

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. 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

The US Military and China as Environmental Soul Mates (The Globalist, 1/18/2011) An unlikely bond could form between the United States and China, writes Nora Maccoby. She explores how the U.S. Department of Defense and many of China's top political leaders are paving the way for a new economic model based on increasing the use of clean technologies and moving away from fossil fuels.

Room for Debate: Can the US compete with China on green tech? (New York Times, 1/18/2011) What are the obstacles for American companies trying to win global markets in clean energy industries?

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

Chinese environmental groups slam Apple (PCMag, 1/20/2011) A coalition of Chinese environmental groups has ranked Apple as the worst multinational offender of occupational safety regulations, putting a damper on Apple's stellar performance in China as reported on Tuesday. Today the Institute of Environmental and Public Affairs, a Beijing-based environmental NGO, released a damning 26-page report called "The Other Side of Apple" (in Chinese) which documents cases when Apple's mainland

suppliers violated environmental and health protections. While calling out 29 multinational companies, like HP, BP, and Toshiba, Apple is allegedly the worst of the batch.

<u>City dwellers are greener</u> (Discovery News, 1/18/2011) People who live in the biggest cities are most likely to recycle, volunteer for environmental organizations and participate in other "green" behaviors, found a new study, which surveyed urban dwellers in a variety of Chinese cities. The study didn't consider whether city size also affects green living tendencies in other countries. But the choices people make in China are likely to have environmental consequences throughout the world in years to come, said lead researcher Jianguo "Jack" Liu, a sustainability scientist at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

<u>Last refuge of rare fish threatened by Yangtze dam plans</u> (The Guardian, 1/18/2011) The last refuge for many of China's rarest and most economically important wild fish has mere days to secure public support before it is trimmed, dammed and ruinously diminished, conservationists warned today. The alarm was raised after the authorities in Chongqing quietly moved to redraw the boundaries of a crucial freshwater reserve on the Yangtze, which was supposed to have been the bottom line for nature conservation in one of the world's most important centres of biodiversity.

CORPORATIONS

<u>Clean energy firm considers waste heat</u> (The National, 1/21/2011) Masdar Capital, the investment arm of Abu Dhabi's clean-energy company, is eyeing its first investments in waste-heat projects. Until now, its investments have been in renewable electricity production, such as wind or solar energy companies.

<u>China Resources Power to spend \$970 million a year on wind farms</u> (Bloomberg, 1/20/2011) China Resources Power Holdings Co., the Hong Kong-listed mainland electricity producer, said it may spend 4.8 billion to 6.4 billion yuan (\$970 million) adding 800 megawatts of wind power capacity every year.

China Huaneng, Peabody and Calera Agree to Pursue Development of Low-carbon Emissions Clean Coal Project in Inner Mongolia (PRNewswire, 1/20/2011) China Huaneng Group, Peabody Energy and Calera Corp. today agreed to pursue development of a green coal energy campus in the Xilinguole Region of Inner Mongolia. The energy project would include a 1,200 megawatt supercritical power plant that would capture a portion of carbon dioxide (CO2) and convert it into green building materials, advancing carbon capture technology.

<u>GE inks China energy deals</u> (Global Atlanta, 1/20/2011) General Electric Co. signed two major Chinese energy deals on Jan. 18, a day before the country's president, Hu Jintao, arrived on a state visit to the U.S.

<u>China's power generation has slowest gain in 17 months</u> (Business Week, 1/19/2011) China's electricity output grew in December at the slowest pace in 17 months after government efforts to meet energy-saving targets at the end of last year reduced the country's manufacturing growth.

Environmental groups cheer, labor groups pan U.S.-Chinese energy sector commercial agreements (The Daily Caller, 1/19/2011) Several American and Chinese companies in the renewable energy field are expected to sign commercial agreements in the coming days during Chinese President Hu Jintau's state visit, a U.S. official confirmed last week. But while that prospect has some environmental groups cheering, labor critics worry negotiating business deals with the communist-controlled country will hurt the U.S. economy.

