

A weekly update of China's environmental news and analysis from **PACE**



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By CC Huang and Chris Langer **Environmental China is now online.** Invite your friends and colleagues to subscribe here.

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

Analysis: Power crisis may force China to face inflation demons (Reuters, 5/27/2011) Confronting a huge and growing power crisis, Chinafaces a painful choice: either allow a summer of blackouts or swallow a dose of inflation.

China's Other Looming Choke Point: Food Production (Circle of Blue, 5/26/2011) Even along the middle reaches of the Yellow River, which irrigates 402,000 hectares (993,000 acres) of farmland north of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region's provincial capital, there is still no mistaking the smell of dry earth and diesel fuel, the abiding scents of a desert province that is also among China's most efficient grain producers.

China wants to drink our milkshake (The Globe and Mail, 5/26/2011) China's semiconductor industry shares a troubling feature with China's steel industry: Both use outrageous amounts of water in a country where water resources are getting scarce. Once you understand that Chinahas to phase out its thirstiest industries or risk starving itself, you might see how water-rich Canada could emerge as one of the world's great manufacturing countries, a role it's given up in recent decades in favour of digging up oil and minerals.

Go to China, young scientist (Washington Post, 5/21/2011) Twenty years ago, most molecular-science PhD graduates in the United Stateswent on to start up their own labs at universities across the country. These labs drive innovation and keep the United States globally competitive. Today, however, only a handful of my friends will go on to run their own labs, though more would like to. Some go into industry or consulting or law. Others leave science altogether.

<u>Clean Power For China Is The Opportunity of a Lifetime</u> (Fast Company, 5/25/2011) China needs energy for growth--no matter what the source. If we sell them clean energy, it will mean booming profits and saving the planet.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

<u>China climate faulted in poll</u> (Wall Street Journal, 5/26/2011) A growing share of European companies say China's policies toward foreign businesses in the country are becoming more discriminatory, according to a survey from the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China that marks the latest sign of discontent about the business environment in the world's No. 2 economy.

Cancer now main cause of death in China (People and Planet, 5/26/2011) Cancer is now the leading cause of death in China. Data from the Chinese Ministry of Health reveals that cancer is implicated in close to a quarter of all deaths countrywide. Most striking is the high incidence of cancer in rural areas, as a result of widespread pollution.

<u>Saving Sichuan's trees</u> (China Dialogue, 5/25/2011) Grassroots campaigners trying to protect forests from destruction in western China have uncovered a complex web of conflicting interests. Guo Xiaohe reports.

<u>Averting a nightmare on the Nu</u> (China Dialogue, 5/26/2011) Once-defeated plans to build a cascade of dams on China's Nu River are regaining momentum. Katy Yan took a journey to Yunnan to find out what's at stake.

China must become more livable to retain top talent (People's Daily, 5/26/2011) China has to transform from an "economic power" to a "livable power" in order to keep its wealth, talent and confidence. The "2011 China Private Wealth Report," released recently by China Merchants Bank, shows that nearly 60 percent of the respondents whose investment assets exceed 10 million yuan have plans to emigrate by investing.

<u>Explosion in lead poisoning in China</u> (AP, 5/22/2011) China's environmental protection ministry is cracking down on pollution caused by lead and other heavy metals following a spate of poisoning cases and reports that much of the country is contaminated with toxic materials.

CORPORATIONS

China coal output to reach 3.79 bln T by 2015 (Reuters, 5/27/2011) China plans to raise total annual coal output to 3.79 billion tonnes by 2015, up 16.98 percent compared with the end of last year, the official Xinhua news agency said, citing a draft plan for the coal industry drawn up by the National Energy Administration.

China Shenhua Energy: Parent to accelerate transfer of all assets to company (Fox Business, 5/27/2011) China Shenhua Energy Co. (1088.HK), the country's largest integrated coal producer by output, said Friday its parent will accelerate the transfer of all assets to the company in order to boost its coal resources, without giving a timetable.

China's coal production up 11.1% in first four months (Xinhua, 5/27/2011) China's coal production and traffic volume has maintained double-digit growth, and the national coal reserves stood at 200 million tons by the end of April, helping the nation meet the increasing demand for coal, officials said.

