



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.

Happy Thanksgiving! I wanted to recommend Caixin's English e-mail newsletter to our readers – if you've read China Daily/Xinhua articles for as long as I have, Caixin's English articles are comparatively much more interesting with more unique topics and angles covered: <http://english.caixin.com/> (You can subscribe at the bottom of the site to the "The Daily Feed"). They also do a pretty good job of covering environment-related topics.

OPINION

PACE

[Deborah Coyne: China's place in the oilpatch is too complicated for simple answers](#) (National Post, 11/22/2012) It may be tempting to look for simple answers to the \$15.1 billion Chinese takeover of Canadian oil sands company, Nexen. It would be simple to just say we're open for business and that it's a good deal, as my fellow candidate Justin Trudeau has done. But this issue is too complicated for simple answers, and leadership in crucial areas of public policy is never quite so black and white.

[The Promise of Chinese Eco-cities](#) (Saleem Ali, National Geographic, 11/23/2012) As the new Chinese leadership takes hold, environmental issues will undoubtedly be more prominent in decision-making in the coming decade than they were in the past decades.

RESEARCH/CIVIL SOCIETY

[Food for 9 billion: Satisfying China's growing demand for meat](#) (PBS, 11/22/2012) As China's economy has grown, the way of life for many Chinese has changed, especially diet. Per capita, consumption of meat has quadrupled in China over the last 30 years. PRI's The World correspondent Mary Kay Magistad reports on how China is dealing with this growing demand.

[China environmentalists fret as fracking takes off](#) (Caixin Online, 11/21/2012) Adding an environmental standard to a law book takes at least three years in China, which helps explain why the State Council's decision to fast-track the nation's fledgling shale gas industry is making a lot of people nervous.

[An unassuming warrior: Chinese environmentalist Ma Jun](#) (Smart Planet, 11/20/2012) Growing up in Beijing in the 1970s, Ma Jun spent his summers fishing and swimming with friends in a city canal. As the sun began to set, he would chase after the shadowy insects swarming around the glowing street lamps.

[Book review: China's Environmental Challenges by Judith Shapiro](#) (South China Morning Post, 11/18/2012) This is a well researched and balanced book about one of the great issues of our time - what the

world's second-largest economy and biggest emitter of carbon dioxide is doing to its environment and that of the world.

CORPORATIONS

[China stops filling strategic oil reserve](#) (Financial Times, 11/23/2012) China appears to have stopped filling up its strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) – removing a big source of incremental demand from the global crude oil market.

[China's power grid plan: A \\$250 billion white elephant?](#) (The Economic Times, 11/23/2012) China's State Grid Corp is lobbying hard for approval of a \$250 billion upgrade plan that it says would make the nation's grid an international trailblazer, but which critics say is too costly and could expose the system to blackouts.

[China's clean-energy power output rises 48% in October](#) (Bloomberg, 11/22/2012) Electricity generated from clean energy in China rose 48 percent to 92.7 billion kilowatt hours in October from a year ago as installations grew.

[Growth returns to factories in China](#) (NYT, 11/22/2012) The Chinese manufacturing sector expanded in November for the first time in more than a year, according to the early reading of a business survey released Thursday, the latest sign that the Chinese economy might have skirted the sharp slowdown that many economists had earlier feared.

[China's Iran oil imports drop further](#) (Wall Street Journal, 11/21/2012) China's imports of Iranian crude oil are down by about one-fifth so far this year, a drop that puts the country in good position to avoid U.S. sanctions and head off a diplomatic row with Washington.

[Want cleaner coal? Go to China.](#) (Slate, 11/21/2012) On a typical day, the air above China's big cities is so thick it seems chewable—a hazy gray soup that gets its consistency and color from the soot belched by the biggest clump of coal-fired power plants on the planet.

[China finds excessive plasticizer levels in JiuGuiJiu liquor](#) (Business Week, 11/21/2012) Samples of liquor made by China's JiuGuiJiu Co. (000799) contained excessive levels of plasticizer, Xinhua News Agency said, citing the nation's quality watchdog. China distillers slumped in Shanghai and Shenzhen trading today.

[Powerful backer for China's new Manhattan](#) (NYT, 11/19/2012) China is full of big bets that the country's breakneck economic growth will continue apace, but few are bigger than the vast Yujiapu financial district here.

GOVERNMENT

[China gets funding support to phase out HCFC](#) (China.org, 11/23/2012) The World Bank on Thursday approved a grant of US\$73 million from the Montreal Protocol Investment Fund to China to support its efforts to meet its HCFC consumption and production phase-out obligations.

[Hong Kong moves to tackle deadly ship smog fouling city's skies](#) (Bloomberg, 11/23/2012) Hong Kong will force oceangoing ships to burn cleaner fuel while at berth, bringing relief to residents facing a third straight year of near-record pollution.

[In "beautiful China," local polluters still hold sway](#) (Reuters, 11/22/2012) In ramshackle semi-industrial Tianying in China's Anhui province, a state-owned lead smelter and foundry sits at the centre of town, behind high walls and secure gates that make it look more like a prison than the mainstay of the local economy.

[China may increase tax on natural resources](#) (Shanghai Daily, 11/22/2012) China may raise a tax on natural resources and also collect duty on the use of water by companies to enhance resource conservation and environment protection, the Ministry of Finance said yesterday.

[China to increase investment in water conservation by 15% this winter, spring](#) (Wall Street Journal, 11/19/2012) China will increase its investment in water-conservation projects such as irrigation and dams by 15% from a year earlier this winter and next spring, according to a statement by the Ministry of Water Resources on Monday.

[Will China's new policy silence future protestors?](#) (Mother Jones, 11/16/2012) China's leaders made it clear this week that they want to put an end to the growing number of environmental protests flaring up across the country. On Monday, environment minister Zhou Shengxian announced that future industrial projects must include a "social-risk assessment" before they can launch, a plan Zhou hopes will reduce "the number of emergencies and mass incidents."