



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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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

[Bill Gates: Innovation, China, and the environment](#) (Northwest Asian Weekly, 5/19/2011)

"When you think about the future, many things come together," said Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft and billionaire philanthropist, at the 2011 Climate Solutions Breakfast, held on Tuesday, May 10, in the Westin Seattle. The event was hosted by Climate Solutions — a Northwest-based environmental organization — and supported by Grist Magazine.

[Is China's wind power growth sustainable?](#) (Reuters, 5/19/2011) By 2020, the Chinese government plans to generate 15 percent of the nation's total energy consumption by increasing the use of alternatives to fossil fuels, such as wind and solar power.

Today, [China](#) is the largest wind power market in the world, but this rapid growth is experiencing a backlash on several fronts. For example, the country is now imposing new

quality standards to weed out smaller companies whose products have suffered from quality control, and concentrating manufacturing in larger, more established firms.

[China thirsts for energy so it won't be cheap for us](#) (Forbes, 5/18/2011) I have a strong suspicion that if you're betting on making money from the stock market, it's high time you became a seller rather than a buyer. Sure, you did all right so far. The stock market is up. This year, it's up even more than gold.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

Greenpeace says 'toxic' toys sold in China, Hong Kong (AFP, 5/18/2011) Greenpeace said Wednesday that some children's toys sold in mainland China and Hong Kong contain dangerous chemicals, as it urged government officials to ban their use.

[China endures its worst energy crisis](#) (Time, 5/17/2011) Much of central China is enduring its worst energy crisis in years, with factories and residents facing power cuts as supply runs short of demand — a problem worsening as drought dries rivers, reducing hydroelectric capacity.

CORPORATIONS

[Not in good company](#) (China Dialogue, 5/19/2011) This year's list of China's greenest firms has some notable omissions. Meng Si looks at who made it, who didn't and why certain big names have fallen out of favour.

[China's Love Of Pork Means Factory Farms Are Displacing Small Farmers](#) (Treehugger, 5/19/2011) The same sort of agricultural shift from small-scale producers of livestock to industrialized factory farms that is dominant in the United States is also overtaking China. As how that impacts Chinese pig farming and how factory farming is bad for public health, bad for the pigs, and bad for the environment, the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy has a new study out that's worth reading.

[Students, activists mount campaign to shun shark fin soup](#) (Taipei Times, 5/19/2011) Several college students and an environmental group have joined forces to launch a six-month campaign next month to urge the public to boycott shark fin soup and protect the ocean's ecosystem.

[Huaneng Renewables plans \\$1 billion relaunched IPO](#) (WSJ, 5/19/2011) Huaneng Renewables Corp., the wind-power unit of China Huaneng Group, plans to raise about \$1

billion in a second attempt at a Hong Kong initial public offering, a person familiar with the situation said Thursday, reflecting growing demand for wind power following the Japanese nuclear power crisis in March.

[Exploding watermelons put spotlight on Chinese farming practices](#) (Guardian, 5/17/2011)

The flying pips, shattered shells and wet shrapnel still haunt farmer Liu Mingsuo after an effort to chemically boost his fruit crop went spectacularly wrong. Fields of watermelons exploded when he and other agricultural workers in eastern China mistakenly applied forchlorfenuron, a growth accelerator. The incident has become a focus of a Chinese media drive to expose the lax farming practices, shortcuts and excessive use of fertiliser behind a rash of food safety scandals.

[China's Guodian seeks energy partners in Brazil, Argentina](#) (Reuters, 5/17/2011)

China's Guodian Corporation is looking for energy partners in Brazil and Argentina to build wind turbines and solar panels as it seeks to generate power in Latin America, an executive at the company said on Monday.

[Automakers try to convince Chinese to drive green](#) (NPR, 5/16/2011)

The boom in car ownership in China has brought with it many problems familiar to Americans: bad traffic, of course, but also more pollution. So the Chinese government and the auto companies are trying to push a new generation of environmentally friendly car.

[PKU makes China's first CIGS solar integrated power circuit](#) (Translated from Chinese,

China News Source, 5/15/2011) Technically supported by Peking University (PKU), Henan Yanyuan Photovoltaic Technology Co., Ltd developed the China's first CIGS solar integrated power circuit. This new product proves to be a new innovation in Chinese Solar Photonics Industry.

GOVERNMENT

[China orders construction halt on high-speed railway](#) (WSJ, 5/19/2011)

China ordered a halt to construction of one of its high-speed rail lines due to violations of environmental rules, the latest sign of greater government scrutiny toward a high-profile project that has already been jolted by corruption and debt concerns.

[China admits problem with Three Gorges Dam](#) (New York Times, 5/19/2011)

The Three Gorges dam, the world's largest hydroelectric project and a symbol of China's confidence in risky technological solutions, is troubled by urgent pollution and geologic problems, a high-level government body acknowledged Thursday.

[China on track to increase geothermal energy development utilization](#) (Renewable Energy

World, 5/19/2011) Guan Fengjun, head of the Geological Environment department at the Ministry of Land and Resources said that China will start a geothermal energy exploration

and development project over the next five years, with the intention of promoting the utilization of geothermal energy across the country. Usage is expected to reach 68.8 million tons of standard coal equivalent [in terms of generation, that's equal to about 560,000 GWh of electricity*] by 2015, accounting for 1.7 percent in the country's overall energy consumption.

[China intensifies regulation on battery industries](#) (Xinhua, 5/19/2011) Chinese authorities have pledged more effective measures to regulate the manufacturing of batteries and other heavy metal industries to prevent heavy metal pollution and poisoning.

[China's Zhejiang Province To Levy Punitive Power Tariffs Amid Shortages](#) (Dow Jones, 5/19/2011) Zhejiang will levy punitive power tariffs starting June 1 on big energy consumers for their use of electricity beyond quota levels, the provincial government said.

[Green 'elites' take a trip to Antarctica for environment awareness](#) (Global Times, 5/19/2011) Under the theme of "One Earth, One Home," 100 environmental-protection advocates are traveling to Antarctica, a land with among the cleanest and purest of natural environments in the world, promoting environmental-protection awareness and carrying out activities for the common weal along the journey. The event was officially launched Wednesday in Beijing.

[China sets up first 7 national parks](#) (Xinhua, 5/19/2011) China's State Oceanic Administration (SOA) announced Thursday that the country has named its first seven national ocean parks to ensure sound ecological environment and sustainable development for coastal tourism.

[China to spend \\$23 mil in 2011 on nuclear safety: report](#) (Platts, 5/16/2011) China's environmental regulator will spend Yuan 150 million (\$23 million) this year on nuclear and radiation supervision and control, and in providing technical support to ensure nuclear safety, according to a report by the China Daily.