



# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

*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](mailto:cc.huang2@gmail.com).

## **OPINION**

[E-Bike and Micro Hybrids Driving Lead and Lithium Demand](#) (Metal Miner, 5/12/2011) There was a time (and I can remember it) when the streets of Shanghai at rush hour were a manic surge of bicycles either waiting at lights or streaming across junctions. Those have now gone, to be replaced by the roar of autos and the hum of electric bikes. Currently there are approximately 140 million e-bikes and scooters in use in China.

[Cultivating risks](#) (China Dialogue, 5/9/2011) In an era of rising temperatures, moving away from animal agriculture could help China alleviate drought and food insecurity while cutting greenhouse-gas emissions, writes Mia MacDonald.

## **PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs**

[Access still barred](#) (China Dialogue, 5/13/2011) Three years after China passed green transparency legislation, getting hold of actual data remains a tough task, writes Meng Si.

[Coca-Cola extends partnerships with UNDP & WWF to advance water sustainability in Pacific region](#) (CSR Digest, 5/13/2011) The Coca-Cola Company will donate USD4 million through its Coca-Cola Foundation to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Water Stewardship Programme in China and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Yangtze Partnership, announced Geoff Walsh, Director, Pacific Group Public Affairs & Communications.

[China's Yangtze river closed to ships by severe drought](#) (Telegraph, 5/12/2011) The Yangtze river, the longest waterway in Asia and China's most important shipping route, has been closed by the worst drought in 50 years that has left cargo ships stranded and 400,000 people without drinking water.

## **CORPORATIONS**

[Himin Solar to expand environment-friendly business](#) (The Star, 5/14/2011) Green is the new black. Black is the fashion industry's never fail colour but for every other industry, green-environment green, is the colour for them. Green has also become a big business for the case of Shandong, China-based Himin Solar Corp Ltd.

[Two men to face charges for polluting](#) (China Daily, 5/13/2011) Prosecutors in Shanghai's Songjiang district have approved the formal arrest of two men suspected of dumping acid directly into a river and causing severe pollution.

[Steel industry to cut capacity](#) (Global Times, 5/12/2011) China aims to phase out 26.27 million tons of outdated steel production capacity this year as part of efforts to eliminate outdated capacity in 18 industrial production sectors, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said.

[China's power outages come early and often](#) (Business Week, 5/12/2011) Every summer for the past decade, China has had to endure power shortages in its most heavily industrialized provinces, as air conditioning use drove electricity consumption sharply upward. This year the government started rationing power in April. All told, China could face an electricity shortfall of 30 million kilowatts this summer, warned the China Electricity Council, the industry group for operators of power plants and utilities, on Apr. 28.

[First Solar sets joint venture in China](#) (Wall Street Journal, 5/11/2011) U.S. solar-panel maker First Solar Inc. and China Power International New Energy Holding Ltd. said they will collaborate on solar-energy projects in China, the U.S. and elsewhere.

## GOVERNMENT

[Energy aid is being misused, audit finds](#) (People's Daily, 5/14/2011) Some Chinese enterprises have misused or fraudulently acquired subsidies assigned by the central government to boost energy efficiency, the nation's top auditing office said on Friday.

[China's oceanic environment basically healthy](#) (Xinhua, 5/13/2011) China's oceanic environment was basically healthy in 2010, with 94 percent of the country's territorial waters being of the highest quality according to national standards, a government report has said.

[China bans diesel exports](#) (Financial Times, 5/13/2011) Beijing has suspended exports of diesel fuel indefinitely to help meet domestic energy demand ahead of the peak summer season, prompting concerns about knock-on effects across Asia.

['Exceptional' reforestation program in China preventing future disasters](#) (Monga Bay, 5/13/2011) China's response to large-scale erosion with reforestation is paying off according to a study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (PNAS). The 10-year program, known as Sloping Land Conversion Program (SLCP), is working to turn some 37 million acres back into forest or grasslands after farming on steep slopes in the Yangtze and Yellow River basins had made them perilously susceptible to erosion and flooding.

[Experts call for low-carbon cities during urbanization](#) (China.org.cn, 5/13/2011) Rapid urbanization and economic growth have greatly impacted the environment in cities. To reduce harmful emissions, China should focus more on building low-carbon eco-cities, said experts at a press conference on Thursday for the upcoming World Economic and Environmental Conference.

[World must curb resource use; China a test case-UN](#) (Reuters, 5/12/2011) The world must curb soaring use of resources ranging from coal to copper to prevent consumption from reaching ruinous levels by 2050, according to a U.N. report on Thursday that says China's economy will be a test case.

[Shark fight in California](#) (China Dialogue, 5/12/2011) A proposed shark-fin ban in California has provoked anger in the Chinese American community, putting its backers under pressure to prove their case. John Hannon reports.

[EU examining China's request for exemption from CO2 caps in aviation news](#) (Domain-B, 5/12/2011) With Chinese carriers up in arms against a move by the European Union to extend its emissions trading system to cover airlines next year, the EU said it is examining whether an exemption from the programme could be granted to China because of its domestic plan.

[Biggest energy players to continue cooperation](#) (People's Daily, 5/11/2011) As concerns over energy security grow across the globe, the world's two largest producers and consumers of power will continue to cooperate on climate change initiatives and clean energy development, senior officials from China and the United States said on Monday.

[Remarks at U.S.-China EcoPartnerships Signing Ceremony](#) (US Department of State, 5/10/2011) Secretary Clinton: Well, I am delighted to welcome you to the Treaty Room this morning for such a special occasion. I especially want to thank our Chinese guests who have flown here to be part of the third Strategic and Economic Dialogue. Minister Xie Zhenhua and Director General Ma Xin as well as all the other Chinese colleagues are most welcome. And of course, I want to welcome all of our American eco-partners who have also come from across our country to sign these landmark agreements.

[China tries again at green planning](#) (Asia Times, 5/10/2011) China's environmental problems are apparent to any visitor, and the statistics are striking: the nation is home to 20 of the world's 30 most polluted cities, 90% of its rivers and lakes are polluted. Yet, the central government's efforts to mitigate environmental problems through policies and regulation have encountered significant implementation challenges.

[Hong Kong told to revamp air pollution rules](#) (AFP, 5/9/2011) The Hong Kong government has been told to hammer out a timetable for new air quality rules amid increasingly vocal criticism of pollution in the global financial hub, a green group said Sunday.