



# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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

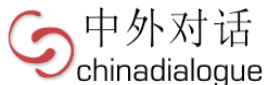


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**By CC Huang and Tim Quijano**

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

## OPINION

[Michele Bachmann needs to go to China before she tries to shut down the EPA](#) (Diane MacEachern, Huffington Post, 9/22/2011) Michele Bachman, the Minnesota Republican Member of Congress who's running for President, vows she'll cripple the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency if she's elected. Maybe if she spent a week in China like I recently did, she'd change her mind.

[A Marshall Plan to build a smart grid – in China](#) (James Greenberger, The Energy Collective, 9/18/2011) I wrote in last week's column about the three most interesting insights into the future of grid-connected energy storage offered last week at the 2011 NAATBatt Annual Meeting and Conference by David Mohler, chief technology officer of Duke Energy. It occurred to me after posting my article that I neglected one other important insight. The fourth insight came not from David's speech but from where he went after his speech: David is in China this week

exploring commercial opportunities, undoubtedly trying to find ways to monetize Duke's expertise in power technology.

## RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[China must help S. Africa halt rhino poaching surge, WWF says](#) (Thanh Nien News, 9/22/2011) China, Vietnam and Thailand, where rhinoceros horns are used for supposed medicinal properties, need to match South Africa's efforts to end a surge in poaching of the endangered animals, WWF International said.

[Slideshow: reviving the Yongding](#) (Tom Hancock and Berta Tilmantaite, China Dialogue, 9/22/2011) Beijing's "mother river", dry for more than a decade, has started to flow again. Tom Hancock presents a series of photos by Berta Tilmantaite documenting the controversial restoration of an iconic waterway.

[Student project aims to improve life for China's migrant millions](#) (Katy Cowan, Creative Boom, 9/22/2011) The idea of designing a shower cubicle mounted on the back of a bicycle might seem eccentric to many in the west. But Kingston University MA design student Chen Ying Gao hopes it might be able to offer some much-needed comfort for some of China's impoverished migrant workers.

[Protests mark rising environmental awareness in China](#) (Bill Savadore, AFP, 9/21/2011) A major anti-pollution protest has forced the Chinese government to take swift action for the second time in as many months, spurred by a rising environment movement that is spreading online.

[Divided waters in China](#) (Zhou Wei, China Dialogue, 9/20/2011) Chinese scientists troubled by radical proposals to divert Tibet's water are making their voices heard. Zhou Wei listened in at a seminar about the Shuotian Canal.

## CORPORATIONS

[Super rice crop needs time for commercial cultivation](#) (Zhou Siyu, China Daily, 9/23/2011) It could take some time for China's new breed of super rice to be cultivated on a large scale, Liu Shi, chief executive officer of Yuan Long Ping High-Tech Agriculture Co Ltd (Long Ping High-Tech), told China Daily.

[Multinationals tapping into China's low-carbon market](#) (Li Xiang, 9/23/2011, China Daily) A lot of people only associate low-carbon companies with new industries such as renewable energy or solar and wind power, but, traditional industries can also adopt low-emissions standards, according to the managing director of a major cable company in China.

[GM, GE team up on electric vehicle infrastructure in China](#) (Reuters, 9/22/2011) General Motors and General Electric signed a memorandum of understanding on Thursday to jointly work to speed up deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in China.

[China shares end higher led by banks, energy firms](#) (Wall Street Journal, 9/21/2011) China's shares ended higher Wednesday due to bargain hunting in banks and increased demand from fund managers.

[China's August oil demand dips to lowest daily average in 10 months](#) (MarketWatch, 9/21/2011) China's apparent oil demand was 38.02 million metric tons (mt) in August, or an average of 8.98 million barrels per day (b/d), the lowest level since October 2010, according to a Platts analysis based on statistics recently released by the Chinese government. But on a year-over-year basis, the August rate was up seven percent.

