



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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PACE*



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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

[China's visible solar power success](#) (Mark Clifford, Caixin Online, 2/8/2012) Suntech Power's ebullient Chief Executive Officer Shi Zhengrong got plenty of press at Davos for his proclamation that solar power will be able to compete without subsidies against conventional power sources in half the world by 2015.

[Energy the first step in China strategy](#) (Wenran Jiang, National Post, 2/9/2012) All eyes are on Prime Minister Harper's second visit to Beijing, where his repeated emphasis on diversification to the China market got a major boost with the signing of nine economic co-operation documents, including the highly anticipated Foreign Investment Protection Agreement.

[Electric bikes: China's development of a low-cost efficient energy solution holds a lesson for India](#) (The Times of India, 2/9/2012) Disruptive technologies are game changers that herald a new era, toppling established market leaders within a short span. The battery-operated electric two-wheelers is one such technology.

[Shining a light on US-China Clean Energy Cooperation](#) (Melanie Hart, Center for American Progress, 2/9/2012) This case highlights a major challenge facing U.S.-China clean energy relationships more broadly: how to handle the Chinese government's deployment of massive resources toward developing renewable energy technologies, many of which are designed for export. Indeed, this is an issue that bedevils U.S.-China trade relations not just in clean energy, but also in other industrial and services sectors, which means that how this complaint by U.S. solar manufacturers plays out may well have much broader implications.

[China is right: carbon tax is just a trade barrier](#) (Financial Times, 2/8/2012)

Sir, China is right to refuse to participate in the European Union emissions trading system ("China bars airlines from paying EU carbon tax", February 6). It is indeed merely a trade barrier in the name of the environment, but it is also much less than that: it has nothing to do with lowering pollution and everything to do with subsidizing Brussels – and China knows it.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

High demand for sea turtles in China sends poachers toward Philippines (Public Radio International, 2/9/2012) Chinese fishers have so badly depleted the population of sea turtles, many of them endangered, off the nation's coasts that poachers are traveling far and wide to nab the sea reptiles. As China and the Philippines argue over stretches of the South China Sea, turtle poachers have already moved in.

[Pollution takes a heavy toll on China](#) (UPI, 2/6/2012) China is paying a high price for pollution resulting from the country's soaring economic development fueled by low energy costs, an environmental report claims.

CORPORATIONS

[Apple hit with 250,000 signatures protesting labor conditions in China](#) (Kate Freeman, Mashable, 2/9/2012) Fair-labor organizers delivered 250,000 signatures to Apple stores in six cities around the world on Thursday in protest of the company's working conditions in China.

[Suntech leads NY stock climb on solar demand: China overnight](#) (Business Week, 2/9/2012) Chinese solar companies climbed, driving an index of the nation's stocks traded in New York to gain the most in a month, as Renewable Energy Corp. ASA said demand for the technology is shifting to Asia and the U.S.

[China plans to produce 6.5 BCM of shale gas in 2015, CNPC says](#) (Bloomberg, 2/9/2012) China plans to produce 6.5 billion cubic meters of shale gas in 2015, the nation's biggest energy company said.

[China auto sales fall sharply](#) (AFP, 2/9/2012) Vehicle sales in China fell sharply in January from a year earlier, an industry group said Thursday, as the Lunar New Year holiday hit demand in the world's biggest auto market. [More enviro-tech sectors added to China's 'encouraged' list](#) (Environmental Finance, 2/9/2012) China has made it easier for foreign investors to invest in environmental technologies and commit capital to venture capital funds in the country, with the first revision of its Foreign Investment Catalogue since 2007.

[Yangtze River chemical leak raises concern in China](#) (BBC, 2/8/2012) Shanghai authorities are on alert after a chemical leak from a cargo ship polluted the Yangtze River, state-run media report.

[Thwarting dirty migration](#) (Beijing Review, 2/6/2012) Situated between undulating hills and Poyang Lake, the largest freshwater lake in China, Leping City in central China's Jiangxi Province was famous for its natural beauty and the production of high-quality vegetables.

GOVERNMENT

[Canada's Harper reaches agreement with China on uranium sale](#) (Business Week, 2/9/2012) Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper reached agreements with China to facilitate uranium ex

[Chinese county protests nuclear plant construction](#) (Voice of America, 2/9/2012) Chinese state media say authorities in eastern China are demanding construction of a local nuclear-power plant be stopped permanently because residents in the earthquake-prone region are at risk.

[Beijing to cut air pollution by 15 percent by 2015](#) (Reuters, 2/9/2012) China's heavily polluted capital, Beijing, plans to reduce air pollution levels by 15 percent by 2015 and 30 percent by 2020 through phasing out old cars, relocating factories and planting new forests, state media said on Thursday.

[Denmark to head China water platform](#) (Eco-business, 2/9/2012) Denmark will be among the leading countries on European side – together with key EU partners and the EU delegation in Beijing – in the so-called China Europe Water Platform – under the European Water Initiative beginning in 2013.

[Shanghai to publish PM 2.5 pollution data by June, Chinanews says](#) (Bloomberg, 2/8/2012) Shanghai will start publishing data on pollutants smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter in June, China News Service said today, citing Sun Jian, a deputy director at the municipal environmental protection bureau.

[China has moral high ground over “dirty skies”](#) (Reuters, 2/7/2012) China is fighting for its right to pollute. The government has banned Chinese airlines from paying a pointless new European emissions tax.

[China deepens ties to Arab Gulf states while rejecting Western curbs on business partner Iran](#) (Adam Schreck, AP, 2/7/2012) To celebrate Chinese New Year last month, Dubai's swankiest hotel bathed its sail-shaped facade in red lighting accented with an image of a twisting golden dragon.

[Reports say China fires 7 officials, punishes 2 after toxic cadmium spill in southern river](#) (AP, 2/4/2012) An environmental protection director and six other officials have been fired after a spill of toxic cadmium in a river in southern China threatened drinking water supplies for millions of people, news reports said Saturday.