



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's Energy Consumption Cap and America's Gridlocked Democracy](#) (Americans for Energy Leadership, 3/10/2011) With the most recent announcement that China is committed to peaking its total energy use by 2015, in addition to its energy and emissions intensity reduction goals, China's ability to swallow the bitter pill of aggressive environmental policy seems unprecedented. Skeptics may ask, "But is it enough?" The answer from the Chinese perspective is that it's much more than the world's largest democracies are currently willing to do.

[Tax debate obscuring green opportunities in China](#) (Radio Australia, 3/10/2011) An Australian-born executive in Beijing says Australia is missing out on green energy opportunities in China because it is too narrowly focused on a carbon tax.

[China's coal reserves 'will make it new Middle East', says energy chief](#) (Guardian, 3/8/2011) Vast reserves of coal in the far west of China mean it is set to become the "new Middle East", a leading figure in the global coal industry has claimed. Fred Palmer, the chairman of the London-based World Coal Association and a key executive at Peabody Energy, the world's largest privately owned coal company,

also said that China is leading the US in efforts to develop technology to "clean" coal of its carbon emissions by burying them underground.

[China's Big Dam Problem](#) (Foreign Policy, 3/8/2011) Chinese rulers have always tried to control their country's massive rivers. But will they be overwhelmed by the environmental backlash?

[Is it racist to ban shark fin's soup?](#) (Salon, 3/7/2011) All three West Coast states may eliminate the Chinese delicacy, but is it pro-environment, or anti-Asian?

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[In China, to get rich is not always glorious](#) (Guardian, 3/10/2011) Two years ago a book called Unhappy China became a bestseller in the People's Republic. It was a collective effort by a group of nationalists who complained that their government was giving in to western bullying. It carried an unpleasant political message, but it did raise the question of why – given that China had prospered for 30 years and its people were better off than they had been for 50 years – should unhappiness be an issue at all.

CORPORATIONS

[China's new brew](#) (Asia Times, 3/11/2011) Since its introduction in the late 19th century, all the coffee in China hasn't amounted to a hill of beans. The Middle Kingdom has long been a land of tea, and love of the leaf runs deep. Now, however, with white collar Chinese looking for a taste of Western life, change is brewing. From the arabica plantations of Yunnan to the proliferating coffee shops of the big cities, China's cappuccino craze has an ever-growing number of companies frothing at the mouth.

[BYD to inaugurate electric buses in Denmark](#) (Xinhua, 3/11/2011) China's electric vehicle maker BYD Automobile Co Ltd is set to trial a full-size, all-electric bus in the Danish capital Copenhagen, according to a news release issued by Denmark's biggest public transport operator Movia and Denmark's Ministry of Foreign affairs Thursday.

[Africa Gets \\$35 Billion Railways Led by China: Freight Markets](#) (Business Week, 3/10/2011) Record commodity prices are driving Africa's biggest railway boom since the 19th century as the world's largest untapped mineral reserves prompt miners from Brazil to China to ignore a history of war and economic chaos.

[China cleaning up 'jeans capital'](#) (UPI, 3/10/2011) China's southern industrial town Xintang, known as the "jeans capital of the world," is making progress in tackling pollution, state-run news agency Xinhua reports.

[Driptech makes a splash as China invests \\$600 billion in water conservation](#) (Fast Company, 3/10/2011) China is getting ready to invest over \$600 billion in the next 10 years in water conservation, as announced in its latest five-year plan. Why? Because water inefficiency and drought plague the nation. And that's exactly why a small, but growing, for-profit social enterprise, Driptech, is aggressively expanding in China.

[China hunts for uranium](#) (Wall Street Journal, 3/9/2011) A Chinese nuclear-power company is moving to acquire a stake in a big Namibian uranium deposit, and Beijing said Tuesday that China is poised to overtake the U.S. as the world's top user of the nuclear-power fuel.

