

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.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

Material concerns in Sichuan (China Dialogue, 6/22/2011) A push to build housing for Tibetan herders is driving logging in Sichuan, where angry locals have taken matters into their own hands. Campaigner Feng Yongfeng gives a view from the ground.

Curb 'soot' pollution could limit temperature rise (China.org.cn, 6/20/2011) Fast action on pollutants such as black carbon, ground level ozone and methane may help limit near term global temperature rise and significantly increase the chances of keeping temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius, and perhaps even 1.5 degrees C, a new assessment says.

China gasps in pursuit of electricity (The National, 6/19/2011) The air in the Chinese capital got steadily worse as last week drew to a close. Starting off with bright sunshine and blue skies on Sunday, it deteriorated as a grey smog cut visibility. By Wednesday morning, the US Embassy's online air pollution monitor classed the level of particulate matter as "very unhealthy" as concentrations had reached many times the level above which bad health effects start to be seen.

<u>China becomes world's top energy user</u> (Reuters, 6/14/2011) When it comes to topics of energy, China has been making plenty of headlines. We've recently reported on China's surge forward as the world's leader in wind-energy capacity, surpassing the United States in 2010, and have covered reports showing that China now dominates the world in terms of clean energy investments as well. Now, based on a report from British Petroleum (BP) we learn that China holds another energy record of sorts.

CORPORATIONS

<u>Electric vehicles in Beijing will face more charging stations</u> (People's Daily, 6/24/2011) The Beijing branch of the State Grid Corporation of China recently completed the construction of Xizhimen charging station for electric vehicles, which is located within Beijing's Second Ring Road.

Russia and China to Create Green Energy Joint Venture (China Briefing, 6/23/2011) Inter RAO Unified Energy Systems and China's National Bio Energy Co. agreed to create the Green Energy Corporation joint venture by the end of 2011 to overhaul inefficient power plants that run on coal and fuel oil to include the use of biomass, according to the Russian state-run corporation's web site.

<u>China's key high-speed rail to open July 1: report</u> (AFP, 6/23/2011) China's muchanticipated high-speed rail link between Beijing and Shanghai will go into service on July 1, state media said, after a corruption scandal that toppled the former railways minister.

<u>Green SMEs may get financial boost</u> (China Daily, 6/23/2011) An arm of a leading global think tank on environment is considering setting up a special fund to aid China's small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the environment sector.

<u>Calgary firm sees sweet spot in China's sour gas</u> (The Globe and Mail, 6/22/2011) Amid China's fast-growing demand for energy, a small Canadian clean-air technology firm is trying to make the skies a little bluer.

<u>China 3 Gorges Corp. defends huge dam from critics</u> (AP, 6/20/2011) The operator of China's gargantuan Three Gorges Dam is defending it from deepening criticism over its environmental and economic impact.

<u>Shorts sell 'Solarcoaster' as China Glut sinks panel prices</u> (Bloomberg, 6/20/2011) Short sellers are flocking to solar power, dumping record levels of stock in First Solar Inc. (FSLR) of the U.S. and competing equipment makers in a bet that profit will be hurt by a glut of Chinese panels and shrinking demand in Europe.

Alcoa's Kunshan, China, Plant Recognized for Environment, Health & Safety Achievements (Market Watch, 6/20/2011) Alcoa AA -0.07% announced today that its Kunshan, China, plant was named an "Environment, Health & Safety Example Company" by the Kunshan Huaqiao Economic Development Zone for its continuous focus on safety performance.

<u>A Green Solution, or the Dark Side to Cleaner Coal?</u> (New York Times, 6/15/2011) The six massive silos standing beside this industrial port in northeastern China hold seemingly

contradictory promises: They could help improve the quality of China's polluted air, but they might also contribute to faster global warming.

GOVERNMENT

<u>China Targets Polysilicon Companies for Elimination, 21st Says</u> (Bloomberg, 6/24/2011) China plans to eliminate polysilicon companies that do not satisfy production size, energy efficiency and environmental criteria set by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the 21st Century Business Herald reported, citing an unidentified person from GCL-Poly Energy Holdings Ltd. (3800)

<u>China to dismantle energy monopolies</u> (Capital Value, 6/23/2011) Han Wenke, director of the Energy Research Institute under the National Development and Reform Commission, said yesterday that reforms will be made to the energy sector during the 12th Five-Year Plan, reports China Business News.

<u>Chinese man gets death in pollution protest case</u> (Reuters, 6/21/2011) A court in China's vast northern region of Inner Mongolia has sentenced to death a coal mine worker for killing a resident who had complained about pollution, state media said on Tuesday.

<u>China to build new hydroelectric power plants</u> (China Daily, 6/23/2011) China will invest 400 billion yuan (\$62 billion) in the construction of four hydroelectric dams, to help the government boost the share of non-fossil fuels in national energy consumption.

<u>Welcome To Baoding: The Greenest City In The World</u> (Business Insider, 6/23/2011) In China's rushes to increase energy production for the millions that flock to its cities, Baoding has emerged as the first carbon positive city in the world.

<u>China adhere's to green industrialization</u> (China Daily, 6/22/2011) China will adhere to the road of green industrialization characterized by higher science, better economic efficiency, low consumption of resources, less pollution and full use of labor advantages, said China's Minister of Industry and Information Technology Miao Xu Tuesday here.

Jon Huntsman's environmental record (Mother Nature Network, 6/21/2011) Jon Huntsman Jr.'s entry into the Republican presidential race brings perhaps the most unique voice to a growing list of contenders. The former ambassador to China and governor of Utah is the closest thing to a moderate that the GOP has to offer. No other policy area underscores this reality than Huntsman's stance on energy and the environment.

<u>Kaoline plant to blame for S China river pollution</u> (China Daily, 6/21/2011) A kaoline plant is to blame for water pollution that caused death of huge amount of fish in South China's Guangdong province, local environment authorities confirmed Monday.

<u>Marine pollution problem for China</u> (UPI, 6/20/2011) Explosive economic growth in China's coastal regions has led to levels of ocean pollution that threaten human and marine life, a government report concluded.

<u>China prepares for summer power crisis</u> (UPI, 6/20/2011) China's top five power companies reported increased losses as they cope with rising coal costs and a cap on electricity prices, the China Electricity Council said, warning that the losses would make it more difficult to ensure adequate supplies of power during the summer.

<u>China Takes a New Interest in Energy Efficiency</u> (New York Times, 6/16/2011) The Chinese government is considering plans to subsidize the use of energy-efficient materials and renewable energy technologies in new buildings and is encouraging provincial and municipal governments to impose stricter efficiency standards than the national minimums, Chinese officials said Wednesday.