



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

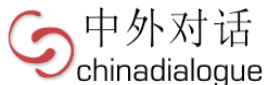
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WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com or timquijano@gmail.com.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Aung San Suu Kyi: China's dam project in Burma is dangerous and divisive](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 8/12/2011) Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of Burma's pro-democracy opposition, has called for a halt to a massive Chinese hydropower project on the Irrawaddy river that has alarmed environmentalists and added to a long-running conflict between tribal militias and the government in Rangoon.

[China's Energy Insecurity Worsens](#) (William Pentland, Forbes, 8/15/2011) In the first five months of 2011, China consumed 10.3% more oil than it had during the same time period in 2010. Meanwhile, oil imports rose 11.3% in the first five months of this, pushing China's dependence on imported oil to 55.2%, according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT).

[China to double solar capacity by year end: report](#) (Reuters, 8/12/2011) China will double its solar capacity to around 2 gigawatts (GW) by the end of the year as the world's largest solar-panel maker ramps up domestic installation, a local paper said on Saturday citing a government-linked think tank.

[China lawyer sues oil giants over spill](#) (AFP, 8/18/2011) A Chinese lawyer is suing a state-owned energy giant and its US partner over a huge oil spill off China's northeast coast, amid public anger over the resulting pollution, state media said Wednesday.

[New Energy Tools to Assist in China's Rapid Urbanization](#) (Tim Winstanley, International Business Times, 8/13/2011) A new set of tools have been developed by researchers at MIT in collaboration with China's Tsinghua University that will evaluate the performance and energy consumption of large-scale projects. Led by Dennis Frenchman and Christopher Zegras from MIT's School of Architecture + Planning, these new set of guidelines and tools are a proactive response to the rapid urbanization of China and its ever-increasing development and infrastructure projects. The main goal is to introduce sustainable methods of implementation and construction, and responsible energy patterns one neighborhood at a time.

[China orders petrochemical plant shutdown after protests](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 8/14/2011) Chinese authorities have ordered a petrochemical plant to shut down immediately after tens of thousands of protesters marched through the streets of a nearby city, demanding the factory be relocated.

[China Reopens Trade in Tiger and Leopard Skins](#) (Environmental Investigation Agency, 8/11/2011) Despite Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's promise to the world that his country would "vigorously combat poaching, trade and smuggling of tiger products", China appears to have quietly reopened the trade in tiger and leopard skins.

[Thousands of Villagers Clash With Police in Southeast China](#) (Gu Qing'er, Epoch Times, 8/18/2011) Thousands of villagers in the southeastern Chinese province of Jiangxi poured into streets on Tuesday in protest against pollution from a nearby chemical plant and subsequent police violence, making it the [second chemical plant protest in a week](#).

CORPORATIONS

[Illegal dumping pollutes water](#) (Yan Jie, China Daily, 8/15/2011) More than 5,000 tons of highly toxic industrial waste were dumped illegally in rural areas near a Southwest China city, causing livestock deaths and soil and water pollution, local authorities said over the weekend.

China to Invest RMB 1trillion in Sewage Treatment (Business China, 8/16/2011) August 16, China will approve 2 plans for waste and sewage treatment before the end of the year that outline RMB 1 trillion of investment over the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011-2015), the official Shanghai Securities Times reported on Tuesday.

[U.S. Solar Firms' Co-Dependency With China](#) (Ucilia Wang, Forbes, 8/16/2011) American solar companies have known for some time that they have to compete with peers from China. Now they also are starting to lean on China for their survival.

[Rare-earth prices hinder goals](#) (Zhang Qi, China Daily, 8/18/2011) Surging rare-earth prices will hinder the country's targets for energy conservation and emissions reduction as the increased cost of raw material has affected downstream producers, industry experts warned.

[Tough Times for China's Wind Energy](#) (Tom McGregor, CRIEnglish, 8/15/2011) Bringing large-scale wind farms to China seems like a fantastic concept, since the nation struggles with electricity shortages and pollution problems. Northwest China has an abundance of wind, too. The business of wind would appear to be a win-win situation for alternative energy investors, the Chinese government and domestic electricity consumers. Yet, some financial turbulence has blown into China's wind energy sector in recent months.

