



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

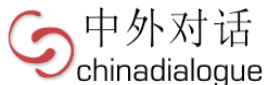
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WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com and/or timquijano@gmail.com.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[Infographic: Map of Pollution Levels in China's Major River Basins](#) (Circle of Blue, 7/20/2011) The seven major river basins, as a whole, have had steady improvements in water quality over the past decade.

[China, Rich with Coal, Seeks More Next Door in Mongolia to Meet its Energy Needs](#) (Washington Post, 7/17/2011) Overlooking a deep black gash in the Gobi Desert, Od Jambaljamts watched Caterpillar trucks rumble across the rim of the world's biggest undeveloped coal deposit — and mused on Mongolia's good fortune to have the world's most voracious consumer of coal just a few scores of miles away.

[Slideshow: Man vs. Algae in China](#) (Slate, 7/18/2011) 'It is like the green grass. It feels so soft,' Li Li, a child from Handan, an inland city in the northern Hebei Province, told the UK's *Daily Mail*. Others are less impressed by the mysterious algae that is currently spreading across the coast of Qingdao, in eastern China's Shandong province. This is the third time in five years that the popular tourism area has been hit by a blanket of green.

[Chinese Ecotourism Has Yet to Fully Blossom](#) (Xinhua, 7/18/2011) Ecotourism has been part of household vocabularies in China for years. However, one expert believes that the concept still has a long way to go in China, as most domestic tourists are more interested in sightseeing than promoting environmental awareness.

CORPORATIONS

[Transparency Test in the Bohai Sea](#) (China Dialogue, 7/20/2011) The attempt to cover up an oil spill - and its failure at the hands of citizens and journalists - brings the dynamics of China's fight over public information into focus, writes Ma Jun.

[China's Auto Industry Caught in Dilemma](#) (Xinhua, 7/17/2011) The stunning growth of the world's largest auto market over the past two years has created some serious problems: grid-lock, pollution and energy shortages.

[Dangerous Elements](#) (South China Morning Post, 7/17/2011) Its rivers and land awash with toxic heavy metals from polluting factories, the Mainland's economic progress has come at a cost, and it's the rural poor who are paying the price.

[Brief: Chinese Companies Face New Fines for Pollution](#) (The China Post, 7/16/2011) Polluting Chinese enterprises will be fined more than 10,000 yuan (US\$1,549) per day if they fail to comply with environmental rules, according to new legislation currently being considered by the government, an official newspaper said on Friday.

[Oil Spill Reaches Beaches](#) (China Daily, 7/21/2011) Oil from a huge spill off China's coast has been found ashore in two separate areas, authorities said on Wednesday, sparking calls for greater transparency about the disaster.

[The Climate Impact of Coal Imports](#) (Sightline Daily, 7/19/2011) One of the nation's most respected resource economists, Dr. Thomas M. Power, just released [a new white paper](#) showing that coal exports to China will increase that country's coal burning and pollution, and decrease investments in energy efficiency.

[South China Sea Energy Riches Beckon](#) (Caixin, 7/19/2011) No Asian country with territorial claims in the blue waters of the South China Sea — and claims to the black oil far beneath the waves — has installed a single oil drill in the heart of the disputed region.

GOVERNMENT

[Green Litigation in China Today](#) (China Dialogue, 7/18/2011) Despite ambitious top-down environmental policies, there are still many obstacles to public supervision through the courts, writes Alex Wang, opening a special series on Chinese law.

[On Lake Taihu, China Moves to Battle Massive Algae Blooms](#) (Yale Environment 360, 7/21/2011) For two decades, the once-scenic Lake Taihu in eastern China has been choked with devastating algae blooms that have threatened drinking water for millions. Now, in a move that could provide lessons for other huge lakes worldwide, China is taking steps to restore Taihu's ecological balance.

[Seeking Damages](#) (China Dialogue, 7/21/2011) With no law governing pollution compensation in China, victims can become double losers. Former eco-official Zhang Kunmin tells Meng Si why legislation is needed - but will still take 10 years to emerge.

[China Denies Manipulation of Rare Earths Prices](#) (China Daily, 7/21/2011) Price rises of rare earths are not a result of manipulation by the Chinese government, a senior official said Thursday.

[The Plight of the Public](#) (China Dialogue, 7/19/2011) Despite some successes, broad environmental participation remains largely academic, concludes Zhang Jingjing. With deficient regulations and no legal redress, citizen engagement faces an ongoing battle.

[Peak CO2? China's Emissions Trajectories to 2050](#) (China Energy Group at LBNL, 7/20/2011) This study focuses on a China Energy Outlook through 2050 that assesses the role of energy efficiency policies in transitioning China to a lower emission trajectory and meeting its intensity reduction goals.

[Contrasting Realities: China's Environmental Challenge](#) (Human Rights in China, 7/ 18/2011) The easiest thing to do is to write about the severe environmental degradation in China. The broad picture is well-known - intolerable air pollution, sickening water contamination, massive deforestation, creeping desertification, substantial loss of cropland, and drastic reduction in biodiversity. This picture can be one of hopelessness. But against this grim picture, China has also made significant advances over the past three decades in reducing poverty and extending longevity. And in this context, it has become fashionable to write about how China is surging ahead to develop "clean" technology like wind and solar power, investing heavily to build sewage treatment systems, building the world's most extensive high-speed rail network, and reforestation in many parts of the country. This picture communicates hope.

[The Chinese Oil Spill](#) (Energy Tribune, 7/18/2011) It took a month to admit that there was an oil spill in China's Bohai Bay, from June 4 when it happened to July 5 when The Global Times, in an unusual reaction from a presumably government controlled newspaper, wrote "We cannot help but wonder: is the SOA (the State Oceanic Administration) a serious watchdog that exists to prevent bigger incidents from happening, or a loving parent who is over-protective of his own child?"

[China-Russia on Brink of Major Energy Deal](#) (CRIEnglish, 7/15/2011) The Chinese government has expressed optimism that a mammoth Sino-Russian natural gas cooperation agreement would be reached before the next prime ministers' regular meeting this autumn, according to "China Daily." This would bring tremendous financial benefits to both countries since Russia is the world's largest exporter of raw materials, and China is the world's largest importer of raw materials.

[China Plans Carbon Trading Pilot Scheme](#) (Agence France Presse, 7/18/2011) China will introduce a pilot scheme for carbon emissions trading and gradually develop a national market as the world's largest polluter seeks to reduce emissions and save energy, state media said.

[E-Waste Hits China](#) (Inter Press Service, 7/21/2011) Despite new government regulations, China, for decades the dumping ground for the world's electronic waste, still struggles to treat and process millions of tonnes of e-waste, prompting health and environmental concerns.

[China Demands Inner Mongolia Mines not Exclude Herders](#) (Reuters, 7/21/2011) Mines in China's resource-rich northern region of Inner Mongolia must offer employment to herders displaced from their land and even shares in their companies, state media said on Thursday, as Beijing moves to quell anger at miners.

[China's Energy Security: Prospects, Challenges, and Opportunities](#) (The Brookings Institution, 7/16/2011) In China, energy security has been categorized as a domestic economic development issue rather than a part of foreign policy for several decades, except for rare strategic issues such as the location of pipelines in Central Asia or border disputes related to energy resources. Coal, which is abundant in China, has been the dominant energy resource in domestic consumption for several decades, and before the 1990s there was weak economic development and relatively lower demand for. Though China's oil self-sufficiency ended in 1993 when it was forced to begin importing oil to meet domestic demand, China did not realize the urgency and importance of energy security until the late 1990s.