



# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

*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](mailto:cc.huang2@gmail.com) or [timquijano@gmail.com](mailto:timquijano@gmail.com).

## OPINION

[Like it or Not: State Oil Company Becomes 'Flag' in South China Sea](#) (Gabe Collins and Andrew Erickson, Wall Street Journal, 6/7/2012) Sometimes oil companies follow the flag, sometimes the flag follows them — and sometimes they themselves become the flag.

[Can Shale Gas meet China's energy needs? Call the frackers](#) (Simon Montlake, Forbes, 6/5/2012) China has ambitious targets to boost natural-gas consumption. It also sits on extensive deposits of shale gas that may be among the world's largest. Put those two facts together and you might anticipate a repeat of the gas boom seen in the U.S., where fracking has transformed energy policy. China's National Energy Administration has targeted shale gas output by 2020 of 60-100 billion cubic meters. Current output is roughly zero.

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## RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Film of China's grassroots green campaign wins award](#) (China Daily, 6/8/2012) When Canadian director Gary Marcuse set out to make a film about China's environmental protection, he didn't expect to return with an optimistic story. But that's what he got.

[US lags behind China in clean energy technology race](#) (MarketWatch, 6/7/2012) China continues to lead the global clean energy technology manufacturing race, according to a new report commissioned by World Wildlife Fund. The third edition of Clean Economy, Living Planet, launched earlier this week at the AWEA Windpower conference in Atlanta, ranks 25 countries based on the 2011 sales of the clean energy technology products they manufacture, such as solar panels and wind turbines.

[What's coming out of China's taps?](#) (China Dialogue, 6/7/2012) Studies suggest water flowing into city homes is too dirty, while new rules seem flawed from the get-go and residents are kept firmly in the dark. Gong Jing and Wang Haotong report.

[India, China to account for over half of world's transport emissions](#) (The Times of India, 6/6/2012) Noting that little progress has been made in stemming climate change, a UN report has pointed out that India and China will account for more than half of transport-related emissions in the world which are set to increase 57% by 2030.

[Sleuthing China's environmental scandals](#) (Wall Street Journal, 6/7/2012) Bestselling crime writer Qiu Xiaolong has gripped readers in the West for over a decade with his Inspector Chen character, the winsome detective who always gets the better of corrupt officials. The series' latest novel leaves Shanghai's murky backroom politics for an even dirtier subject: the rampant pollution of the country's air and water.

[China second largest source of Great Lakes mercury pollution](#) (Great Lakes Echo, 6/7/2012) At a time when U.S sources of mercury into the Great Lakes are dropping, the volume of the same pollutant coming from China is on the rise, experts say.

[Air pollution fuels hospital visits in Hong Kong](#) (Wall Street Journal, 5/31/2012) Deteriorating air quality in Hong Kong is sending more people to hospital, says a new survey.

## CORPORATIONS

[China firms eye investing \\$3 bln in Indonesia infrastructure – paper](#) (Reuters, 7/14/2011) Three Chinese firms have expressed interest in investing around \$3 billion to build ports, toll roads and railway tracks in Indonesia's main Java island, a newspaper on Thursday quoted a local government official as saying.

[China's \\$23 billion steel push seen igniting iron ore](#) (Bloomberg, 6/7/2012) China is set to jolt iron ore off a six-month low after approving an estimated \$23 billion of steel projects that will use the raw material produced by mining companies such as Rio Tinto Group (RIO) and BHP Billiton (BHP) Ltd.

[China firm in talks for \\$3 billion Pakistan wind farm](#) (Reuters, 5/30/2012) Chinese oil and gas company United Energy Group Ltd said on Wednesday it plans to invest \$3 billion in a wind farm project in energy-starved Pakistan and is in talks to buy equipment from mainland suppliers.

## GOVERNMENT

[Why China, US argue over PM 2.5 data](#) (People's Daily, 6/8/2012) The top environmental official in Shanghai recently said that it is illegal for the U.S. consulate in Shanghai to publish PM2.5 readings. China's Vice Environmental Minister Wu Xiaoqing said Monday that PM2.5 data from certain foreign embassies and consulates in the country may not be standardized or rigorous, and their publication of the data is not in line with international conventions or the country's laws and regulations. (Translated by People's Daily from Chinese)

[Zardari seeks China's help over energy crisis](#) (The Nation, 6/8/2012) President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday called for greater Chinese investment in infrastructure development, particularly in mega energy projects, and proposed setting up of an Energy Fund for the ventures like hydro-power projects.

[China cuts taxes for energy-saving vehicles, Xinhua says](#) (Bloomberg, 6/6/2012) China announced a second batch of 64 energy-saving vehicles that qualify for lower taxes, with refunds payable to people who have bought the cars since Jan. 1, Xinhua reported, citing a government document.

[China National Nuclear IPO wins environmental ministry approval](#) (Bloomberg, 6/6/2012) China National Nuclear Power Co. won the environment ministry's permission to sell shares to fund 174 billion yuan (\$27 billion) of projects in the nation's first initial public offering by a developer of atomic energy.

[China asks other nations not to release its air data](#) (The New York Times, 6/5/2012) After years of choking smog that stings the eyes and burns the lungs, regularly documented by an air sensor at the American Embassy in Beijing that posts the results hourly on Twitter, the Chinese government took a strong position on the issue on Tuesday.

[China gropes for ways to tackle water pollution](#) (Xinhua, 6/5/2012) With a landmark civil case set to test compensation procedures for Chinese communities that have been affected by water pollution, work continues across China to balance the country's booming industrial growth with environmental concerns and the rights of its citizens.

[China subsidizes purchases of energy-saving appliances](#) (Bloomberg, 6/4/2012) China is offering subsidies of as much as 400 yuan (\$63) per unit to buyers of energy-saving water heaters, refrigerators and washing machines, the Ministry of Finance said in a statement yesterday.

[China reports on sustainable development ahead of UN conference](#) (Xinhua, 6/1/2012) China on Friday released a report themed on sustainable development ahead of the United Nations (U.N.) Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil.