



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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



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By CC Huang, TimQuijano

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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

[Paul: The High Cost of our Addiction to China](#) (Scott N. Paul, CNBC, 5/3/2012) Ten years after the United States officially ended its yearly review of China's trade status, no one can credibly argue that China is any freer or more attentive to human rights, nor can they claim the United States is better off economically as a result of our bilateral trade and investment relationship with the People's Republic.

[Solar Disarray](#) (Will Oremus, Slate, 5/3/2012) China is stealing America's solar manufacturing industry. Should we fight back—or rejoice?

[How the U.S. could influence China's coal habits — with exports](#) (Brad Plumer, Washington Post, 5/1/2012) Coal exports, a favorite topic here at Wonkblog, have become a hot environmental issue of late. Coal use is shrinking in the United States thanks (in part) to cheap natural gas. So coal companies are building terminals in the Pacific Northwest to ship their surplus coal to places like China.

[China's looming conflict between energy and water](#) (Christine Larson, Yale Environment 360, 4/30/2012) In its quest to find new sources of energy, China is increasingly looking to its western provinces. But the nation's push to develop fossil fuel and alternative sources has so far ignored a basic fact — western China simply lacks the water resources needed to support major new energy development.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Massive rise in Asian eye damage](#) (BBC, 5/4/2012) Up to 90% of school leavers in major Asian cities are suffering from myopia - short-sightedness - a study suggests.

[Rare Yangtze River Porpoises Found Dead](#) (Global Animal, 5/3/2012) Over 30 finless Yangtze river porpoises have been found dead within the last two months, a similar case to thousands of dolphins found dead in the past two years. With their numbers greatly decreasing, The World Wildlife Fund is concerned that these rare animals are moving closer to extinction. While the exact cause of the deaths is unknown, scientists believe that these porpoises could be the victims of electro-fishing, boat-engine propellers, food shortages and pollution.

[China must act urgently to curb city emissions: World Bank](#) (Chicago Tribune, 5/2/2012) China must act urgently on multiple fronts if it is to cut greenhouse gas emissions from its rapidly expanding cities and hit government targets for curbing carbon intensity, a new report from the World Bank said on Thursday.

[China to release alligators into the wild](#) (People's Daily, 5/3/2012) A nature reserve in east China's Anhui province will release six captive-bred alligators into the wild as part of an experimental program to boost the population of the endangered animal.

[Analysis: China steel mills too big to fail - or succeed](#) (David Stanway and Ruby Lian, 5/3/2012) In a ramshackle township in northwest China's Shaanxi province, red Communist Party banners call on a nearby steel mill's workers to seek "progress" and avoid making "backward steps".

[No easy scapegoat for Hong Kong pollution](#) (Wall Street Journal, 4/30/2012) Hong Kong has long preferred to blame its smoggy skies on polluting factories just over the border in mainland China. But new analysis suggests that the blame for much of the city's pollution rests squarely on Hong Kong's shoulders.

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CORPORATIONS

[Hydrogen to Replace Heavy Oil](#) (MarketWatch, 5/3/2012) Turbine Truck Engines, Inc. ("TTE") TTEG +1.82% and Energy Technology Services, Inc ("ETS") are pleased to announce its joint venture entity, Global Hydrogen Energy Holding Group Limited ("GHE") has completed an on-site cost benefit survey, for use of GHE's efficient methanol to hydrogen generator system, referred to as the Hydrogen Energy Production System ("HEPS"), at the DeMing Ceramics Co. Ltd, located in Jinjiang, Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, China after DeMing President, Mr. Zhou ChangSha was so impressed during his recent visit to the ETS facility in Taiwan to witness the operating 200m3/hr HEPS display unit. The results of the survey concluded strong operational and financial viability for switching DeMing Ceramics Co. from heavy oil to hydrogen as the fuel for their furnaces. Currently, DeMing Ceramics' heavy oil consumption cost is \$3.8 million (USD) annually.

[Is poo power the answer to China's pig problem?](#) (Pauline Askin, Reuters, 5/2/2012) Seven hundred million pigs produce a lot of poo. China's love of pork presents a mountain of a problem for the environment, 1.4 million metric tonnes of pig poo a year to be precise, but an Australian company believes it has part of the answer. Why not turn the pig poo into power?

[China shuts down Coke plant over chlorine pollution](#) (AFP, 5/1/2012) Authorities in northern China have ordered a Coca-Cola bottling plant shut after finding its products were contaminated by chlorine, according to a government statement.

[China New Energy building Waste-to-Biofuel plant in China](#) (Bloomberg, 4/30/2012) China New Energy Ltd., a maker of biofuel technology, signed a letter of intent to develop a facility in northeastern China that will use non-edible plant waste to produce clean fuel.

[China Carbon Blockage Begins to Ease: Energy Markets](#) (Bloomberg, 4/27/2012) China is starting to approve emission credits after a seven-month freeze, stoking speculation a glut that's contributed to an unprecedented decline in European carbon prices will keep growing.

GOVERNMENT

[Talks to help develop shale gas](#) (China Daily, 5/4/2012) Talks of increasing cooperation in the shale gas sector in the current Sino-US dialogue are expected to further tighten carbon emissions reduction ties between the world's two biggest economies, industrial experts said.

[China seeks to expand green energy ties](#) (China Daily, 5/4/2012) China and the European Union will expand collaboration in the alternative energy sector to achieve shared objectives in terms of energy conservation and emissions reduction, officials said.

[China reduces solar subsidy on declining costs of components](#) (Feifei Shen, Bloomberg, 5/3/2012) China, the world's biggest maker of solar panels, cut the subsidy for demonstration sun-power projects approved this year by 21 percent amid a decline in the prices of components.

[China to employ 1st deep-sea rig in South China Sea](#) (Reuters, 5/3/2012) China will formally employ its first home-made, deep-sea semi-submersible drilling platform in the east part of South China Sea on May 9, marking the beginning of the country's deepwater oil strategy, the National Energy Administration said.

[Energy use may be capped](#) (China Daily, 5/3/2012) An energy consumption cap, equivalent to no more than 4.2 billion tons of coal, may be set by 2015, an expert in the sector told China Daily. A plan has been formulated following two years of talks with provincial-level governments and is awaiting State Council approval, Han Wenke, director general of the Energy Research Institute under the National Development and Reform Commission, said.

[Supertankers Delayed in China as Nation Fills Strategic Reserves](#) (Bloomberg, 5/2/2012) Delays emptying supertankers at ports in China are spiraling as the world's biggest energy consumer scours the globe for alternatives to Iranian oil to fill its strategic reserves, driving up shipping costs.

[China makes new gas proposal](#) (The Moscow Times, 5/1/2012) Chinese energy officials signaled Saturday that they were keen to pursue a major gas deal with Russia despite a proliferation of alternative supplies and that they had made a new proposal to overcome a price deadlock.

[China stands for promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy: senior official](#) (Xinhua, 4/30/2012) Promoting peaceful use of nuclear energy bears great significance for the international society coping with the challenges posed by the energy crisis and climate change, a senior Chinese official told a major conference on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons on Monday.