



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



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Invite your friends and colleagues to subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter here. Please note that our blog is currently under construction. We hope to add some additional features in the coming weeks and we will let everyone know when it is fully functional again. Thanks for your patience!

WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving interested 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.

OPINION

[Chinese waste: the burning issue](#) (Yu Dawei, China Dialogue, 1/26/2012) The state remains unprepared for the pollution and protests its ambitious garbage-incineration plans could generate, writes Yu Dawei.

[What shale gas in China means for the United States](#) (Sarah Forbes, World Resources Institute, 1/26/2012) Today I testified before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission during a hearing on China's Global Quest for Resources and Implications for the United States. In my testimony, I described the prospects for shale gas in China and its implications for the United States.

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[Chinese readers in response to “How the US lost out on iPhone work”](#) (New York Times, 1/25/2012) The New York Times

partnered with Caixin, a Chinese business magazine, to publish the article in Chinese. The goal was twofold: to share the content of the article with readers in China, and to solicit Chinese comments for translation into English that might prove illuminating for readers of the English-language article on NYTimes.com.

[Viewpoint: China’s Iran dilemma](#) (Minxin Pei, BBC News, 1/19/2012) As the West increases its pressure on Iran, the latest effort being a concerted campaign to impose an oil embargo on Tehran, China finds itself in a tough dilemma.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Clean air targets disappointing in Hong Kong, say environmentalists](#) (Sonya Bryskine, The Epoch Times, 1/25/2012) Hong Kong pollution targets will be revised for the first time since 1987 according to authorities, but critics say the government’s approach to clean air is still disappointing.

[Comparing pollution data: Beijing vs. US Embassy on PM 2.5](#) (Wall Street Journal, 1/23/2012) Beijing’s municipal government began releasing new air-pollution data over the weekend that will likely raise questions among government critics who worry that authorities aren’t going far enough to better track air quality.

[Alberta must improve links with energy-hungry China: report](#) (Dave Cooper, Montreal Gazette, 1/23/2012) China’s oil demand will soon outpace U.S. consumption, and Alberta is one of the secure global markets it favours, the China Institute at the University of Alberta said in a report to Alberta Energy on Monday.

CORPORATIONS

[Solar CEO’s predict boom in China will ease glut in 2012: Energy](#) (Alex Morales and Jacqueline Simmons, Bloomberg, 1/27/2012) China may double its installations of solar panels this year, absorbing excess production that depressed prices and margins in 2011, chief executive officers from two of the industry’s top five manufacturers said.

[ConocoPhillips to pay \\$158 million damages for oil spill](#) (Cao Yin and Zhao Yinan, China Daily, 1/26/2012) Energy giant ConocoPhillips said on Tuesday that it would pay 1 billion yuan (\$158

million) to settle compensation claims arising from the oil leaks from its Penglai 19-3 oilfield in Bohai Bay in June 2011.

[Tim Cook: Apple cares about ‘every worker’ in its supply chain](#) (Steven Musil, CNET, 1/26/2012) A day after a report detailed harsh working conditions at one of Apple's component suppliers in China, Apple CEO Tim Cook said the company cares about every worker in its supply chain and that any suggestion to the contrary was "patently false and offensive."

[Pollution sparks panic water buying in China](#) (AFP, 1/26/2012) Pollution in China's southern region of Guangxi sparked panic buying of bottled water this week after a mining firm dumped toxic cadmium into a river, according to state media. Residents in Liuzhou city filled shopping carts with boxes of bottled water, as the government sought to reassure people that the drinking water supply was safe, Shanghai's Oriental Morning Post reported.

[How China is driving the grim rise in illegal ivory](#) (Guardian, 1/23/2012) Last year was the worst year for ivory seizures in Africa since an international ivory ban went into effect in 1989. During 2011, authorities seized more than 23 tons of ivory, which represented about 2,500 individual elephants killed.

GOVERNMENT

[China overtakes Japan as world’s top coal importer](#) (Osamu Tsukimori, Reuters, 1/26/2012) China overtook Japan as the world's top coal importer for the first time in decades last year, partly driven by robust Chinese demand and as Japan's imports fell after steelmakers curbed output and a huge quake damaged some coal-fired power plants.

[China to promote reducing paper use, recycling paper](#) (Xinhua, 1/26/2011) China will promote recycling paper and reducing its use in order to save resources and protect the environment, according to the country's new five-year plan for its paper industry. The authorities should urge people to cut back on using high-quality paper such as sheets with high whiteness, said the country's 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015) for the Paper Industry, released last week.

[Harper builds oil link with China after Obama Keystone ‘Slap’](#) (Bloomberg, 1/25/2012) Prime Minister Stephen Harper is gaining support among Canadians for his plan to ship oilsands crude to China after President Barack Obama rejected TransCanada Corp. (TRP)’s \$7 billion Keystone XL pipeline to the U.S. Gulf Coast.

[Guangdong Carbon program to be China’s largest, New Energy says](#) (Bloomberg, 1/25/2012) A program to curb the increase of greenhouse gas emissions in China’s Guangdong province will probably be the largest of the nation’s seven test climate- protection systems, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

[New Year fireworks leaves Beijing air smothering](#) (China Daily, 1/24/2012) China's New Year firework spree has not only left thousands of tonnes of scraps in Beijing but also driven up the city's air pollution data to "hazardous" level until winds blew them away Tuesday morning.

[Beijing begins measuring tiny air pollutants](#) (Lucy Hornby and Wan Xu, Reuters, 1/23/2012) Beijing began disclosing the amount of tiny pollution particles in the air on Saturday, in a move that could improve disclosure but alarm a public barely resigned to the capital's choking smog.