innovation a "Sputnik moment" that should spur the United States to ramp up investment in clean energy, despite a shift in Washington on climate change.