



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 and/or timquijano@gmail.com.

OPINION

[China air pollution: "Slightly polluted" or "hazardous"?](#) (Jaime A. Florcruz, CNN, 11/18/2011) As I type this week's column, I look out of my office window and stare at a depressing sight. A heavy blanket of smog and dust hangs over the sky. Buildings nearby are barely visible. Air is barely breathable.

[Analysis: China climate role could be to corner U.S.](#) (Barbara Lewis and Nina Chestney, Reuters, 11/16/2011) China, the world's biggest carbon emitter, could nudge the United States into more action on climate change, rescuing the latest round of global talks and improving its international reputation.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[China hot for Toledo rosewood – NGOs warn of rapid depletion](#) (Adele Trapp, Amandala, 11/17/2011) The high foreign demand for Belizean rosewood, found primarily in Toledo, and the increasing extraction of this resource from Belizean forests has triggered widespread concerns from the environmental community over the sustainability of operations, as well as the far-reaching impacts this continued trend may have on the lives and livelihoods of Toledo residents, and the tourism and fisheries industries, which could also be affected by these operations.

[Chinese medicine driving rhinos to extinction](#) (Live Science, 11/17/2011) Biologists and game park officials in South Africa say that rhinos are being slaughtered at the rate of one each day, and that most of these animals are killed to feed a demand for traditional Chinese medicines and cures.

[What will China's energy demand be in 20 years?](#) (Kenneth Rapoza, Forbes, 11/12/2011) By the time your kindergartener is off to college and maybe even graduating, China will consume enough oil equivalent energy as the United States and European Union...combined. In fact, according to the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook, published Nov. 8, China will consume more energy than India, Brazil and the EU.

[Water pollution control in China: Foreign firms have competitive advantages](#) (PR Web, 11/10/2011) Controlling water pollution in China is a difficult proposition, with weak implementation of laws and penalties for polluting. Further muddying the waters are local governments' lack of motivation to work with each other to tackle the problem. Still, more foreign enterprises are expected to enter the Chinese market to participate in water pollution control projects, according to IBISWorld, America's largest publisher of industry research.

CORPORATIONS

[Apple meets China environment groups to polish image](#) (BBC, 11/17/2011) Apple has met with environmental groups in China in a bid to quell concerns about pollution caused by its Chinese manufacturers. The move comes after a report in August alleged that some Apple manufacturers were discharging harmful pollutants.

[Cleantech VC surging in China](#) (Pete Danko, Earth Techling, 11/17/2011) China isn't slowing down when it comes to cleantech venture capital investment. Quite the opposite. With the year not even over, 2011 cleantech VC is "already up 124.95 percent" on 2010's total, according to the Climate Group, a nonprofit, clean-energy advocacy organization. Citing data from CVSource, a service of the ChinaVenture Investment Consulting, the Climate Group said clean energy financing in China stood

just shy of \$1.4 billion, with 51 deals averaging \$27.43 million as CV investment shifted strongly toward pollution inspection and management.

[Green energy exports face trade barriers](#) (China Daily, 11/17/2011) Exports of new energy and energy-saving products will be targeted by trade barriers in developed countries, led by the United States, a commerce official warned.

[China's false hope for Aussie gas](#) (David Winning, Wall Street Journal, 11/17/2011) After several false starts over nearly a decade, U.S. oil giant Chevron Corp. looks set to be frustrated again in its ambition to export Australian natural gas to China—at least for now.

[China surveys listed companies' environmental responsibility](#) (Xinhua, 11/17/2011) China launched Wednesday an investigation into the environmental responsibility of more than 2,000 A-share listed companies, according to the China Forum of Environmental Journalists (CFEJ), the activity's sponsor.

[Major Chinese, South Korean wind farm projects put pressure on rare earths supply](#) (International Business Times, 11/16/2011) China and South Korea's planned investment in offshore wind farms, amounting to close to \$25 billion in the near future, could also affect on rare earths production. The increasing demand for environment-friendly and energy-efficient power generation is forcing China and South Korea to invest in offshore wind farms.

[Chemical plants in East China accused of polluting, causing cancer deaths](#) (Bernama, 11/16/2011) Two chemical companies in east China's Shandong province have been accused of polluting and being responsible for the deaths of more than 30 nearby residents, reports Xinhua news agency.

GOVERNMENT

[Carbon 'market' has potential](#) (Wei Tian, China Daily, 11/17/2011) The carbon market in China has "substantial" potential, and will be decisive to the global carbon price once a national system emerges, Rachel Kyte, vice-president of the World Bank, said on Wednesday.

[China unlikely to resume nuclear approval in 2011, official says](#) (Business Week, 11/17/2011) China is unlikely to resume approving new nuclear power projects this year, according to Xu Yuming, vice secretary general of the China Nuclear Energy Association. Work may resume on some halted projects that have already started construction, Xu said in Beijing today.

[Pollution measures for public feedback](#) (Xinhua, 11/17/2011) The Ministry of Environmental Protection started gauging public opinion on revised air quality

standards on Wednesday, following widespread calls for the government to provide more information on pollution.

[APEC leaders pledge low levy on green goods to aid environment](#) (Business Week, 11/17/2011) Asia-Pacific nations pledged to establish a list of so-called green goods that will be subject to a maximum 5 percent tariff and agreed to reduce energy intensity to help overcome economic and environmental challenges in the region.

[China opens doors of state-run companies to world's top talent](#) (Vivek Wadhwa, Washington Post, 11/16/2011) The top talent in countries around the world have a new suitor: the Chinese government. China has a severe shortage of skilled talent and, in a policy reversal, has decided to open its doors to talent from around the world. This could mean that the brilliant NASA scientists the U.S. laid off, could find new employment — and a new home — in Shanghai or Beijing.

[China's new regulation shakes up plastic recycling industry](#) (Kevin Huang, Plastics News, 11/15/2011) Plastics scrap imports through China's Guangzhou customs fell by more than 80 percent in the past two months, as the local customs tighten the enforcement of a newly implemented regulation on solid waste import.

[China eyes green growth, vows to curb pollution](#) (Xinhua, 11/15/2011) Top Chinese leaders on Tuesday pledged to promote green growth and curb pollution as the country strives to transform its economy. "The Chinese government attaches great importance to environmental protection and considers it an important foundation for the country's economic restructuring process," Premier Wen Jiabao told a group of foreign experts on environment and development.

[China Shuts 90% of Lead-Acid Battery Makers in State Crackdown](#) (Bloomberg, 11/15/2011) China has shuttered almost 90 percent of lead-acid battery makers in a government crackdown to curb lead poisoning cases, cutting sales and weighing on metal prices, said an industry group.

[UN official hails China's efforts on green economy](#) (Xinhua, 11/13/2011) An official with the United Nations has hailed China's efforts on promoting low-carbon economy, hoping China to attract more international investment and cooperation to make its economy greener.

[China concedes it underestimates air pollution levels](#) (Malcolm Moore, Telegraph, 11/11/2011) Beijing pea-soup pollution has deteriorated dramatically in recent months forcing a lead official to concede the country's air standards were not being monitored correctly.

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