

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 readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com.

OPINION

High speeds not enough for high-speed railways (China Daily, 7/14/2011) The operation of the Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway created much excitement in the Chinese media circle. The high-speed railway was constructed based on the principles of "safety, comfort and environmental protection," and was constructed with world-class engineering. All Chinese people look forward to takinh this high-speed railway. It will now only take people four to five hours to travel from Beijing to Shanghai by train. This wonderful feeling quickly spawned a number of high-speed railway fans, and highspeed railways have become a hot spot.

PUBLIC SECTOR AND NGOs

Nike, Adidas among companies targeted in new Chinese pollution report (ChinaCSR, 7/14/2011) Greenpeace released new evidence that it claims shows sportswear companies like U.S.-based Nike and China-based Li Ning are contributing to Chinese river pollution.

<u>Slideshow: Living on scraps</u> (China Dialogue, 7/13/2011) Beijing's informal recyclers – often new arrivals from the countryside – make a priceless, though unacknowledged, contribution to the city. Here, Chen Liwen introduces a series of photos depicting their way of life.

CORPORATIONS

China to increase crude oil imports from Abi Dhabi from 2014 (Bloomberg, 7/15/2011) China National Petroleum Corp., the country's biggest oil producer, said it has agreed to increase imports of crude oil from Abu Dhabi starting in 2014.

<u>China firms eye investing \$3 bln in Indonesia infrastructure – paper</u> (Reuters, 7/14/2011) Three Chinese firms have expressed interest in investing around \$3 billion to build ports, toll roads and railway tracks in Indonesia's main Java island, a newspaper on Thursday quoted a local government official as saying.

Joy Global to buy stake in China's International Mining for \$583.6 million (Bloomberg, 7/14/2011) Joy Global Inc. (JOYG), the maker of P&H and Joy mining equipment, agreed to acquire China's International Mining Machinery Holdings Ltd. (1683) to add devices used in underground coal extraction.

ConocoPhillips says North China offshore oilfield leak 1,500 barrels of oil (Xinhua, 7/14/2011) Two oilfield platforms in China's Bohai Bay are estimated to have leaked 1,500 barrels of oil, or 240 cubic meters, following two oil spills last month, the operator ConocoPhillips said on Thursday.

<u>Tianwei powering growth in Idaho</u> (China Daily, 7/14/2011) When Baoding Tianwei Group acquired a majority stake in cash-strapped Hoku Corp in 2009 to build a polysilicon manufacturing plant in Pocatello, Idaho, it became the most significant Chinese investment in the state, said Idaho Lieutenant Governor Brad Little.

<u>Peabody to Pursue Coal Project in Restive Chinese Region</u> (WSJ, 7/14/2011) U.S.-based Peabody Energy Corp. said Thursday it will pursue a giant coal -mine project in China's western Xinjiang region in partnership with the local provincial government, one of the most demonstrative signs of rising foreign interest in the resource-rich but restive region.

<u>China growth spurs rebound in mining deals</u> (The Globe and Mail, 7/13/2011) China is reigniting the mining sector with its near double-digit economic growth, working through

inventories and triggering a rebound in commodity prices that is inspiring a new round of deal-making in the industry.

<u>US Cleantech Startups to transform China 'threat' into opportunity</u> (Reuters, 7/12/2011) Eager to tap China's booming market and fearing the loss of private U.S. investment, American startups have begun eyeing Chinese partnerships.

China's CNOOC cleaning up second oil spill (AFP, 7/12/2011) China National Offshore Oil Corporation, which was recently accused of covering up a huge spill, is cleaning up another slick after a breakdown at a rig off the northeast coast, officials said Tuesday.

American Superconductor hits China turbulence (Financial Times, 7/12/2011) When Sinovel, the world's second-largest producer of wind turbines, signed a series of multiyear supply contracts worth nearly \$1bn with American Superconductor, a darling of the US clean energy sector, it seemed like a textbook case of how China's clean energy push could create US jobs.

