



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 or timquijano@gmail.com.

OPINION

[Polluting our own backyard to feed China](#) (Huffington Post, 10/17/2012) As our domestic demand for intensively produced meat continues to drop dramatically, we are about to let the meat industry continue to pollute our environment and make our families sick in order to profit from China's appetite for meat.

[Beijing's problem with shale](#) (Kevin Jianjian Tu, 10/24/2012) Natural gas is often seen as an ideal option to optimize China's unsustainable energy mix. Gas could improve the country's environment because of its lower air pollution and carbon emissions. Abundant domestic gas supplies could also make the country less dependent on energy imports, a

longstanding goal of Beijing. Demand for gas is planned to grow to 260 billion cubic meters by 2015, up from 108 in 2010, an astonishing annual growth rate of almost 20%.

[Viewpoint: The power of China's strolling eco-warriors](#) (BBC, 10/22/2012) In China a tiny number of officials make key environmental decisions. But an increasingly savvy public could take to the streets unless the government changes its approach, argues environmental campaigner Ma Jun as part of a series of viewpoints on challenges facing China's new leaders.

[Vital task for China's next leaders](#) (Stanley Lubman, China Real Time Report WSJ, 10/19/2012) With China's once-a-decade leadership transition scheduled to get underway in roughly three weeks, pundits and scholars inside China and out have been debating whether the next generation of leaders has what it takes to pursue the political and economic reforms necessary to address what some see as increasingly dangerous levels of discontent in society. But if China's next leaders are genuinely concerned with keeping peace on the streets, there's a more direct way for them to achieve their goals: Find a way to enforce the country's environmental regulations.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Women and sustainability: taking a lead in China](#) (Guardian, 10/26/2012) A few years ago, on one of my visits to China, I was invited to speak to a group in Shanghai called Women in Sustainability Action (Wisa). The organisation was set up by a former academic colleague, Jaclyn Shi, as a global network of professional women working in sustainability.

[Chinese villagers clash with police in protests over environmental issues](#) (Washington Post, 10/22/2012) An environmental protest in a small fishing town in southern China has turned into a protracted, violent nine-day clash between villagers and police, with stones thrown, tear gas deployed, and dozens injured and arrested, witnesses said Monday.

[You don't realize how bad pollution in China is until you compare it to the US](#) (Business Insider, 10/26/2012) Although China's cities have made progress in reporting their air quality statistics, there is still significant progress that needs to be made, according to a report released by the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs.

[Gallery: Less and less lake](#) (Caixin, 10/26/2012) In a year with much less rainfall than expected, the shrinking Poyang Lake in Jiangxi Province saw its water supply continue to sharply diminish.

[Food supply, fracking, and water scarcity challenge China's juggernaut economy](#) (Circle of Blue, 10/17/2012) New project finds that building the world's fastest-growing economy risks public safety and tests global resource limits.

[What is the future of king coal in China?](#) (Bloomberg, 10/16/2012) When it comes to coal consumption, no other nation comes close to China. The country reigns as the world's largest coal user, burning almost half of the global total each year. About 70 percent of China's total energy consumption and nearly 80 percent of its electricity production come from coal, and its recent shift from being a historical net coal exporter to the world's largest net coal importer took only three years.

[China's power consumption slows further](#) (Xinhua, 10/17/2012) China's power consumption growth slowed further in September as factory activity and industrial output posted weaker increases amid the economic downturn.

[A visual guide to China's air pollution](#) (The Atlantic, 10/17/2012) Every day, China Air Daily features new photos and satellite pictures of select cities in the U.S. and China. Over time, the photos serve as a record of the improvement (or deterioration) of air quality in various cities. China Air Daily, which is accessible via Internet in mainland China, comes in the wake of a grassroots push for more transparency in air quality monitoring. (The Atlantic's James Fallows has written on China Air Daily here.) In this Q&A, founder Michael Zhao explains the state of Chinese environmental awareness

CORPORATIONS

[Winter blues for China's textile industry](#) (China Daily, 10/27/2012) For Huang Yan this should be the busiest time of the year, when many Chinese companies are usually inundated with Christmas orders from overseas. But one afternoon early this month, Huang said she had not received a single sales inquiry all day. The newspapers on her desk have been read twice over and having forgotten to put a book in her bag before leaving home, she hopes she can find some unread dregs on a third reading.

