

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.

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OPINION

<u>Climate Challenge Hinges On Fueling China With Clean, Cheap Energy</u> (Forbes, 3/3/2011) I've said it before and I'll say it again: when it comes to the global climate challenge, as goes China, so goes the world.

<u>Climate change challenge</u> (Xinhua, 3/3/2011) By Xie Zhenhua. Climate change is one of the issues of crucial importance to the interests of human beings and the national development of every country. It requires the collaborative efforts of all countries. Thanks to the joint efforts of all parties, the Cancun Agreements were adopted at Cancun, Mexico, in December last year. They are of significant importance to furthering mutual understanding and advancing the negotiating process.

<u>China needs higher targets</u> (China Dialogue, 3/3/2011) Yesterday on *chinadialogue*, Pan Jiahua said China should adopt only moderate energy targets in its 12th Five-Year Plan. Yang Fuqiang, Hou Yanli

and Li Jingjing disagree. Here, they urge the government to adopt more ambitious goals to help the country meet the challenges ahead.

Reining in China's energy targets (China Dialogue, 3/2/2011) As China's politicians prepare to launch the country's 12th Five-Year Plan, Pan Jiahua tells Liu Jianqiang why energy-intensity targets should be kept in check.

Green tech war would cripple ailing globe (Global Times, 3/2/2011) It has been decades since economic globalization began in earnest. Much of the US manufacturing sector, along with the pollution it caused, was long ago outsourced to China, making the nation both an economic powerhouse and the world's top carbon emitter.

<u>Can ICT deliver China's carbon mitigation goals?</u> (Guardian, 3/2/2011) The Chinese government has pledged to reduce carbon intensity by over 40% by 2020. Simon Zadek considers the role of ICT in achieving this target

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

<u>China's Undervalued Yuan Reason Behind Record Carbon Emissions, Study Says</u> (Bloomberg, 3/3/2011) China's undervalued yuan is subsidizing energy-intensive export industries that have led to record carbon dioxide emissions, negating the nation's conservation efforts, a study said.

Sustainable Management of Bamboo Forests Helps to Combat Climate Change (CRIENGLISH, 3/2/2011) The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), an intergovernmental organization based in Beijing, and China Green Carbon Foundation (CGCF) agreed on Wednesday to join hands on sustainable management of bamboo forests to combat climate change.

CORPORATIONS

<u>Leading Russian, Chinese Power Companies Form Joint Venture in Siberia</u> (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

<u>China Turns to Turkmenistan for Gas Amid Gazprom Pipeline Talks</u> (Bloomberg, 3/4/2011) China is turning to Turkmenistan for more gas as Russia's OAO Gazprom, the world's biggest producer, has yet to agree on prices and pipeline routes with Asia's fastest-growing market.

Zijin accused of violence, breaching environmental laws in Peru (China Economic Review, 3/4/2011) China's largest gold producer, Zijin Mining Group (2899.HK), has been accused of failing to disclose pollution problems, and of violence and deaths at its Peruvian copper mines, the South China Morning Post reported. Four environmental organizations - the Lima-based CooperAccion and Ecumenical Foundation for Peace and Development, as well as Friends of the Earth in the US and Belgium's Catapa - sent a letter to the Hong Kong stock exchange on Thursday, urging it to ensure Zijin discloses recent events.

More US companies eye China's domestic market: survey (Xinhua, 3/3/2011) More US businesses seek expansion in China to cash in on the expanding domestic market, rather than seeing China as only a processing and export hub, a survey showed Tuesday.

<u>Intelligent substation put into operation in Yan'an</u> (People's Daily, 3/2/2011) A 750-kilovolt intelligent substation was put into operation in Luochuan County in northwest China's Shaanxi province on March 1.

GOVERNMENT

<u>China to Cap Energy Use at 4 Bln Tonnes of Coal Equivalent by 2015</u> (Xinhua, 3/4/2011) China will cap its total energy consumption at 4 billion tonnes of coal equivalent by 2015, said Zhang Guobao, former head of the country's National Energy Administration, on Friday.

What does China's new five-year plan address? (BBC, 3/3/2011) China's latest five-year plan for 2011 to 2015 seeks to achieve a more balanced approach to growth and development, focusing attention on the environment, livelihoods and what officials call "administrative reforms".

Supportive Government Policies Fuel China's Renewable-Energy Boom (Wall Street Journal, 3/3/2011) Chinese government policies that support renewable-energy product manufacturing have helped Suntech Power Holdings Co. Ltd. (STP, K3ND.SG) grow to become the world's largest solar-panel maker, largely because the policies have driven the growth of companies that produce materials that Suntech uses in its products, Suntech's top executive said.

<u>East China city to spend 4.5 bln yuan tackling lake pollution</u> (People's Daily, 3/3/2011) East China's Wuxi city will spend at least 4.5 billion yuan (684 million U.S. dollars) this year tackling pollution in algae-plagued Taihu Lake, city environment authorities said Wednesday.

<u>Honeywell selected for China Smart Grid pilot</u> (Sustainable Buesiness, 3/3/2011) Honeywell (NYSE: HON) announced it was selected to develop and implement China's first smart grid pilot project and feasibility study for managing energy use in commercial buildings, also known as demand-side management.

Xinjiang spends heavily on wind power industry (People's Daily, 3/3/2011)

Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region plans to spend 20 billion yuan (\$3.04 billion) this year to boost its wind power industry, including the establishment of the region's largest production base for wind-power turbines in Hami.

China's energy challenge (Wall Street Journal, 3/2/2011) How to cut energy intensity by 16% to 17% over five years will be a hot topic at the National People's Congress starting this week, especially given that China has already taken the relatively easy step of shutting down many inefficient power plants and steel mills.

China caps emissions for rare earth producers (People's Daily, 3/2/2011) Beijing has set tougher regulations of environmental protection in guiding the rare earths sector, after years of wild development. Strident emission limits on rare earth mining and production have been meted out by the central government. The caps on about 15 pollutants will apply to all industry players including miners and smelters of rare earth alloys, the Ministry of Environmental Protection said Monday.

<u>China likely to launch first probe to explore Mars' surface in 2013: chief scientist</u> (Xinhua, 3/2/2011) China is likely to launch its first probe to explore the surface of Mars in 2013, a chief scientist said here Wednesday.

Why local Chinese officials ordered one town's residents to use more water (Christian Science Monitor, 3/1/2011) The town of Chibi has ordered residents to consume five tons of water per household per month in the middle of one of the worst droughts to hit China for decades.

<u>China issues warning on climate and growth</u> (New York Times, 2/28/2011) China's environment minister on Monday issued an unusually stark warning about the effects of unbridled development on the country's air, water and soil, saying the nation's current path could stifle long-term economic growth and feed social instability.

China's new five year plan and solar power (Forbes, 2/28/2011) It is official: China is now the world's largest consumer of energy, surpassing the US in 2009, according to the International Energy Agency. According to internal statistics, Chinese energy consumption was up another 5.9% in 2010 and while the PRC has made strides in energy efficiency, China consumed 5.3% more coal, 12.9% more crude oil and 18.2% more natural gas than in 2009.