[China's cash floods into Canadian energy sector](#) (Asia Times, 9/20/2011)

As China has become the world's second-largest economy, its demand for energy has caused it to become the world's biggest comprehensive energy consumer. Accompanying this process has been a sharp upward trend in Chinese foreign direct investment (FDI) focused on energy and other resources.

[Plant closure due to quota, not pollution](#) (China Daily, 9/20/2011) A foreign-owned battery plant that was ordered to halt production after children living nearby were diagnosed with lead poisoning has denied emitting excessive levels of the heavy metal.

[Clean Energy Pioneer Winston Chung of Winston Global Energy Featured During Climate Week NYC](#) (MarketWatch, 9/19/2011) Rare earth lithium-yttrium battery inventor and Chinese clean energy pioneer Winston Chung was a featured panelist at the China Center hosted discussion during Climate Week NYC September 19-26, 2011.

[PepsiCo to partner with China's Ministry of Agriculture to promote sustainable farming](#) (MarketWatch, 9/19/2011) Partnership will accelerate agriculture development in rural China. PepsiCo to help farmers implement water- and energy-saving technologies, raise crop yields and increase income through advanced agriculture techniques.

## GOVERNMENT

[Environmental quality standards under change](#) (Xinhua, 9/23/2011) China will reevaluate and revise a series of environmental quality standards, including those for air, water, soil and noise, in the next five years, to improve the country's environmental quality.

[China, Uzbekistan eye deeper energy cooperation](#) (Xinhua, 9/23/2011) China and Uzbekistan on Thursday pledged to further their cooperation in areas like energy and minerals as China's top legislator Wu Bangguo pays an official goodwill visit to the Central Asian country.

[China meeting growth challenges](#) (Zhang Yunbi, China Daily, 9/23/2011) Renata Lok-Dessallien, the United Nations' resident coordinator in China and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) resident representative in China, on Wednesday praised China's role in promoting sustainable development.

[State tweaks resource tax on oil, gas producers](#) (Zhou Yan and Du Juan, 9/23/2011, China Daily) China will adjust the resource tax ratio on oil and gas producers on the basis of both volume and value, a move that implies that the country may introduce the tax tweak nationwide to tame its explosive demand for natural resources.

[China to tighten emissions from thermal power plants](#) (Reuters, 9/22/2011) China will tighten emission standards for thermal power plants, a main source of pollution, aiming to curb worsening environmental degradation.

[Carbon capture progress has lost momentum, says climate change agency](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 9/22/2011) The financial crisis and fading government support for climate action have seriously eroded global plans to capture and store carbon, the International Energy Agency (IEA) warned on Thursday.

[China calls on Iceland for energy help in bid to tap hot springs](#) (Omar R. Vladimarsson, Bloomberg, 9/22/2011) China, the largest consumer of coal for power generation, is sending engineers 5,000 miles across the world to learn how the Earth's bubbling hotspots can help utilities clean up their act.

[China releases technical standards for wind power industry](#) (Renewable Energy World, 9/22/2011) China's National Energy Administration (NEA) in early August approved a series of technical standards designed to better regulate the development of its wind energy sector. The 18 technical standards cover grid access for large wind farms, development of offshore wind, monitoring wind turbine operations, quantitative benchmarks for assessing the quality of output, and manufacturing requirements for key equipment. The new standards will go into effect on the first of November.

[Analysis: Conoco spill heightens scrutiny of offshore China](#) (Judy Hua and Chen Aizhu, 9/19/2011) China is clamping down on offshore oil drillers after a spill by U.S. firm ConocoPhillips in Bohai Bay, requiring tighter controls in a campaign to beef up environmental protection standards ordered by Premier Wen Jiabao.

[China plans to grade restaurant service with cartoon faces](#) (Xinhua, 9/18/2011) China's food safety watchdog plans to use cartoon faces -- smiling or unhappy -- to grade restaurants and delis based on the evaluation of their food safety conditions.

[China's green economist stirring a shift away from GDP](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 9/16/2011) Of all the efforts to improve China's environment, there are probably none as arcane and potentially important as the statistical re-evaluation being pioneered by Niu Wenyan.