China and development world beat Europe in green investment (Financial Times, 7/11/2011) Developing countries invested more in renewable energy than their developed counterparts for the first time last year, according to a report commissioned by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

<u>China's pollution-fighting farm</u> (PRI's The World, 7/11/2011) China has some of the world's worst water pollution. And the country's farms are responsible for a big part of that problem. So there is a certain irony in visiting a farm here that purports to actually help reduce pollution from other sources. But that's the claim of a 100-acre hydroponic farm in China's southwest.

GOVERNMENT

New rules to target chemical accidents (Shanghai Daily, 7/7/2011) The Chinese chemical industry faces a raft of new regulations as it has become the number one source of man-made environmental disasters in the country.

<u>China halts drilling at leaking oil platforms</u> (Guardian, 7/13/2011) China has ordered US oil company ConocoPhillips to halt drilling at two leaking oil platforms in the Bohai Sea, with a warning that further spills posed "a huge threat to the oceanic ecological environment".

China unleashes 1,060 fully electric sanitation trucks on Beijing (Gas 2.0, 7/13/2011) I've found that writing about China is always fun. Maybe it's because the Chinese are always doing something interesting—whether it's hosting insane, exorbitant Olympic ceremonies, mercilessly hacking into U.S. government accounts, or putting 1,060 fully-electric sanitation trucks on the road in Beijing, the Chinese like to go big or go home.

<u>UK environment program to come to China</u> (<u>China.org.cn</u>, 7/13/2011) An interactive environment program developed in the UK that encourages audiences to make decisions on how to respond to scenarios of a climate-changed future in 2033 will come to China next year, an organizer said Wednesday in Beijing.

Regional plan to strengthen anti-pollution campaign (China Daily, 7/13/2011) A senior environmental official has revealed that the capital, Tianjin and Hebei province will establish a long-term joint project to clean up air pollution.

<u>Water hyacinth used to fight pollution</u> (Xinhua, 7/13/2011) Southwest China's Yunnan Province widely introduced water hyacinth recently to reduce the serious water pollution in the Tien Lake, the largest freshwater lake in the province. Water hyacinth, which is a free-floating perennial aquatic plant, grows very fast and easily blocks the flow of a river. It requires good management to turn the bane into boon.

<u>China's push for more hydropower tests limits</u> (Reuters, 7/12/2011) Plans to use massive new hydropower development to boost China's power capacity by nearly half by 2015 will not dent coal demand enough to cut greenhouse gas emissions and could further damage the country's strained river system.

UK and China pursue nuclear plans with Japanese disaster in mind (The Energy Collective, 7/12/2011) The ambitious plans for construction of new nuclear reactors at eight sites in the U.K. took a hit this week. Reuters reports July 5 that EDF, the nation's biggest utility, will push back the start date for its first new nuclear plant. Vincent de Rivaz, (right) who leads EDF operations in the UK, told the wire service the timetable will be revised in Fall 2011. EDF had planned to build a new 1,600 MW Areva EPR at Hinkley Point in Somerset by early 2018.

<u>USDA sees more corn to China</u> (WSJ, 7/12/2011) The U.S. Department of Agriculture raised its estimates for corn exports to China fourfold, another nod to the country's rising demand in a market under strain.

<u>China must control spiraling energy consumption – official</u> (Reuters, 7/11/2011) Energy consumption controls must occupy a "prominent place" in domestic policymaking in the coming years, with primary consumption already exceeding 3.2 billion tonnes of coal equivalent (TCE) in 2010, China's top energy official said at a weekend meeting.

Big dreams for China's energy 'Golden Zone' (CRI, 7/8/2011) China's economy has enjoyed robust growth for the past three decades and transformed into the world's second-largest economy. Nevertheless, China faces obstacles on its path to greater prosperity. The country struggles with electricity power shortages and underdevelopment in rural areas, particularly in northwest China.