

Dear readers,

With the addition of the wonderful Tim Quijano, Environmental China's team has grown and we are excited about being able to continue bringing our loyal readers consistent news updates every Friday. This newsletter has been completely running on volunteer efforts, and now at it's 120th issue (2 and a half years!), we must say we are very thankful to all your wonderful support throughout this time. Also, thanks to Tim, starting this week, we are now adding authors of articles when possible and also adjusting our slightly confusing Public Sector/NGO category to a more clear Research/Civil Society.

**We are also looking for more volunteers to help with Environmental China.** We are interested in translating or maybe summarizing news from local Chinese media, blogs, etc. every week and we would love for any of our current readers to participate if there is interest. We also have a website that is in dire need of creativity and general upkeep and we are interested in any other ideas that you would have to improving our newsletter. **Please e-mail me at [cc.huang2@gmail.com](mailto:cc.huang2@gmail.com) if you are interested in dedicating about two hours a week to helping with our effort.**

Thank you and I hope you enjoy this week's issue!

# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



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**By CC Huang, Tim Quijano and Chris Langer**

Environmental China is now online.

Invite your friends and colleagues to subscribe to the e-mail newsletter [here](#).

**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](mailto:cc.huang2@gmail.com) or [timquijano@gmail.com](mailto:timquijano@gmail.com).

## **OPINION**

[A lady and her love for the planet](#) (OP Rana, China Daily, 8/12/2011) This is a column wrought with grief. My colleague, Li Xing, who had been pouring her heart out in her contributions on Fridays, was snatched from us by death, suddenly and prematurely. Hers was a life and journalism of conviction and integrity not many in today's world of self-centeredness can claim.

[Keeping high-speed rail on track](#) (China Dialogue, 8/11/2011) Beijing must respond to public anger over mismanagement of its railways, but not by ditching plans for faster trains, writes Damien Ma.

[China, California likely to dictate US carbon market – Sandor](#) (Mark Nichols, Environmental Finance, 8/11/2011) Successful carbon cap-and-trade programmes in

China and California are likely to be necessary preconditions of any US national market in greenhouse gas emissions, according to market pioneer Richard Sandor.

[China's growing water crisis](#) (Elizabeth Economy, World Politics Review, 8/10/2011) What is the biggest challenge that China faces? Corruption, the gap between the rich and poor, and the rapidly aging population often top the list of answers to this question. Yet a closer look suggests that the greatest threat may well be lack of access to clean water.

[A warning for China's nuclear sector](#) (China Dialogue, 8/10/2011) The deadly Wenzhou crash highlights the dangers of mega-infrastructure projects moving too far, too fast. Chinese decision-makers should take note, argues Kevin Jianjun Tu.

## RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Experts warn of fragile sea environment](#) (Wang Qian, China Daily, 8/12/2011) Following the continuing oil leak in Bohai Bay, experts warned that fast offshore development is polluting China's fragile sea. With marine economy becoming another engine for the country's economy in the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015), coastal provinces and municipalities are going full speed in their offshore development plans.

[Thousands Protest in Hunan Over Waste Process Plant](#) (NTDTV, 8/9/2011) Thousands of residents in China's southeastern Hunan province clashed with police last week over plans for a waste processing plant. Authorities in Beishan county, Changsha prefecture want to build the plant above a dam. Locals oppose the move, saying it will cause serious pollution to their water source.

[Sludge left by sewage causes sticky problem](#) (Zhou Wenting, China Daily, 8/5/2011) About 80 percent of the sludge remaining after sewage treatment is not properly handled and has itself become a source of pollution, industry statistics has suggested.

## CORPORATIONS

[China's Shenhua Group investing \\$8 billion Xinjiang coal projects](#) (Charles Kennedy, OilPrice.com, 8/12/2011) Shenhua Group Corp Ltd., China's biggest coal producer, will invest \$8 billion in coal-to-oil conversion projects in the country's western Xinjiang Uighur autonomous region.

[Large Chinese drug producer fined for pollution](#) (Xinhua, 8/11/2011) Harbin Pharmaceutical Group, one of China's largest drug producers, has been ordered to pay a hefty fine for failing to meet environmental requirements, local authorities confirmed Thursday.