[Suntech 4Q Net Soars On Equity Investments, Higher Shipments](#) (Wall Street Journal, 3/8/2011) China-based Suntech has grown to become the world's largest solar-panel maker, largely because of government policies that provide tax breaks and other benefits to renewal-energy companies. Those perks allow Suntech and its Chinese peers to quickly expand production and marketing of low-price, high-quality products. Meanwhile, Suntech has moved to diversify its sales by launching solar projects across Europe, the Americas and Asia Pacific.

[Special report: Warrn Buffet's China car deal could backfire](#) (Reuters, 3/9/2011) An ordinary American investor would probably not put money into a foreign electric car start-up suspected of openly copying competitors, let alone one whose franchised dealers occasionally put other companies' logos on its own vehicles.

[Daqo quarterly profit jumps, tops Wall Street view](#) (Reuters, 3/7/2011) Daqo New Energy Corp (DQ.N), a China-based maker of polysilicon, posted higher-than-expected fourth-quarter earnings, lifting the recently listed company's shares more than 5 percent.

GOVERNMENT

[China to build 60 nuclear reactors over the next decade](#) (The Asahi Shimbun, 3/11/2011) China plans to build six nuclear power plants a year over the next decade, increasing its nuclear power capacity to more than 70 gigawatts by 2020, according to a top official of a nuclear power company.

[For China, Energy a Dual Security Threat](#) (Wall Street Journal, 3/11/2011) China laid out ambitious goals for slashing energy consumption and easing its environmental woes on Saturday, signaling that the government is taking note of national-security risks that come with the nation's voracious appetite for natural resources.

[Soil pollution poisons more than farmland](#) (People's Daily, 3/10/2011) Soil pollution is spreading, and how to tackle it has been given priority status at the ongoing annual sessions of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

[Hunan to tackle metal invasion in Xiangjiang River](#) (China Daily, 3/9/2011) Top government officials in Central China's Hunan province vowed to tackle the heavy metal pollution that has caused environmental deterioration and mounting health problems in Hunan.

[China's Control Measures on Heavy Metal Pollution to Boost High-tech Enterprises](#) (China Briefing, 3/9/2011) Although happy to see its rapid economic growth, China is growing increasingly concerned over the heavy pollution it is generating at the same time. A recently released document that calls for stronger quality control in the exploitation and smelting of heavy metals is a sign that China is paying more attention to encouraging an environmentally-friendly economic development model.

[China resumes dam projects to dismay of environmentalists](#) (USA Today, 3/09/2011) Breaking a seven-year moratorium, Chinese officials plan to dam the nation's last free-flowing river in a remote canyon that

is home to almost as many species of plants as in the whole of the USA and shrink a fish refuge on the Yangtze River to make room for another dam.

[Pollution blocking water path](#) (China Daily, 3/9/2011) Lingering pollution problems in East China's sprawling cities and counties have stretched the budget for the eastern route of the country's South-to-North Water Diversion Project and added to the difficulties inherent in maintaining the quality of drinking water in the north, a senior official has said.

[China accelerates energy efficiency goal](#) (Environmental Leader, 3/8/2011) Chinese premier Wen Jiabao has pledged that the country will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by 17 percent over the next five years.

[Rare earths to be more tightly controlled](#) (People's Daily, 3/8/2011) China will more tightly control the exploration for rare-earth minerals and unify the distribution of precious metals in North China to regulate the previously over-exploited sector, government officials said on Monday.

[China ready to quell disquiet over new environmental policies](#) (Guardian, 3/07/2011) China has announced plans to tighten environmental controls and ramp up internal security spending. Though no link was made between these two developments, the government may be anticipating one.

[China may expand two-child policy to rural areas](#) (People's Daily, 3/07/2011) Based on the research of experts, family planning departments are currently considering lifting restrictions limiting the two-child policy to rural and minority areas, a CPPCC member said on March 6.

[China to launch energy cap-and-trade trials in green push](#) (Reuters, 3/5/2011) China is planning trial efforts for an energy cap-and-trade scheme, applying market forces to its goals to reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas pollution, the government said on Saturday.