

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 and/or timquijano@gmail.com.

OPINION

Province-by-Province Details of China's Five-Year Energy and Environment Priorities (Barbara Finamore, NRDC Switchboard, 9/15/2011) China's State Council recently announced its work plan for energy-savings and major pollutant emissions reductions through 2015 ("Energy Conservation and Emissions Reduction Comprehensive Work Plan for the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015) Period"). This key guiding document for realizing China's energy and environment goals sets mandatory energy intensity and major pollutant emissions targets for provinces and highlights a number of key policies to achieve them.

"Development is for other people" (Zhang Hong, China Dialogue, 9/15/2011) Farmers and fishermen don't seem to want dams, electricity or even compensation, reflects Zhang Hong on visiting Cambodia's Ratanakiri province. Rather, they want to preserve their way of life.

Why China and Europe don't have a Solyndra problem (Todd Woody, Forbes, 9/14/2011) Watching Wednesday morning's Congressional hearing on the Solyndra bankruptcy, it seems clear that the political circus surrounding the failure of the Silicon Valley solar startup that received a \$535 million federal loan guarantee will overshadow any serious discussion of the larger policy issues at stake.

Tainted greens: from field to market (Ge Ruijiang and Jiang Gang, China Dialogue, 9/12/2011) With zealous farmers applying ever more pesticide and safety checks failing at every turn, contaminated vegetables are progressing unhindered to China's kitchens. Ge Rujiang and Jiang Gang report.

<u>Vanishing Shangri-La</u> (Liu Jiangjiang, China Dialogue, 9/9/2011) In Yunnan's Meili Snow Mountains, tourists are damaging both scenery and culture. Liu Jianqiang followed them to the village of Yubeng to find out what's happening to paradise.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

<u>China leads world in green energy investment</u> (James Melik, BBC, 9/16/2011) Global investment in renewable energy jumped 32% in 2010 to a record \$211bn (£130bn; 149bn euros), according to the Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment 2011 report.\

<u>China promotes efficient fertilizer to protect environment</u> (China Daily, 9/13/2011) More Chinese provinces are working to promote the use of controlled-release fertilizer in agricultural production this year, according to the National Agro-Tech Extension and Service Center (NAESC).

<u>'Cancer villages' one offshoot of China's economic growth</u> (Calum MacLeod, USA Today, 9/12/2011) To fight the cancer stalking their village, some late-stage patients in Xinglong, southwest China, eat bugs every day, in hope of a folk cure. Farmer Cui Xiaoliang hopes for another, more substantial remedy.

CORPORATIONS

Low-carbon growth 'needs incentives' (China Daily, 9/16/2011) Government incentives are important to pave a low-carbon road for economic growth, and the corporate sector should be the main player through technological improvement, said officials and industry insiders at the World Economic Forum in Dalian.

<u>China leading nuclear energy growth</u> (April Yee, The National, 9/16/2011) A race to build nuclear plants in China is outweighing the backlash against atomic energy sparked by the crisis at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi plant, an industry group says. New reactors in China - home to

nearly half of all such projects under construction - will help to double the world's nuclear capacity by 2030, the World Nuclear Association, based in London, says in a report.

<u>American Superconductor sues Chinese group</u> (Ed Crooks and Leslie Hook, Financial Times, 9/15/2011) A US high-technology company that was once a star of the clean energy sector is suing Sinovel, China's largest wind turbine manufacturer, over alleged software theft, in one of the most acrimonious conflicts to break out between US and Chinese companies over the sensitive issue of intellectual property.

China Everbright said to hire Mizhuo for Waste-to-Energy loan (Bloomberg, 9/15/2011) China Everbright International Ltd. (257), a renewable-energy project developer, hired Mizuho Corporate Bank Ltd. to arrange and underwrite a \$100 million loan to develop waste-to-energy plants, a person familiar with the matter said.

<u>China oil demand to slow more on weak economic outlook: analysts</u> (Calvin Lee, Platts, 9/15/2011) China's oil demand growth is expected to decelerate further in the third and fourth quarters, after slowing down in August, due to the combination of a weak economic outlook and a high base of comparison for the second half of 2010, analysts from Bernstein Research and HSBC said in separate research reports.

<u>China 'losing edge'' as low-cost manufacturer, says KPMG</u> (BBC, 9/15/2011) China is losing its edge as the world's cheapest place to manufacture goods, a new report suggests. Indonesia and Bangladesh are benefiting most as rising costs in China force firms to switch production, it says.

<u>Suzlon sees strong demand for wind energy in China</u> (Terril Yue Jones and Li Ran, Reuters, 9/15/2011) Indian wind turbine maker Suzlon Energy could begin exporting Chinese-assembled turbines to third countries as early as next year, the chairman of the company said on Thursday.

<u>China Coal Energy: August coal output rises to 8.84M metric tons</u> (Chester Yung, Dow Jones Newswires, 9/13/2011) China Coal Energy Co. (<u>1898.HK</u>, 601898.SH), the country's second-largest coal producer by revenue, said Tuesday that its August output totaled 8.84 million metric tons, up 17% from a year earlier.

<u>China's steel demand to fall by 2050</u> (Edwina Scott, Sydney Morning Herald, 9/9/2011) China's demand for steel is expected to dive by at least 40 per cent by 2050, a government climate adviser in one of the world's biggest greenhouse-emitting countries says.

GOVERNMENT

<u>Chemical checks to reduce toxic threat</u> (China Daily, 9/16/2011) A nationwide safety campaign is to target all enterprises involved in the production and use of hazardous chemicals, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection Zhang Lijun announced on Thursday.

<u>China releases regulations to protect second-largest fresh water lake</u> (Xinhua, 9/15/2011) China's State Council, or Cabinet, on Thursday released a set of regulations that provide for lawful protection of water resources and pollution treatment in regions surrounding Taihu Lake, China's second-largest fresh water lake.

<u>China Finance Ministry: To adjust subsidy policy for energy-saving cars</u> (Owen Fletcher, WSJ, 9/15/2011) China will adjust its subsidy policy for energy-saving cars from Oct. 1, but consumers will still receive a one-off subsidy of CNY3,000 when they buy such a vehicle, the Ministry of Finance said Friday.

<u>China consolidates grip on rare earths</u> (Keith Bradsher, NYT, 9/15/2011) In the name of fighting pollution, China has sent the price of compact fluorescent light bulbs soaring in the United States.

<u>China's power consumption up 9.1% in August</u> (Xinhua, 9/15/2011) The National Energy Administration (NEA) announced Thursday that the country's electrical power consumption rose 9.1 percent from a year earlier in August.

Shennongjia exposes reckless development of China's water resources (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 9/15/2011) Rapid and poorly regulated expansion in this stunning region by small, hydroelectric power plants have choked rivers with dams, covered mountains in pipes and left locals without livelihoods.

<u>China uses feed-in tariff to build domestic solar market</u> (Coco Liu, NYT, 9/14/2011) After years of simply taking advantage of overseas demand, China has taken a critical step to form its own solar market.