

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**

Losses at sea (China Dialogue, 7/28/2011) Coastal pollution is back in the public eye thanks to the latest oil spill in the Bohai Gulf. Xia Jun looks at three maritime lawsuits, and what they tell us about environmental litigation in China.

China, and overdone green energy hysteria (American Enterprise Institute, 7/27/2011) Of all the verses in the "China-is-Awesome" hallelujah chorus, none is chanted louder than the fact that China is leaving everyone in the dust in "green" energy, especially wind and solar power. The latest Clean Energy Report from the Pew Charitable Trust gushes, "Private investment in China's clean energy sector increased by 39 percent in 2010 to a world record \$54.4 billion. China also is the world's leading producer of wind turbines and solar modules. In 2009, it surpassed the United States as the country with the most installed clean energy capacity."

<u>Shaping China's green laws</u> (China Dialogue, 7/22/2011) Beijing may have drawn on global knowledge to write its pollution legislation, but the product is uniquely Chinese, writes Charles McElwee in a summary of the story so far.

#### **PUBLIC SECTOR AND NGOs**

Alarm over tailings' effect on polluted rivers (China Daily, 7/29/2011) The drinking water crisis in Mianyang, in Southwest China's Sichuan province, caused by the pollution of the Fujiang River by a manganese plant, should be seen as a warning about the lax management of more than 10,000 toxic mine tailings in the country, environmentalists said.

Algae slick floats toward China's coast (AFP, 7/27/2011) The large expanse of green algae is floating toward China's east coast, potentially threatening marine life and the region's tourism industry.

Farmers more likely to be green if they talk to their neighbors (Science Daily, 7/27/2011) Besides helping each other plant and harvest, rural Chinese neighbors also influence each other's environmental behavior -- farmers are more likely to re-enroll their land in a conservation program if they talk to their neighbors about it.

#### CORPORATIONS

A123 secures battery deal for wind energy in China (REVE, 7/29/2011) Lithium ion battery maker A123 Systems will supply an energy storage system to a wind power test that could lead to further grid business in China.

China to help Kyrgyzstan upgrade power grids (People's Daily, 7/29/2011) A Chinese company will help Southern Kyrgyzstan upgrade its power grids. Speaking at a commencement ceremony in the Bazar-Korgon district of the Jalal-Abad region, Kyrgyz Prime Minister Almazbek Atambayev said that during the years, China has offered a lot of assistance and support to Kyrgyzstan, and his country appreciated the selfless help.

Praxair to collaborate on environmental research with top China university
(Hydrocarbon Processing, 7/28/2011) Industrial gases major Praxair has entered into a long-term environmental research collaboration with the State Key Lab of Pollution Control & Resource Reuse Study at Tongji University in Shanghai.

S. Korean firms joins Chinese solar project (UPI, 7/28/2011) South Korea's SK Group, country's top oil refiner, has had its SK Innovation Co. sign an agreement with both Chinese and Taiwanese energy firms to cooperate in the development of a solar energy storage system.

China's Sinopec builds \$108 million plant in Singapore (Straits Times, 7/28/2011) China's largest integrated energy and chemical company, Sinopec, is building a 580-million yuan (S\$108.3-million) lubricant plant in Singapore - its first such investment outside the mainland. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Thursday at the Tuas site for the 40,000 sq ft plant.

<u>Yingli Green Energy PV modules installed in the largest solar plant in Greece</u> (PR Newswire, 7/28/2011) Yingli Green Energy Holding Company Limited (NYSE: YGE) ("Yingli Green Energy" or the "Company"), a leading solar energy company and one of the world's largest vertically integrated photovoltaic (PV) manufacturers, which markets its products under the brand "Yingli Solar," today announced that its PV modules have been installed in the largest solar plant inGreece.

Mine residue pollution makes tap water undrinkable (China Daily, 7/27/2011) Authorities in China's southwestern city of Mianyang Tuesday warned citizens not to drink tap water as a river that supplies water to the city was polluted by tailings of a local manganese plant.

HK firm invests in China nuclear plant (UPI, 7/26/2011) Despite the fallout from Japan's March disaster at its Fukushima nuclear power complex, China seems determined to advance its agenda to develop civilian nuclear energy.

<u>China's Sinohydro plans \$542 million Shanghai IPO</u> (Reuters, 7/26/2011) China's Sinohydro Corp plans to raise up to 3.5 billion yuan (\$543 million) in a share offering in Shanghai and is awaiting approval from the securities watchdog, the firm said on Tuesday.

Infographic: How China's Clean Tech Industry crushes the U.S. (Fast Company, 7/25/2011) China may be the world's biggest polluter, but they're also investing heavily in clean and renewable energy solutions--and far surpassing the U.S.'s puny attempts in the process.

### **GOVERNMENT**

Ministry works to prevent hepatitis C transmissions (China Daily, 7/29/2011) The Ministry of Health vowed to further strengthen its supervision and regulation of hospitals to reduce the chances that they will be places where patients regularly contract hepatitis C, a disease that has been becoming more common in China in recent years.

China to reduce carbon intensity by 17% by 2015 (China Daily, 7/29/2011) China will soon release detailed plans on ensuring that its goal for reducing carbon intensity from

2011 to 2015 is attainable, and it has started looking at technical options for cutting carbon dioxide emissions after 2020.

China's Climate Minister speaks in support of carbon capture and storage (World Resources Institute, 7/28/2011) China's Climate Change Minister Xie Zhenhua offered a new phrase to emphasize the importance of technologies to reduce carbon in a speech at a major international conference on Carbon Capture and Storage in Beijing.

Asian Ministers tackle Mekong River development (Voice of America, 7/28/2011) Environment ministers from six Asian nations are meeting in Phnom Penh to finalize how they will work together to balance economic development and environmental protection in a region that includes one of the world's longest and most biodiverse rivers in the world.

<u>China's regulators tackle energy-guzzling buildings</u> (New York Times, 7/27/2011) For Jin Liang, a typical Chinese who watches his utility bills carefully, each scorching hot summer day posed a dilemma: Should he switch on his air conditioner, or keep it off to cool the impact on his wallet?

<u>China makes nuclear breakthrough</u> (AFP, 7/23/2011) China said Friday it had hooked its first so-called "fourth generation" nuclear reactor to the grid, a breakthrough that could eventually reduce its reliance on uranium imports.