

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 or timquijano@gmail.com.

OPINION

Who loses out in China's coal consolidation? (Stratfor, 9/14/2012) As part of a plan to double the amount of railway capacity it owns, China's Shenhua Energy Company is in talks with the Ministry of Railways to invest 10 billion yuan (\$1.6 billion) in rail expansion projects in the coming months. The projects would help

<u>Understanding Climate Change: Living the Modern Life</u> (Chris Eberhardt, World Policy Blog, 9/27/2012) Not everyone in China believes that climate change is a serious problem or makes a clear link between their daily actions and climate change, yet certain practices advocated by those trying to mitigate climate change are widespread. Among those I surveyed and interviewed, for various reasons individuals were consistently doing things that are seen as being good for the environment and more

specifically mitigating climate change: recycling; using water and energy efficiently; trying to take public transportation instead of driving a car.

<u>US, China climate standoff returns</u> (Gerard Wynn, Sydney Morning Herald, 9/25/2012) Major developing countries have dampened prospects for agreement on international carbon emissions reduction targets by insisting on distinguishing between the responsibilities of industrialised and emerging economies to act on climate change beyond 2020.

Should China be involved in the UK's nuclear energy infrastructure? (Guardian, 9/21/2012) Government officials have been in Beijing this week with their Chinese counterparts for an "unprecedented" collaboration on energy. On the table was new nuclear power, and its role in moving the UK to a low-carbon economy.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

<u>Watch: Environmental project turns pedestrians footsteps into leaves</u> (Shanghaiist, 9/25/2012) Advertising giant DDB China, in cooperation with the China Environmental Protection Foundation, put together installations in 15 different cities across China highlighting the environmental benefit of walking over driving.

<u>Second-hand smoke greatest source of indoor pollution in Beijing</u> (China.org, 9/21/2012) A study conducted by an environmental group found that second-hand smoke is the single greatest source of indoor air pollution in Beijing.

Experts: Despite China's efforts, technology constraints could curb shale gas development (China Daily, 9/28/2012) Environment, water considerations should also be taken into account. China is making an unprecedented effort to explore and develop shale gas resources, but the country will not achieve a breakthrough in the short term, experts have said.

CORPORATIONS

<u>Sinopec shuts Guangdong subsidiaries over pollution</u> (China Daily, 9/28/2012) Sinopec, China's largest oil company, has ordered three subsidiaries in Guangdong province to shut operations and correct problems that violate pollution regulations.

<u>European solar group seeks wider China trade inquiry</u> (New York Times, 9/25/2012) Solar manufacturers called on European Union regulators on Tuesday to expand an investigation in China because of concerns that it unfairly subsidizes its clean energy industry.

HK firms seek for bigger mainland environmental industry projects (China Daily, 9/21/2012) While CEPA has opened doors to some operations and a limited segment of the mainland's

environmental industries, Hong Kong firms are seeking for a greater opening of the sector to allow them to undertake large-scaler jobs with higher design provisions value. Oswald Chen reports

<u>Chinese firm sues international mining giant</u> (Xinhua, 9/28/2012) Chinese power equipment manufacturer Shanghai Shandong Nuclear Power Construction (SSNP) has filed a case against multinational mining giant Vedanta Aluminium.

<u>To save solar companies</u>, <u>China considers creating its own demand</u> (Forbes, 9/26/2012) The Chinese solar panel manufacturing business is in the dumps. It's a — dark time — for companies making a living off high tech photovoltaic panels used for capturing the sun's energy. Most of it is due to major cuts in European demand, thanks to reductions in government spending on green ambitions there.

GOVERNMENT

ASEAN environmental ministers meet in Bangkok (VietNamNet Bridge, 9/28/2012) At the meetings, the ministers reviewed regional cooperation on a number of environmental issues, particularly the related actions in the environmental sustainability section of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint.

ADB and China still in partnership (Financial Times, 9/23/2012) The Diamer-Bhasha Dam, in a region of Pakistan formerly known as the Northern Areas, near the border with Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir, is a planned \$12bn, 4,500MW hydropower and reservoir project.

<u>China funds 50b yuan to resource-exhausted cities</u> (China Daily, 9/24/2012) China has allocated more than 50 billion yuan (\$7.90 billion) since 2008 to allow resource-exhausted cities to achieve sustainable development, the National Development and Reform Commission said in a statement on Friday.

China to create emission trading system, link to EU (Clean Technica, 9/21/2012) China, the world's largest emitter of carbon dioxide, has signed a financing deal with the European Union to reduce greenhouse gases through a variety of projects, including developing an emission trading system to link with the EU's Emission Trading Scheme (ETS).

<u>Chinese ministries test-drive China-made electric cars</u> (Reuters, 9/26/2012) Eleven Chinese ministries and government agencies are test-driving China-made electric cars and more will follow suit, state news agency Xinhua said, in the latest show of state support for the country's fledging green vehicle industry.

<u>China and Netherlands sign deal for world's largest tidal energy project</u> (Responding to Climate Change, 9/28/2012) China and The Netherlands have signed a deal to examine the feasibility of constructing the world's largest tidal power scheme.