



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

[US risks emotions on China's clean energy](#) (Benjamin Shobert, Asia Times, 4/5/2012) Across China fewer cities make the country's aggressive pursuit of clean technology more obviously needed than in Beijing. The air, with its omnipresent and bedeviling dust from the Gobi Desert, can be challenging enough; beyond nature's contribution are the manmade pollutants from coal-burning power plants, cement factories, industry of all manner and the ubiquitous logjam that is traffic in China's sprawling capital city.

[Obama subsidizes dirty Chinese coal power](#) (Kevin D. Williamson, National Review, 4/4/2012) The Obama administration has done something I would call odd, if odd weren't the norm in this White House.

The administration is worried about global warming. It also is worried about the American economy, particularly manufacturing, and international competition, particularly from China.

[Apple suppliers' conditions in China still touchy](#) (Andrew S. Ross, San Francisco Chronicle, 3/29/2012) Apple CEO Tim Cook reportedly has had a great time in Beijing this week, posing for pictures with locals at an Apple store and conferring with government leaders on the company's future in China. One meeting he did not have, however, was with a local organization that prompted Apple to pay closer attention to working conditions at its Chinese factories. Despite improvements since the conditions were publicized, relations are still a little touchy.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Ministry sued for failing to provide pollution data](#) (China Daily, 4/5/2012) A man is preparing to sue the Chinese government for failing to provide information about emissions from an incineration factory which he said paralyzed his son's brain.

[Giant feathered dinosaur found in China was too big to fly](#) (The Guardian, 4/5/2012) The discovery of the largest known feathered dinosaur was announced by scientists in China on Wednesday. Similar in size and shape to Tyrannosaurus rex, palaeontologists at the Chinese academy of sciences in Beijing have named the new species Yutyrannus huali, meaning "beautiful feathered tyrant". At nine metres long and weighing more than 1.4 tonnes, it is also the largest feathered animal ever discovered – either alive or extinct.

[Fashionable pollution in China](#) (Monica Tan, The Diplomat, 4/5/2012) Early one morning in 2011, environmentalist Lei Yuting was crouched by the side of the Fenghua River, which snakes through the Chinese province of Ningbo. Despite his face mask and protective goggles he could smell the chemical dyes that polluted the water. His gear drew the attention of a few locals passing by on their morning exercise. They stopped to tell him that the area always smells bad, and that the color of the wastewater changes throughout the day.

[China Beats U.S. With Power From Coal Processing](#) (Bloomberg, 4/4/2012) By 2000, Wang was convinced that the research methods he was patenting could help stave off the environmental nightmare he saw unfolding during return visits to his homeland. China, already reeling from pollution, was poised to more than double coal consumption during the decade. That would choke cities with smog and exacerbate global warming.

[Relatives opt for greener ways to pay their tributes](#) (Xinhua, 4/3/2012) More people around the country are opting for environmentally friendly ways to pay tribute to their deceased loved ones during the Qingming Festival.

[Pictures: China's rare-earth mineral monopoly](#) (National Geographic, 4/3/2012) With tongue-twisting names like dysprosium, yttrium, and neodymium, these 17 metals are found in products ranging from cell phones and computers to medical devices and jet engines. They play an important role in the

coatings, magnets, and phosphors used in green technology, such as photovoltaic thin film panels, fluorescent lighting, wind turbines, and electric vehicles.

[Green rooftops help clean up Beijing's air](#) (China Daily, 4/2/2012) As public debate on air pollution heats up, many are increasingly looking to the Chinese capital's skies to cool rapid urbanization with more greenery. The Beijing municipal government has already announced plans to improve the quality of the city's air by covering 100,000 sq m of roofs with greenery by the end of this year.

[Solar energy inspiration from butterflies](#) (Sindya N. Bhanoo, New York Times, 4/2/2012) Butterfly wings are not just beautiful. They are also sophisticated collectors of solar energy that help butterflies stay warm, and researchers say that their shinglelike structure could provide valuable clues into developing better solar technology.