11 China Smart Grid trends to watch for in 2011 (TMCnet, 1/19/2011) According to Bloomberg New Energy Finance, research and development spending on clean energy technologies by companies and governments in China grew to a record level in 2010, up 30 percent from 2009. Simultaneously, electricity demand, particularly from the developing world, has exploded to unprecedented levels. Smart grids will play a pivotal role in incorporating renewable energy into the world's energy mix and helping to manage electricity demand from residents and industry.

<u>China projects to help modernize US power plants</u> (Reuters, 1/19/2011) Foreign partnerships in China's rapidly growing energy sector could eventually help the United States replace its own aging power infrastructure with efficient low-carbon plants, energy firms said on Wednesday.

Alcoa, China power agree to work on \$7.5 billion of clean-energy projects (Bloomberg, 1/18/2011) Alcoa Inc., the biggest U.S. aluminum producer, agreed with China Power Investment Corp. to work on \$7.5 billion of clean-energy and smelting projects, as China seeks to cut pollution and energy costs.7.5 billion of clean energy projects (Bloomberg, 1/18/2011)

China's thirst for oil at all-time high (Wall Street Journal, 1/18/2011) China's oil demand broke through the 10 million-barrel-a-day level in November for the first time, although expected lower gasoil consumption will likely slow the pace of consumption growth early this year, the International Energy Agency said Tuesday.

Clean technology in China – a difficult balance between cooperation and competition (New York Times, 1/17/2011) Executives of ECOtality Inc. believed in 2009 that their battery charging technology would be a winner when plug-in electric vehicles began to hit the market this year. But with debts running far ahead of revenue, the San Francisco firm needed immediate financial support to stay in the game.

Solar panel maker moves work to China (New York Times, 1/14/2011) Aided

by at least \$43 million in assistance from the government of Massachusetts and an innovative solar energy technology, Evergreen Solar emerged in the last three years as the third-largest maker of solar panels in the United States.

Market report: Developing desalination in China (Water World, 1/14/2011) A seismic increase in urbanisation and economic growth across China has led to more than half the cities facing water scarcity issues. Previously associated with industrial projects, could desalination technologies play a larger role in delivering water to municipalities? Jennie Peng provides insight from a recent report: Global opportunities in the Chinese desalination market.

GOVERNMENT

Recharging posts for electric cars put into use in China's island province (Xinhua, 1/21/2011) The first group of four recharging posts for electric vehicles were installed and made operational on Thursday in south China's island Hainan Province as part of the central government's promotion throughout the nation of new energy vehicles.

<u>China aiming to more than double natural gas use, securities new reports</u> (Bloomberg, 1/20/2011) China has set a "preliminary" target of more than doubling the consumption of natural gas in the country to 260 billion cubic meters by 2015, the Shanghai Securities News reported today

<u>Low-key Liu takes helm as China's energy tsar</u> (Reuters, 1/20/2011) The world's biggest energy consumer has a fresh pair of hands on the steering wheel, but he is no household name. Described by China's media as "low-ley and prudent", Liu Tienan has been thrust into spotlight by being named as the country's new energy tsar, heading the National Energy Administration (NEA).

<u>US, China compare clean tech, environmental concerns at the White House</u> (Tech Crunch, 1/19/2011) Today, President Barack Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao revealed, at a press conference in Washington D.C., conclusions from their latest round of meetings that have taken place this week at the White House. The two world leaders have met eight times since Obama took office.

China sets new pollution controls (The Guardian, 1/14/2011) China took a step towards a smog-free future today with the announcement of a wide new set of pollution controls. For the first time, the Ministry of Environmental Protection added ammonia nitrogen and nitrogen oxide to its list of reduction targets. As part of efforts to cut these emissions by 1.5% this year, the ministry said greater efforts will be made to cut vehicles' exhausts and to tackle the worst polluting industries, such as paper-making, textiles and chemical plants.