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# A weekly update of China's environmental news and analysis from 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..

## OPINION

<u>China's Multifaceted Coal Problem</u> (Monica Tan, Diplomat, 5/29/12) When it comes to charting China's growing rural-urban divide, can there be any greater yardstick than pollution? In a country beset by environmental problems, we are now finding that as development levels surge ahead in second and top tier cities, their countryside counterparts lag behind and carry a greater burden of the environmental damage. So much pollution is now being either generated in the countryside – or exported out to – that those living in China's urban power centers can barely relate.

<u>Promote more sustainable fisheries</u> (Wu Yixue, China Daily, 5/29/12) The ever-increasing number of fishing disputes with neighboring nations in recent years has highlighted the need to strengthen the management of China's fisheries.

## RESEARCH & CIVIL SOCIETY

<u>Film festival to boost awareness of environmental protection</u> (Xinhua, 5/24/12) The Next Homeland, a documentary film festival sponsored by Xi'an Jiaotong University and CNEX (Chinese Next Foundation Limited), was held on Wednesday at a university in Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi province.

<u>Chinese despair at endless food-safety scares</u> (Calum MacLeod, USA TODAY, 5/28/12) Salivating on their sofas, TV viewers across China have been enjoying a documentary series on the nation's world-famous cuisine. From the lotus and rib soup of Hubei to the mountain mushrooms of Tibet, China on the Tip of the Tongue is so tantalizing that many fans responded online, "I want to lick the screen."

<u>Global CO2 emissions hit record in 2011 led by China: IEA</u> (Michel Rose, Reuters, 5/24/12) China spurred a jump in global carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions to their highest ever recorded level in 2011, offsetting falls in the United States and Europe, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Thursday.

<u>China scientists find ways to clean polluted soil</u> (Xinhua, 5/30/12) There are ways to clean heavymetal-polluted soil, according scientists that attended a two-day forum in Beijing that ended Thursday.

<u>China's Per Capita Energy Consumption Near International Average-Xinhua</u> (Dow Jones, 5/27/12) China's energy consumption per capita has reached 2.6 tons of coal a year so far, up to the average level globally, Xinhua reported Sunday, citing a former official at the National Energy Administration.

<u>Green Dragon</u> (Mike Ives, Earth Island Journal, 5/30/12) A suspicious and powerful government. Home to incredible biodiversity and the world's biggest polluters. A citizenry struggling to define its notion of civil society. Despite these challenges, the environmental movement in China is gaining momentum.

Experts reveal bigger pollution problem (Kenneth Foo, Standard, 5/30/12) Coarse particulate pollutants, such as road dust and sea salt, send nearly 900 sufferers a year to emergency rooms.

### CORPORATIONS

<u>Chinese carmaker BYD defends its electric vehicle after fiery crash</u> (David Pierson, Los Angeles Times, 5/30/12) A collision that killed a taxi driver and two passengers in Shenzhen raises new concerns about the ambitious firm, which is backed by Warren Buffett.

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<u>Chinese Solar Shipments May Drop 75% On U.S. Tariffs</u> (Justin Doom, Bloomberg, 5/29/12) Chinese solar panel shipments to North America may be cut by 75 percent this year because of an antidumping ruling by the U.S. Commerce Department, according to IHS Inc.

<u>70% of annual global e-waste dumped in China</u> (China Radio International, 5/24/12) The final destination of around 70 percent of the world's annual 500 million tons of electronic waste, or e-waste, is China, according to a report by China Business News.

<u>China's energy investment push only for the brave</u> (Charlie Zhu and Judy Hua, Reuters, 5/27/12) Private investors with the money and technology to unlock China's vast pools of shale and coal seam gas will need strong stomachs to brave the unpredictable, unsupported and unregulated sector.

<u>China's Shenhua to spend \$602 mln on new coal loading berths</u> (Charlie Zhu, Reuters, 5/29/12) China Shenhua Energy said it has received approval to build a 3.82 billion yuan (\$602.05 million) coal loading facility in eastern China as the country's largest coal producer further beefs up its coal transportation capability.

<u>Taiyuan to shut down 100 polluters</u> (China Daily, 5/30/12) Taiyuan, the capital of Shanxi province, is said to be the home of coal and iron ore. When the new China designated 156 key heavy industry projects, under the first Five-year Plan (1953–1957), 11were in Taiyuan. Now, after decades of development, Taiyuan has an industrial system dominated by metallurgy, coke, chemicals, electric power, machinery, and building materials.