[Wal-mart, in China, pushes suppliers down green path](#) (Times of India, 10/25/2012) Wal-Mart Stores Inc has given global suppliers five years to comply with its environmental rules or risk being pushed off U.S. shelves at the world's largest retailer, expanding a sustainability campaign launched in 2009.

[Country's first shale gas pilot area is being developed in Chongqing](#) (Caixin, 10/25/2012) China's first pilot area for shale gas production is being developed in Liangping, in eastern Chongqing, a newspaper said on October 24. The area will produce up to 50,000 cubic meters of shale gas annually by 2015, Chongqing Daily said.

[China electric vehicle sales to fall short of target, BNEF says](#) (Bloomberg, 10/24/2012) China's electric vehicle sales probably will fall short of the government's target because the vehicles are costly and lack charging infrastructure, Bloomberg New Energy Finance said in a research note.

[China's bid for Nexen may survive a rejection](#) (New York Times, 10/22/2012) The rejection of a major energy industry takeover by Canadian government may not indicate that it is adopting a harder line on mergers involving foreign companies.

[Sell China water from Great Lakes?](#) (Examiner, 10/12/2012) On October 12, 2012, Forbes Magazine announced that Zong Qinghou has regained first place on 2012 Forbes list of the richest people in China. He is known as the "drinks king" and made his \$10.8 billion fortune with China's largest beverage producer, Wahaha, which translates to "laughing children". The company had a 24 percent increase in sales in 2012 and serves 1.34 billion customers in China with bottled water and drinks. The main water source is Hangzhou's Qiandao Lake. Hangzhou's Xin'an River had a carbolic acid spill in July 2011, causing a run on bottled Wahaha water.

GOVERNMENT

[China's energy policy 2012](#) (China Daily, 10/25/2012) The Information Office of the State Council on Wednesday published the 2012 edition of white paper on the country's energy policy. Following is the full text filed by the Xinhua News Agency.

[China to provide free connection to lift solar sector out](#) (People's Daily, 10/27/2012) China will allow distributed photovoltaic solar power producers to be connected to the national grid free of charge in a bid to support the renewable-energy industry.

[China resumes nuclear power plant construction](#) (Chosun-Ilbo, 10/27/2012) China says its energy consumption has been growing too quickly in recent years, putting a strain on the country's energy supply as well as on the environment.

[Smart thinking on power](#) (China Daily, 10/26/2012) China and the United Kingdom both want to reduce their carbon footprint and improve their sustainable energy output and to make this happen, leading energy scientists from the two countries are developing green technology that will revolutionize the way electricity is distributed via national power grids.

[Environmental survey launched nationwide](#) (China Daily, 10/17/2012) A nationwide survey examining China's environmental protection industry was launched on Tuesday, said the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

[China's Chernobyl cleans up its act](#) (The Telegraph, 10/25/2012) Linfen was called China's Chernobyl—a putrid, smog-smothered hellhole that became known as the most polluted place on earth. At their worst, the skies over Linfen, in China's coal-rich answer to the Industrial Revolution Black Country, made even the most nightmarish Turner canvas appear mild.

[More Chinese cities need to come clean on air pollution](#) (CNN, 10/25/2012) Several Chinese cities have shown improvements with air quality information -- a politically-sensitive issue in China -- but improvements are still needed, according to a Beijing-based non-profit environmental group.

[China faces huge challenge in pushing conservation culture](#) (Xinhua, 10/24/2012) The open-cut mining area of the Daye Iron Mine in central China's Huangshi city - Asia's biggest opencast mine - looks like a gaping mouth of Earth. Dating back 1,780 years ago, the mine became a key resource supplier for China's industrialization, creating economic benefits as well as environmental ills.

[Fund launched to protect 'China's water tower'](#) (Xinhua, 10/22/2012) China launched a fund on Monday to protect its far-western Sanjiangyuan nature reserve, the source of the country's major rivers. Ma Fuhai, director general of the environmental protection fund, said it will aim to take full advantage of market resources to raise money through various channels.