[CNOOC's Jiang says oil, gas sales may fall as dollar declines](#) (Aibing Guo, 8/11/2011) Jiang Yongzhi, spokesman at Cnooc Ltd. (883), China's biggest offshore energy explorer, comments on the impact of the dollar's decline against the yuan, also known as the renminbi.

[Plant to be torn down after water pollution](#) (Xinhua, 8/11/2011) Authorities in eastern Jiangxi province said Thursday they will tear down a smelting company blamed for the tap water contamination that sickened over 110 people. A total of 112 people were hospitalized Tuesday after drinking tap water with excessive levels of copper, chlorine and sodium, in the city of Ruichang.

[How "green" is the banking industry in China?](#) (Brian Ho, CSR Asia, 8/10/2011) The public is starting to show an interest in the financial ramifications companies face because of poor environmental standards and/or due to causing severe environmental degradation. For example, Zijin Mining Company was fined 30 million Yuan in May 2011 due to serious pollution caused in July 2010.

[Foreign policy: In China Apple's got a rotten core](#) (Christina Larson, NPR, 8/3/2011) Since the first Apple Store opened in Beijing on July 19, 2008, the company has made astonishingly rapid inroads into the Chinese public's pocketbooks and imagination. In any high-end coffee shop like Starbucks or Costa Coffee in central Beijing or Shanghai, the ratio of Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, MacBook, etc.) to non-Apple devices is often more than 1-to-1.

## **GOVERNMENT**

[China still silent on Bohai Bay clean-up request](#) (The Chosunilbo, 8/12/2011) It has been more than a month since China acknowledged an accident that resulted in an oil leak in Bohai Bay, but Beijing has failed to respond to requests by the Korean government to form a joint environmental committee to assess the damage.

[ConocoPhillips urged to apologize for oil leak](#) (Wang Qian, China Daily, 8/12/2011) China's ocean watchdog urged ConocoPhillips China, the company responsible for a pair of oil leaks off China's northeast Bohai Bay, to apologize to the public for its slow cleanup.

[China wraps up nuclear power plant safety inspections prompted by Japanese disaster](#) (AP, 8/11/2011) China has wrapped up safety inspections of its nuclear power plants nearly five months after it halted construction of new projects following Japan's deadly earthquake and tsunami.

[China still 'preparing for worst' on power shortages](#) (Reuters, 8/11/2011) China will continue to "prepare for the worst" in the coming weeks in order to make sure that its

strained power grids can handle record levels of demand, the country's top energy official said in remarks published on Thursday.

[China suspends new high speed rail plans](#) (Simon Rabinovitch, Financial Times, 8/11/2011) China is to suspend approvals of new high-speed lines after a fatal crash that fuelled concerns about what was supposed to be the world's most advanced rail system.

[China will install 1B smart meters by 2020](#) (Tilde Herrera, GreenBiz, 8/10/2011) The number of smart meters installed worldwide will reach 963 million by 2020, largely due to China's aggressive effort to modernize its electric grid.

[China launched campaign to regulate rare earth production](#) (Xinhua, 8/8/2011) China has launched a five-month inspection campaign that aims to crack down on rare earth production that is not in line with government regulations, the country's industry ministry said on Monday.

[Conservation to save Dunhuang](#) (China Daily, 8/8/2011) China has pledged to conserve water resources in the renowned oasis city of Dunhuang to prevent it from being destroyed by desertification, a top official has said.

[River contamination forces Chinese city to cut tap water supply](#) (Xinhua, 8/5/2011) An oil spill has contaminated a river which is the source of drinking water for the central Chinese city of Yiyang, forcing local authorities on Friday to cut tap water supplies to the city's 400,000 residents.

[China tightens supervision over solid waste import](#) (Wei Tong, CRIENGLISH, 8/3/2011) The Chinese government has issued a new regulation that bans the dumping of solid waste from overseas and the transfer of hazardous solid waste to China. It requires enterprises that specialize in the disposal of solid waste to conduct daily monitoring activities to prevent the spread of pollution.