



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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

[Lessons from the Tiger](#) (China Dialogue, 1/28/2011) Rather than their cleaning up their own act in the Year of the Tiger, China's environmental authorities have tried to shift the burden onto the public, writes Tang Hao.

[In China, the true cost of Britain's clean, green wind power experiment](#) (Mail Online, 1/29/2011) This toxic lake poisons Chinese farmers, their children and their land. It is what's left behind after making the magnets for Britain's latest wind turbines... and, as a special Live investigation reveals, is merely one of a multitude of environmental sins committed in the name of our new green Jerusalem.

[Drying up the Han River](#) (China Dialogue, 2/1/2011) China's bold programme to divert water to its parched northern cities will come at a cost for the clear-running Han River and those who rely on its flow, says Wang Kunzuo.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[The rise of China's 2nd and 3rd tier cities](#) (CNBC, 2/4/2011) Though Shanghai and Beijing tend to grab the headlines, the future of the country is in its smaller cities, experts say. They are its heartland and the likely source of its most rapid growth over the next few years.

[China: the year in environment – in pictures](#) (Guardian, 2/3/2011) As the Chinese celebrate a new year of the rabbit, Asia environment correspondent Jonathan Watts looks back on some of the stories from the year of the tiger.

[Crops wither and prices rise in Chinese drought](#) (New York Times, 2/4/2011) A severe drought in northern China has badly damaged the winter wheat crop and left the ground very dry for the spring planting, fueling inflation and alarming China's leaders.

[For the freedom of rolling rivers](#) ([China.org.cn](#), 2/3/2011) Who is Wang Yongchen? A reporter with China National Radio, founder of Green Earth Volunteers, a fervent protector of the environment, and an inspiring environmental writer. Yet I would tend to describe her as an "environmental poet", as she has spent a lifetime making poetry – under the sky, across the land, between the rivers – with her camera, pen and recorder.

[For New Year, Chinese shell out big for tribes' supersize clams](#) (Wall Street Journal, 2/3/2011) Kyle Purser climbed out of the frigid waters of Puget Sound, peeled off his latex diving gear and quickly calculated what the day's shellfish catch would put in his wallet. "Oh, \$1,000, maybe \$2,000," said the 26-year-old, who is a member of the Suquamish tribe of Native Americans. "Not bad for 90 minutes' work."

CORPORATIONS

[Chinese, Libyans eye Ukraine agribusinesses-paper](#) (Reuters, 2/4/2011) Investors from China and Libya are interested in buying agribusinesses in Ukraine to secure food supplies, a newspaper quoted top Austrian investment bankers as saying.

[Coal foes play China card](#) (Wall Street Journal, 2/4/2011) A battle over a proposed coal export terminal on the Columbia River has taken on a global dimension, as opponents say local officials have to consider the potential environmental harm when the U.S. fuel is burned at its destination—in China.

[A setback for China's solar industry](#) (BusinessWeek, 2/3/2011) As the Chinese ramp up capacity, austerity-minded governments in Europe are scaling down their solar subsidies.

[China smart grid trends for 2011, Zpryme reports](#) (PR Urgent, 2/2/2011) Led by companies such as GE, IBM, Siemens, and Landis+Gyr Zpryme projects the total value of China's Smart Grid market to rise from \$22.3 billion in 2011 to \$61.4 billion in 2015, an annual growth rate of 29.1 percent over five years.

[China's big hydro wins permission for 21.3 GW dam in world heritage site](#) (Guardian, 2/1/2011) Hydroelectric power company Huadian will build a cascade of 13 dams in the spectacular 'Grand Canyon of the Orient'.

[China's solar focus could spell 10% upside to Suntech power](#) (Seeking Alpha, 2/1/2011) Suntech Power (STP) designs, develops, manufactures, and markets photovoltaic products and also provides engineering and construction service for building solar power systems. Competitors include FirstSolar (FSLR), SunPower (SPWR), and Yingli Green Energy Holding Com (YGE).

[Wind energy sector strong in China](#) (China Economic Review, 2/1/2011) China has become a leader in the use of wind power. Wind farm plants that occupy thousands of hectares of land are mushrooming. Wind turbines built with homegrown technology are also being exported.

[Panasonic deal shows Beijing's M&A clout](#) (Wall Street Journal, 1/1/2011) Panasonic Corp. said Tuesday it has agreed to sell a battery business to a Chinese company for about 500 million yen (\$6.1 million) to comply with a Chinese antitrust ruling, highlighting Beijing's growing influence over major global M&A deals.

GOVERNMENT

[China's coming green boom](#) (The Diplomat, 2/4/2011) Policymakers in China are thrashing out the details of the next five-year plan. Will it set the country on the path toward a green economy?

[Brunei open to joint oil exploration with China](#) (Asia One, 2/4/2011) An oil and gas exploration project between Brunei Darussalam and China is an option that the two countries may consider.

[Taming Shanghai's Sprawl](#) (Time, 2/3/2011) In the bitterly cold days before the Chinese New Year, bulldozers worked overtime on the site of last year's World Expo in Shanghai, tearing down all but five of the 54 giant pavilions that once cluttered the 1,305-acre (528 hectare) site on both banks of the Huangpu River that bisects the city. The demolition isn't an end but the beginning of a project far more ambitious than a mere World's Fair.

[Beijing celebrates Chinese new year with blue skies above – and ahead](#) (Guardian, 2/2/2011) Benign weather and government controls on coal burning and vehicle exhausts cut pollution to more than half the normal levels in January, raising hopes the worst of the haze may finally be drawing to an end.

[China and Brazil inundate Latin American with dams](#) (IPS News, 2/2/2011) The growing presence of Chinese and Brazilian capital in Latin America's energy sector is facilitating the construction of hydroelectric complexes, but is also the fuelling nationalist stances that are adding to the environmental criticisms of those major projects.

[China's water conservancy over past 6 decades](#) ([China.org.cn](#), 2/2/2011) China has pledged to improve its underdeveloped water conservancy works over the next five to 10 years, as floods and drought in recent years have exposed weaknesses in the country's water conservancy infrastructure.

[China takes lead in race for clean nuclear power](#) (Wired, 2/1/2011) China has officially announced it will launch a program to develop a thorium-fueled molten-salt nuclear reactor, taking a crucial step towards shifting to nuclear power as a primary energy source.

[China-Sudan bio-energy project launched](#) (China Economic Review, 2/1/2011) Sudan has launched a bio-energy project in partnership with China that will provide an alternative source of energy and improve the local environment.

[China plans to spend big on nuclear power, high-speed rail](#) (Reuters, 2/1/2011) Nuclear power and high speed rail will top the focus of China's plan to invest \$1.5 trillion in seven key industries and shift the world's number two economy away from its role as a supplier of cheap goods, sources said.

[China makes water a \\$12 billion priority](#) (Wall Street Journal, 1/30/2011) Chinese officials said water conservation will be their top agricultural priority this year and targeted up to \$12 billion for irrigation and related projects, while also acknowledging the country could have to import more farm goods over the long term.

[China's energy demand to rise at lower rate in 2011](#) (People's Daily, 1/30/2011) The National Energy Administration reported that China's energy demand would continue rise in 2011, but at a lower pace.