



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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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.

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OPINION

[China, U.S. should form strategic alliance in clean energy development: U.S. expert](#) (People's Daily, 2/25/2011) It is in both China and the U.S.'s best interest to collaborate and have strategic alliance in developing clean energy, said a U.S. expert on Thursday in Chicago.

[China must measure happiness](#) (China Dialogue, 2/24/2011) To sustain the benefits of China's rapid ascension, politicians should broaden their policy goals, writes leading economist Hu Angang, setting out his prescription for a national happiness index.

[Clean Energy Standard: How China Does Long-term Targets](#) (NRDC, 2/23/2011) While China does not have a clean energy standard in the same sense as President Obama's state of the union address, China has put in place many of the key elements. In this post, I will point out some similarities with what China's doing on long-term renewables and efficiency targets, and then highlight a crucial

element to the successful clean energy transition that is lacking in the CAP brief: strategic international cooperation.

[What US utilities can learn from China's smart grid expansion](#) (VentureBeat, 2/23/2011) China's state-owned State Grid Company of China signed a strategic cooperation agreement last month with General Electric to develop smart grid protocols in the country. The news was another step toward opening the world's second-largest consumer of electricity to cutting edge smart grid technology. The State Grid Company had previously set an aggressive target of building a robust smart grid in China by 2020 and plans to invest \$600 billion in developing its national smart grid over the next decade.

[Natural gas stockpiles crucial to energy security](#) (China Daily, 2/23/2011) China must devise an emergency natural-gas storage plan during the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011-2015) to prepare for the possibility of an abrupt shortage caused by natural disasters and unrest overseas, said a senior researcher at the country's energy think tank.

[Potty pigs could ease China's water woes](#) (Global Times, 2/21/2011) What's the most important news that you've read about recently? Events in the Arab world? China's unusual winter weather? The inflation rate? Well, for me it was a story with profound implications for the country and one that has the sweet smell of success written all over it: Pigs can be toilet trained!

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[Controversy over flammable noodles not warranted: food experts](#) (Global Times, 2/25/2011) Food experts said Thursday that noodles that ignite or burn when lighted with a match is perfectly normal and should not be a cause for concern to noodle lovers. Some local authorities launched safety campaigns after several media reports said all types of noodles, a popular staple food across the country, are packed with chemical food additives that make them flammable.

[China's weather forecasters reluctant to confirm rumours of rain](#) (Guardian, 2/23/2011) Word has it that China's weather forecasters expect rain in the next few days, but they are too skittish to make an official prediction. That is understandable, given the stakes. Gripped by its worst drought for 60 years, the world's biggest wheat producer is desperate for a downpour to avoid a crop failure that would have an impact on food prices around the world.

[China's hunger for grain](#) (MarketWatch, 2/23/2011)

Global food prices hardly need another reason to rise. But talk China may have to boost wheat imports again this year due to poor harvests has fueled volatility. Like other commodity markets, grains may have to get used to a hungry dragon.

[Choke Point: China -- Escalating Confrontation Between Water Scarcity and Energy Demand Has Global Implications](#) (Huffington Post, 2/22/2011) Water scarcity, rapid economic growth, and soaring energy demand are forming a tightening noose that could choke off China's modernization.

[Groups protest, seeking China's pullout from controversial Ethiopian dam](#) (Addis Ababa, 2/21/2011) International environmental groups, members of civil society and other concerned individuals on Sunday held a protest in Kenya to petition the Chinese government against financing the construction of Ethiopia's controversial mega-dam.

[Drought leaves 190,000 short of water in SW China county](#) (Xinhua, 2/21/2011) A four-month drought has left nearly 190,000 people short of drinking water in a county of southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, a local water conservancy official said Monday.

CORPORATIONS

[Leading Russian, Chinese Power Companies Form Joint Venture in Siberia](#) (Xinhua, 2/25/2011) Russia's largest independent power company "EuroSibEnergo" and the "China Yangtze International" (Hong Kong subsidiary company of the "China Yangtze Power") have signed an agreement to form a joint power venture in Russia's Siberia, the EuroSibEnergo announced on Thursday.

[China Guodian to partner with Taiwan's FPG](#) (CENS, 2/24/2011) China Guodian Group, one of China's five-largest state-run power-generation conglomerates, is seeking cooperation with Taiwan's Formosa Plastics Group to build gearboxes for wind turbines and carbon-fiber blades through Formosa Heavy Industries Corp.

[Shoddy solar water heaters threaten industry reputation: association leader](#) (People's Daily, 2/24/2011) Chinese quality supervision authorities must enforce compulsory standards for solar water heaters to prevent poor quality, counterfeit products undermining public confidence in the industry, said an industry association leader in Beijing Thursday.

[Grid shortcomings taking wind out of energy plan's sails](#) (China Daily, 2/24/2011) China, the world leader in wind power by installed capacity, is facing a growing problem with grid connection as more than half of the electricity its wind farms generate goes unused.

[China says net importer of diesel to build fuel inventories](#) (Bloomberg, 2/24/2011) China, the world's biggest energy consumer, bought more diesel from overseas than it exported for a second month in January as the nation built fuel inventories amid increased demand from drought-hit farmlands.

[Coal is China's largest industrial water consumer](#) (Grist, 2/24/2011) In 2010, China produced 3.15 billion metric tons of coal, according to government figures, most of it to produce electricity. Of the 962 GW of generating capacity in China, and the 4.19 trillion kilowatt hours of electricity that was produced last year, 80 percent was powered by coal.

[Infographic: China's wind energy sector is global leader](#) (Circle of Blue, 2/23/2011) Wind generating capacity in China has reached more than 42 GW—the most of any country.

[Cleaner than coal: Pitching Siberian power to China](#) (Wall Street Journal, 2/23/2011) United Co. Rusal has billed itself as a low-cost producer of aluminum because of its access to Siberian hydroelectricity. Now its parent company is making a similar sales pitch for selling that electricity across the border to China.

[Huaneng Power gets approval for 49.5 MW wind project in China](#) (Energy Business Review, 2/23/2011) Huaneng Power International has received approval for a 49.5MW wind energy project from Liaoning Provincial Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China.

[China's steel industry to focus on transportation and clean energy](#) (Global Times, 2/22/2011) China's iron and steel industry will sharpen its focus on transportation and clean-energy during the next National Twelfth Five-Year Plan period (2011-2015), announced the China Iron and Steel Association (CISA) on Monday, according to [cnstock.cn](#) on February 22.

[Workers sickened at Apple supplier in China](#) (New York Times, 2/22/2011) Last week, when Apple released its annual review of labor conditions at its global suppliers, one startling revelation stood out: 137 workers at a factory here had been seriously injured by a toxic chemical used in making the signature slick glass screens of the iPhone.

GOVERNMENT

[China ranks 21st on its own global innovation list](#) (Xinhua, 2/25/2011) China ranked 21st in terms of innovative abilities among the world's 40 most innovative countries, according to a report issued by the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development (CASTED) on Thursday.

[China plans to rein in heavy metal pollution](#) (Reuters, 2/22/2011) China's environmental protection agency has vowed to curb heavy metal pollution in a bid to cut widespread industrial contaminants like lead that have poisoned children and sparked protests.