[Cities dim lights in Earth Hour initiative](#) ([China.org.cn](#), 4/1/2012) A total of 124 Chinese cities joined urban centers around the world in turning off the lights of their landmark buildings on Saturday night, as part of an environmental initiative of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

CORPORATIONS

Carmaker still tops in sustainability (China Daily, 4/6/2012) BMW has been honored as the top automaker for the seventh consecutive year on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.

[China Business 2012: Tax incentives make it easier to be green](#) (New Zealand Herald, 4/5/2012) China, as the world's biggest energy consumer, has set itself a goal of generating 15 per cent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020. It almost doubled consumer subsidies for renewable-power generation in the second half of last year to \$545 million, the most recent period reported.

[China's Jizhong Energy mines 31 million mt of coal, on 10% on year](#) (Platts, 4/5/2012) Jizhong Energy Group, the largest coal miner in northern China's Hebei province, mined 31 million mt of coal in the first quarter of 2012, up 9.9% year on year, according to a statement Thursday on the website of the Xingtai municipal government.

[Clearing the path for cleantech](#) (New Zealand Herald, 4/4/2012) Rising demand, available investment funding and strong Government support are just some of the opportunities for cleantech New Zealand companies looking to do business in China.

[Solar Jobs join Harry Reid to Chinese billionaire in price drop](#) (Bloomberg, 4/3/2012) A Chinese billionaire is teaming up with the most powerful man in the U.S. Senate to build a solar plant in a dusty corner of Nevada, even as officials accuse China of driving energy companies out of business by dumping cheap components on the American market.

[Kunlun Energy secures anchor investors](#) (Henny Sender, Financial Times, 4/3/2012) Richard Ong's RRJ Capital and Temasek, Singapore's state investment agency, are investing about \$600m to anchor Kunlun Energy's \$1.35bn capital raising, two people familiar with the deal said.

[China to reduce dioxin pollution from pulp and paper industry](#) (Asian Scientist, 4/2/2012) The World Bank has awarded China a US\$15 million grant from the Global Environment Facility to support reduction of dioxins from its pulp and paper industry.

[Conoco pays Chinese fisherman for oil spill](#) (Reuters, 4/1/2012) U.S. energy giant ConocoPhillips and CNOOC Ltd have agreed to jointly pay 305 million yuan (\$48 million) in compensation to Chinese fishermen and restore the maritime environment in the Bohai Bay area after a major oil spill there last year, state media reported on Sunday.

[China's gasoline prices surpass those in US](#) (Voice of America, 3/30/2012) Americans may be grumbling about the high price of gas, but most still pay less for fuel than consumers in other parts of the world. Many in Europe pay more than two dollars per liter - roughly double the average price for gasoline in the U.S. And now, even Chinese consumers - who have long enjoyed government subsidies - are paying more for fuel than Americans. The rising prices are adding to fears of slower growth in the world's two biggest economies.

GOVERNMENT

[Hu stresses tree-planting for greener growth](#) (Beijing Review, 4/5/2012) President Hu Jintao on Tuesday called for more efforts in promoting a voluntary tree-planting campaign to provide ecological support to China's scientific development.

[Ship smog seen as next target to clear Hong Kong skies](#) (Business Week, 4/4/2012) As OOCL London entered the English Channel in early February, the 323-meter vessel owned by Hong Kong's biggest container line was forced to switch from burning the black sludge known as bunker oil to less polluting fuel. That wasn't the case in the ship's home harbor last week.

[China to flood nature reserve with latest Yangtze dam](#) (Lucy Hornby and Jim Bai, Reuters, 3/29/2012) China's Three Gorges Corp. on Thursday marked the beginning of construction for a dam that will flood the last free-flowing portion of the middle reaches of the Yangtze, the country's longest river.