[BYD's new energy benefits green Unviersiade](#) (Wang Qiyun, China Daily, 8/18/2011) During a display of BYD Auto's products, Xiao Haiping, head of the company's Public Relation department, said that the company has three "green dreams": a solar power plant, a storage power plant and new energy-fueled automobiles, all of which are based on the iron battery technology.

[Why China Won't Save Oil Prices](#) (Kenneth Rapoza, Forbes, 8/15/2011) Two things drive the oil market: the price targets set by the big bulge bracket banks, namely Goldman Sachs, and China. Goldman Sachs' thoughts are generally focused on momentum. When momentum loses forward motion, oil bulls point to Chinese demand as being the floor under which oil can always stand. Yet, despite strong fundamentals in China, and 9% GDP growth forecast again this year, oil prices are declining. Maybe they would decline more, but the driver of oil remains the U.S. and European economies, says Richard Soutanian, president of energy consulting firm NUS Consulting Group.

[Guinea, China Sign \\$526 Million Hydroelectric Project Agreement](#) (Ougna Camara, Bloomberg, 8/14/2011) Guinea's government and China International Water & Electric Corp. signed an agreement for the construction of a \$526 million hydroelectric dam.

[China boosts Pakistan's power sector](#) (M. Aftab, Khaleej Times, 8/15/2011) The Chinese investors are moving ahead to build multi-billion dollar energy development projects in this country. It will make China the single largest investor in the energy sector of Pakistan.

[Can The U.S. Break China's Stranglehold On Rare Earth Metals?](#) (Ariel Schwartz, Fast Company, 8/16/2011) These elements are the building blocks of a modern society, and China has all of them. Until now. The U.S. mining industry is starting to catch up.

GOVERNMENT

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[China's NDRC issues 'barometer' for Regional Energy Goals](#) (Angel Hsu, WRI's ChinaFAQs, 8/10/2011) China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) recently released a "barometer" to show regional progress toward energy conservation goals in the first half of 2011. While the 12th Five-Year Plan announced in March a goal of reducing energy intensity 16 percent by 2015, more detailed plans as to how this overall target is being allocated to provinces has yet to be released, although recent reports suggest that these details will be revealed soon.

[China probes its Africa model](#) (Yi Yimin, China Dialogue, 8/18/2011) As the public turns its attention to Chinese investments in Africa's fossil fuels, mining and dams, some have noticed parallels with environmental and social problems at home, writes Yi Yimin.

[Fukushima contaminating China's seas?](#) (UPI, 8/16/2011) Chinese sea waters are at risk of being contaminated by radioactive effluents from Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant, which was crippled by the March 11 earthquake, China's ocean watchdog warned.

[China may seek over \\$15 million from ConocoPhillips, CNOOC after spill](#) (Reuters, 8/15/2011) Chinese maritime authorities are considering demanding more than 100 million yuan (\$15.6 million) in compensation from CNOOC Ltd and ConocoPhillips following a spill at a Bohai Bay oilfield jointly owned by the firms, a Chinese newspaper reported on Tuesday.

[Algae bloom causes red tide in S China seawater](#) (China Daily, 8/18/2011) An algae bloom has caused a nearly 100 square kilometer red tide in seawater off the coast of South China's Guangdong province, the local marine environment watchdog said Thursday.

[China plans to 'accelerate mining' in Tibet](#) (Tendar Tsering, Phayul, 8/17/2011) Zhang Qingli, secretary of the Tibet Autonomous Regional (TAR) Committee of the Communist Party (CCP) of China said Saturday that the Chinese government will explore Tibet's minerals in a justified and intensive way in the coming five years.

[China energy chief seeks shale boost](#) (Upstream Online, 8/17/2011) China's top energy official has called for better planning for the development of the country's shale gas resources over the next five years, saying it would help it get a head start in the later half of this decade.

[Universiade Creates a More Beautiful Shenzhen](#) (CRIEnglish, 8/16/2011) From a small fishing village to a modern international metropolis, as the pioneer city of China's reform and opening-up policy, Shenzhen has witnessed many firsts in its 30-year history. The city is now embracing its first international sporting event -- 26th summer Universiade, and is striving to take advantage of the opportunity to enhance its beauty.

[Many ways to calculate China's carbon price](#) (John Connor, The Australian, 8/17/2011) One of the major battlegrounds of the carbon debate is whether other countries are taking action on climate change. Despite competing claims, the fact is many countries are implementing a range of policies to encourage cleaner energy investments.