<u>China Beats US as World's Top Auto Market</u> (Ted Landphair, Voice of America, 5/30/12) Whole books and hundreds of studies have been written about the American "automobile culture" – our "love affair with the car." But the United States is no longer the world's largest auto market. China is.

<u>China Invests Heavily In Clean Energy - But Is It Too Little, Too Late?</u> (International Business Times, 5/30/12) How much will it cost to turn back the clock on China's ecological destruction? After years of promoting fast-paced, state-led economic growth, which has disproportionately benefited the country's massive steel, coal, and oil companies, the government is now moving to spend more on cutting emissions and supporting renewable energy.

<u>China, Japan driving green energy investments</u> (Peter Cai, Brisbane Times, 5/29/12) Chinese and Japanese investors will be the force driving merger and acquisition activities in the renewable energy industry in coming years, according to accounting firm KPMG.

<u>Chinese enterprises join in Rio+20 Earth Summit</u> (Wang Ru, China Daily, 5/29/12) Twenty-one private enterprises from China will join in China Going Green Dialogues as a part of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, known as Rio+20, that will come in June in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

<u>China paying billions for oil deals in the Americas</u> (CNN Money, Steve Hargreaves, 5/29/12) Eager to feed its growing energy appetite, China's worldwide buying binge for oil and other energy assets is spreading to North and South America

### GOVERMENT

U.S. Imposes Duties on Chinese Wind Tower Makers (Matt Wald, New York Times, 5/30/12) Chinese manufacturers of towers for wind turbines received unfair subsidies and must now pay duties of 13.7 to 26 percent, the Commerce Department said on Wednesday in a preliminary decision in a case brought by four American manufacturers of the towers.

<u>China hits back at claims it is blocking climate talks</u> (Mariette le Roux, Phys.org, 5/24/12) China hit back Thursday at claims it was holding up global climate talks in Germany, saying the United States, Europe and other rich states were the ones applying the brakes.

<u>China says 'no' to another massive stimulus plan</u> (David Pierson, Los Angeles Times, 5/30/12) China moved to temper expectations of another massive stimulus plan amid reports the country was green–lighting more infrastructure projects to stabilize its slowing economy.

<u>Water source in HK, Macao safe</u> (China Daily, 5/29/12) Water flowing through Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions is safe to drink despite the increasing number of environmental incidents on the Pearl River in recent years, the river's monitor agency said.

<u>China To Spend \$315 Million Yearly On Alternative-Energy Cars</u> (Tian Ying, Bloomberg, 5/28/12) China's government will spend as much as 2 billion yuan (\$315 million) a year to develop alternativeenergy vehicles to reduce fuel consumption, the finance ministry said today.

<u>Is China poor? Key question at latest climate talks</u> (Karl Ritter, Associated Press, 5/25/12) Another round of U.N. climate talks closed Friday without resolving how to share the burden of curbing man-made global warming, mainly because countries don't agree on who is rich and who is poor.

57% China's urban underground water polluted (Xinhua, 5/29/12) Underground water in 57 percent of monitoring sites across Chinese cities have been found polluted or extremely polluted, the Economic Information Daily, a newspaper run by Xinhua News Agency, reported on Monday, quoting figures from the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP).

<u>China to spend \$27 billion on emission cuts, renewables</u> (Wan Xu and Don Durfee, Reuters, 5/24/12) China's central government plans to spend 170 billion yuan (\$27 billion) this year to promote energy conservation, emission reductions and renewable energy, the Ministry of Finance said in a statement on its website on Thursday.

<u>China to amass marine pollution compensation fund</u> (Xinhua, 5/29/12) China's Ministry of Finance (MOF) said Monday that the country will start amassing a compensation fund to be used in cases of marine oil pollution from July this year.

<u>China Announces Subsidies For Televisions, Air Conditioners</u> (Aaron Back, Dow Jones, 5/28/12) China's Ministry of Finance on Monday unveiled detailed rules for subsidies on purchases of energy– efficient televisions and air conditioners.

<u>Energy a key topic during Putin's visit to China</u> (Zhou Wa, China Daily, 5/30/12) In the spirit of China and Russia taking risks and profits together, China maintains a positive attitude toward natural gas negotiations between the two countries, the Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Cheng Guoping said on Tuesday.