<u>China chides Hon Hai</u> (WSJ, 5/26/2011) China's government said Hon Hai Precision Industry Co. and other Taiwan companies operating on the mainland should strengthen safety measures after a deadly explosion at one of the electronics manufacturer's plants, a facility where labor activists have criticized working conditions.

<u>China and developing nations 'driving renewables forward'</u> (Recharge News, 5/26/2011) China's commitment to clean energy and increasing commercial viability of key technologies are helping maintain global renewables growth, says business advisory group Ernst & Young (E&Y).

<u>Invest in China to make money on renewables: Report (Fast Company, 5/26/2011)</u> A new survey determines that China is the most attractive country for renewable energy installations based on the size of its national renewable energy markets, renewable energy infrastructures, and suitability for individual technologies.

<u>China's environmental future to offer new opportunities to Thailand</u> (Thailand Business News, 5/24/2011) The rise of a "green" China will offer new business opportunities to Thailand and other Asean countries, according to an investment seminar held by The Nation, Kasikornbank and China Daily.

Woe continue in China for an Apple parts manufacturer (Time, 5/23/2011) Apple products are so popular in China that a riot broke out in early May when the new iPad 2 was first sold in a Beijing store. But Foxconn, one of its biggest parts manufacturers operating in China, has suffered a far more turbulent year. In the latest of the Taiwan-run company's ongoing labor woes, three workers were killed and 15 others were injured during a factory explosion on May 20 in the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu.

<u>ADB invests in three climate change funds that seek to raise \$700 million</u> (Bloomberg, 5/23/2011) The Asian Development Bank is spending \$60 million to help set up three venture capital funds developing climate-change technology in China and India, the Manila-based lender said in an e-mailed statement today.

GOVERNMENT

China sets up center for wild animal disease research (Xinhua, 5/27/2011) China's State Forestry Administration (SFA) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) have jointly established a research center that will focus on epidemic diseases that affect China's wild animal population, according to the vice president of the CAS.

China to introduce Chinese 4 emission standards across China on July 1st (China Car Times, 5/26/2011) Chinese5 emission standards are about to become the standard for all cars sold across China from July 1st according to media reports. The Chinese 4 emission standard is on par with Euro4 and this is the fourth time that the Chinese authorities have pushed forward with such a plan. Greenhouse emissions and improving the environment have become a major issue for Chinese authorities as a growing middle class become more self assure and critical of their surroundings.

<u>China's Fengyu-3B satellite goes into official operation</u> (Xinhua, 5/26/2011) China's Fengyun-3B (FY-3B) weather satellite will go into official operation on Thursday after finishing a six-month trial period.

China cranks up heat on nuclear fusion (WSJ, 5/26/2011) Is China's latest technological drive going to end up producing yet another Sputnik moment for the U.S.? That has to be one question on the minds of scientists, researchers and politicians in the U.S. as China unveils its latest attempt to reach for one of science's brass rings: viable nuclear fusion technology.

<u>China's nuclear power projects continue</u> (Xinhua, 5/26/2011) Chinese nuclear power developers are continuing preparations for new projects, signaling their undiminished appetite for the clean energy despite Japan's nuclear crisis.

China-ASEAN Center of Environmental Protection Cooperation Unveiled (People's Daily, 5/26/2011) On May 24, the China-ASEAN Center of Environmental Protection Cooperation was unveiled. In the future, China and ASEAN will design plans for environmental protection together to ensure that both sides can take advantage of their cooperation. The Center will implement a project, called "China-ASEAN Green Envoys Plan," which will boost the cooperation of no-harm-to-the-environment technology (NHET), environmental labeling and clean production.

China crisis over Yangtze river drought forces drastic dam measures (Guardian, 5/25/2011) The Yangtze – Asia's biggest river – is experiencing its worst drought in 50 years, forcing an unprecedented release of water from the Three Gorges reservoir. The drought is damaging crops, threatening wildlife and raising doubts about the viability of China's massive water diversion ambitions.