



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



www.pacechina.net

PACE is now in cooperation with

chinadialogue



Issue 141, January 6th, 2012 to January 13th, 2012

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Environmental China is now online.

WELCOME to Environmental China, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving interested readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Environmental China is also available online in [blog format](#). Invite your friends and colleagues to subscribe to the e-mail newsletter [here](#). Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com or timquijano@gmail.com.

OPINION

[Air pollution hazardous to China's economic health](#) (The Globe and Mail, 12/21/2011) China's overheated economy may be slowing but its capital is still bearing the brunt of extreme air pollution, an increasingly costly byproduct of

[China cannot stop buying Iranian oil](#) (People's Daily, 1/13/2012) It is said that the United States wants China to cooperate with it through stopping buying oil from Iran, so as to tighten sanctions against Iran. However, China has no reason to blindly follow the economic sanctions

against Iran initiated by the United States, no matter which side is considered. Particularly, it is impossible for China to stop buying Iranian oil.

[China's thirst for water transfer](#) (Gong Jing and Cui Zheng, China Dialogue, 1/10/2012) Many Chinese provinces now divert water across river basins to meet urban demand. But while cities enjoy the extra supplies, the environment has paid a heavy price. Gong Jing and Cui Zheng report.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[How children in China's urban jungle are reconnecting with nature](#) (Guardian, 1/11/2012) We all met by the roadside before setting off for the nature camp. It was a clear, early-spring morning and several of the children played on a dusty patch of ground next to a run-down factory. We grabbed one of the girls as she ran past. "Do you like it here?" we asked.

[Pollution in China the world's worst \[PHOTOS\]](#) (International Business Times, 1/12/2012) The expeditious growth of industry in China over the last decade has been disastrous for the country's environment. China is currently the number one producer of carbon dioxide in the world and hundreds of thousands of people die a premature death each year thanks to pollution.

[China to release six giant pandas into wild](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 1/10/2012) China will introduce six giant pandas into a "semi-wild" environment on Wednesday in one of the most ambitious attempts yet to replenish the endangered population with captive-bred animals.

[Hong Kong air pollution at worst levels ever: report](#) (Reuters, 1/8/2012) Air pollution levels in Hong Kong were the worst ever last year, the South China Morning Post reported on Monday, a finding that may further undermine the city's role as an Asian financial centre as business executives relocate because of health concerns.

CORPORATIONS

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[KONG to supply eco-efficient elevators to office buildings in Binhai New Area, China](#)

(MarketWatch, 1/13/2012) KONE has won an order to supply 79 eco-efficient elevators with innovative technologies to two high-rise office buildings of the Yu Jia Pu Financial District in Tianjin Binhai New Area, China.

[Fishermen ride wave of discontent](#) (China Daily, 1/13/2012) Depleted stocks mean catch is harder to come by, Cui Jia and Liu Ce report from Shandong and Liaoning provinces.

[Building on "toxic land"](#) (Bao Xiaodong and Zhang Xinyuan, China Dialogue, 1/12/2012) As factories have moved out of Chinese cities, housing and public buildings have been built on contaminated sites. Bao Xiaodong and Zhang Xinyuan investigate.

[CNOOC starts its first China shale-gas exploration project](#) (Business Week, 1/12/2012) Cnooc Ltd., China's biggest offshore energy producer, started drilling at its first shale-gas project in the country, joining rivals including China Petroleum & Chemical Corp. in the search for unconventional natural gas.

[Honeywell and TEDA launch China's first demand response project under U.S.-China Smart Grid Cooperative](#) (PRNewswire, 1/10/2012) Honeywell (NYSE: HON) today announced an agreement with the Tianjin Economic-Technological Development Area (TEDA) to implement China's first Smart Grid Demand Response project. State Grid Electric Power Research Institute (SGEPRI) selected Honeywell to develop the project in February. The agreement also represents the official launch of the Demand Response System Pilot jointly sponsored by the United States and Chinese governments through the U.S.-China Energy Cooperation Program (ECP), which aims to develop a nationwide set of smart grid industry standards and regulations in China.

[China Everbright signs \\$100 million loan for China Energy plants](#) (Bloomberg, 1/11/2012) China Everbright International Ltd. (257), a Hong Kong-based renewable energy company, signed a \$100 million loan today for the development of waste-to-energy plants in China.

[Builders follow environmental approach](#) (Wang Hongyi, China Daily, 1/09/2012) Architect Wang Jinpeng had never been as busy as he was last year. "We have five ongoing projects on

hand," said the chief of the environmental building department at Tianjin Huahui Architecture Company. "All of them are relatively large. Inquiries and calls from potential clients about green buildings never end."

[Wind energy dispute may test US-China IP resolve](#) (Reuters, 1/9/2012) A little-known dispute between a U.S. renewable energy company and its Chinese customer over the theft of trade secrets could prove to be a significant test of China's intellectual property laws, and the success of Western companies in pursuing claims in China.

GOVERNMENT

[China orders 7 pilot cities and provinces to set CO2 caps](#) (Reuters, 1/13/2012) China has ordered seven provinces and cities to set caps on greenhouse gas emissions in preparation for the launch of local pilot carbon markets, according to a notice issued by the country's state planning agency on Friday.

[Capital begins hourly updates on air pollution](#) (Zheng Xin, China Daily, 1/13/2012) The Chinese capital began releasing hourly air pollution data on Thursday to address growing public concern over air quality. The Beijing Municipal Environmental Monitoring Center will publish readings for the levels of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and PM 10 - particulate matter smaller than 10 micrograms - detected by its 27 air quality monitoring stations.

[China's biggest city commits €1.2 billion to wind energy](#) (REVE, 1/13/2012) Shanghai, which would see approximately €1.2 billion being spent on developing offshore wind farm plants by 2015, would also provide funding for solar power, biomass-fired generation and geothermal energy.

[Solar is bailed out once again](#) (The Motley Fool, 1/12/2012) The solar market seems to be bailed out by Germany once a year, saving countless companies from meeting their demise if installations fall in solar's leading country. 2011 was no different when the country set a new record for solar installations at 7.5 GW, with 3 GW in the month of December alone.

[Hong Kong to widen pollutants watch as Beijing plans to do more](#) (Business Week, 1/12/2012)

Hong Kong, facing criticism over its air quality, will measure pollutants smaller than 2.5 micrometers at all its monitoring stations by March, a week after Beijing pledged to make publicly available similar data.

[China's renewables surge dampened by growth in coal consumption](#) (Jonathan Watts, Guardian, 1/12/2012)

China tripled its solar energy generating capacity last year and notched up major increases in wind and hydropower, government figures showed this week, but officials are still struggling to cap the growth in coal burning, which is the biggest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world.

[Wen to visit Arab nations, attend energy summit](#) (Xinhua, 1/11/2011)

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao will pay an official visit to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar from Jan. 14 to 19, vice Foreign Minister Zhai Jun said on Wednesday.

[Price reform fails to ignite China's gas imports](#) (Wall Street Journal, 1/11/2012)

China wants natural gas to play a major part in meeting energy demand. But from the current direction of policy, you wouldn't know it. The 12th five-year plan sets a target for 8% of China's energy to come from natural gas by 2015, up from 4% in 2010. Getting there will require significant reforms, not least to the pricing mechanism.

[Chengdu to build Sino-France ecological parks](#) (Yang Jingya, China Daily, 1/11/2012)

Chief executives from more than 30 French companies recently gathered at the Sino-France Ecological Park Cooperation Conference in Chengdu. The meeting was held to discuss issues such as ecological parks, the Internet, environment-friendly buildings, energy conservation and environmental protection.