

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.

OPINION

Building trust in food (China Dialogue, 4/4/2011) Community supported agriculture projects may have started to help address Chinese consumers' fears about food safety, writes H Frederick Gale.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

Contaminated water has little impact on China (Xinhua, 4/7/2011) The Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant has been releasing water containing low levels of radiation into the sea since Monday, in a bid to stabilize the facility.

The move has cause new concerns of pollution reaching neighboring countries. Our reporter Xue Jingmeng spoke to a researcher at the national marine environmental forecasting center, who explained the threat to the Chinese coast.

China to learn kitchen garbage, tire recycling tricks from Japan (Xinhua, 4/7/2011) Four Chinese cities, including Qingdao, Guiyang, Xining, and Jiaxing, are planning to test an urban-waste recycling program with the help of Japan over the next four years.

<u>In Shanxi, lasting pain</u> (China Dialogue, 4/6/2011) A fatal radiation incident 19 years ago still casts a shadow over the lives of a mother and daughter in north China, reports Cui Zheng in the first instalment of a two-part article.

<u>Protestors block power plant</u> (Radio Free Asia, 4/5/2011) Protesters have prevented the launching of a waste incineration power plant in the eastern Chinese province of Zhejiang, citing land and environment problems.

<u>China's tainted rice trail</u> (China Dialogue, 4/1/2011) One tenth of China's rice yield may carry harmful levels of cadmium, say researchers. In the first section of a three-part article, Gong Jing reports on heavy metals in the food chain.

CORPORATIONS

As Sudan oil map changes, India works alongside China (Business Standard, 4/8/2011) Africa's oil map is on the verge of dramatic transformation with the emergence of the breakaway Republic of South Sudan as the world's newest nation on July 9, but India's ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) seems to have successfully managed the geostrategic transition in surprising cooperation with its chief rival, the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC).

3M to make solar energy products in China (Star Tribune, 4/7/2011) 3M Co. plans to build a plant in central China that will manufacture solar energy products, a move that expands the company's presence in the renewable energy market as well as its footprint.

<u>Tianjin Eco-city: The Future in Sustainable Urban Planning</u> (Green Chip Stocks, 4/7/2011) China and Singapore are collaborating in the design and building of a practical, scalable, and easily-replicated eco-city that takes on

environmental protection, sustainable development, and resource and energy conservation.

China's Three Gorges Corp ready to invest \$15 bln in Pakistan energy sector (Reuters, 4/7/2011) The China Three Gorges Corp, China's largest hydropower developer, is ready to invest \$15 billion in Pakistan's troubled energy sector, which will add 10,000 MW to its grid in 10 years, a senior company official said on Thursday.

<u>U.S. wins when China invests in green</u> (CNN, 4/6/2011) The United States wins when China invests in renewable energy. That was the message from Matthew Kahn, an economics professor at UCLA, speaking Wednesday at Fortune's Brainstorm Green conference.

Global wind power grows 24 percent on China boost (Reuters, 4/6/2011) Global wind power capacity grew 24 percent to 197 gigawatts in 2010, due to revised figures for new installed capacity in China, the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) said on Wednesday.

BYD Co's March China Car Sales 40,027 Units; Down 41% On Year (Wall Street Journal, 4/6/2011) Chinese battery and car maker BYD Co. (1211.HK) said Thursday its China car sales in March fell 41% from a year earlier, amid increasing competition and the cancellation of government incentives for auto purchases.

Water Pipeline Could Open China's Northern Coal Fields (Reuters, 4/6/2011) Sixty-year-old geographer Huo Youguang, a professor in the Center for Environment and Modern Agriculture Engineering at Xi'an Jiaotong University in Xhanxi Province, thinks he has a solution for China's geographic mismatch: drop a pipe into the Bohai Sea, draw more than 340,000 cubic meters (90 million gallons) of seawater a day into a complex of coastal desalination plants, and then pump it 1,400 meters uphill for more than 600 kilometers (nearly 400 miles) to Xilinhot, where it will be used for coal mining operations.

<u>China's Wuhan to explore for iron in Madagascar</u> (Reuters, 4/6/2011) Wuhan Iron & Steel Co (WISCO), China's third-largest steelmaker, plans to start exploratory drilling for iron ore in Madagascar's Soalala region at the end of May, officials said.

China 250 MW biomass venture aims to raise up to \$100 million (Reuters, 4/5/2011) A Chinese biomass power venture aims to raise up to \$100 million for a series of renewable energy power plants that could yield about 1.5 million U.N.-backed carbon offsets a year.

Latin moves in China's rush for oil (Financial Times, 4/5/2011) In a few weeks' time, two oil rigs off the coast of Brazil will move smoothly into production, pumping thousands of barrels of oil a day out of the Peregrino oilfield in the Campos basin. They would be unremarkable if it were not for the story that lies behind the field and its investors. Owned by Statoil of Norway, another investor in the project is Sinochem, a Chinese state—owned energy and trading group, which won a bid for 40 per cent of the field in one of the most hotly contested bidding rounds in the industry last year.

GOVERNMENT

China mulling tighter procedures to slow wind-power rush (Reuters, 4/8/2011) The Chinese government is considering stricter approval rules for wind power projects to cool heady growth in the sector, a Chinese newspaper said on Friday, following a report that the country had overtaken the United States in installed capacity.

China plans to take lead in new-energy vehicles (China Daily, 4/8/2011) China will launch a development plan in energy-saving and the new-energy vehicle industry to make the country a leader in the sector over the next 10 years, with government funding of 100 billion yuan (\$15.28 billion).

<u>China seeks alternatives to 9 million burials a year</u> (USA Today, 4/8/2011) China is running out of space for 9 million burials a year and is urging the bereaved to look east, to the ocean, for the final resting place. "Beijing will become just a city of tombs," says Zhang Hongchang, head of the official China Funeral Association.

China vows information transparency during environmental emergencies (Xinhua, 4/7/2011) A senior official with China's Ministry of Environmental Protection has promised to release information on environmental emergencies in an "accurate and timely manner" to address public concerns.

Western China embraces green-mode development with painful changes (Xinhua, 4/7/2011) It is crucial for western China to explore and practice its leap-forward development with a "green" mode, insiders cautioned at a forum on regional cooperation between China's west and east, which was launched Wednesday in Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi Province.

Radioactive cesium detected in more Chinese regions (Xinhua, 4/7/2011) Trace levels of radioactive isotope cesium-137 and -134 were detected in the air of at least 22 of the Chinese mainland's 31 provincial-level regions on Thursday, according to China's National Nuclear Emergency Coordination Committee.

China to Tax the Most Energy-Hungry of Industries (Reuters, 4/5/2011) China will impose tax on energy usage of eight industrial sectors which have the highest energy usage in the country. The eight sectors include iron & steel, aluminum and cement. The Chinese agencies have divided the industrial units into two categories, seemingly according to their energy usage and efficiency.