

ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

Issue 234, Mar. 30th to Apr. 12th, 2014

By Hongfu Pan and Kristiene Gong

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OPINION

[Mapping China's Dam Rush – and the Environmental Consequences](#) (New Security Beat, 04/01/2014) In southwestern China, three parallel rivers – the Nu, Lancang, and Jinsha (also known as the Upper Mekong, Salween, and Yangtze, respectively) – form a series of corridors that connect the tropical rainforests of Southeast Asia to the Tibetan Plateau.

[Coal Plant Closure in China Led to Improvements in Children's Health](#) (HealthCanal, 04/01/2014) Decreased exposure to air pollution in utero is linked with improved childhood developmental scores and higher levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), a key protein for brain development, according to a study looking at the closure of a coal-burning power plant in China led by researchers at the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health at the Mailman School of Public Health.

[China syndrome](#) (Toledo Blade, 04/02/2014) If China doesn't control its air-pollution problem soon, the toll on its people will be high. The latest proof of the economic giant's unhealthy air was in a report last week from China's environment ministry. Only three of the 74 cities tracked by the central government in 2013 — all in remote regions of the country — reached minimum standards for air quality.

[China Runs Into Natural-Resources Pushback](#) (Council on Foreign Relations, 04/03/2014) Strategists have long feared that China's quest for natural resources would lead to ever-higher prices, a breakdown in trade and perhaps even wars. But a stunning rebuke to Chinese manipulation last week at the World Trade Organization is a sign that the global system is far more resilient than the worriers have claimed.

[What is the best way to combat air pollution?](#) (Global Times, 04/07/2014) A recent report jointly issued by the Asian Development Bank and the Chinese government regarding China's environmental conditions reveals that only 1 percent of China's largest 500 cities reach the air quality standards set by the World Health Organization.

RESEARCH AND CIVIL SOCIETY

[172 officials boost environment by planting trees](#) (Xinhua, 03/29/2014) A total of 172 Chinese ministerial officials planted trees on Saturday morning to help protect the environment. Organized by the National Afforestation and Environmental Protection Committee, the activity was held in Changping District of north Beijing, with over 1,500 trees planted.

[Hundreds protest chemical plant in southern China](#) (Reuters, 03/31/2014) Hundreds of protesters in southern China marched against a chemical plant and environmental degradation on Sunday in a demonstration that the Maoming city government called a "grave violation" by criminals causing chaos.

[Bags of Mountain Air Offered in Smog-Addled Chinese City](#) (The Wall Street Journal, 03/31/2014) Proving that China's fight against pollution has moved decisively into the realm of parody, bags containing mountain air were shipped into one particularly smog-addled city over the weekend.

[MIT Study Shows Methane Producing Microbes Behind The End-Permian Extinction](#) (Nature World News, 04/01/2014) The rise of methane-producing microbes might have led to a mass extinction that occurred 252 million years ago, a new study from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has found.

[Beijing eyes Olympics-style smog controls ahead of Apec meeting in Nov](#) (Straits Times, 04/10/2014) China may revive 2008 Beijing Olympics-style air pollution controls when it holds a meeting of Asia-Pacific leaders in the often smog-shrouded capital in November, state media said on Thursday.

CORPORATE SECTOR

[iAbrasive: China Alumina and Silicon Carbide Manufacturers Are Faced with a Critical Choice](#) (DigitalJournal, 03/29/2014) China's leading abrasives and diamond tools online trading platform iAbrasive announces that most alumina and SiC manufacturers in China find themselves in a dilemma as a consequence of the environmental protection policies enacted by the government.

[Tesla, citing environment, to use North American materials for battery plant](#) (Automotive News, 03/29/2014) Tesla Motors Inc. plans to source all the raw materials for its proposed \$5 billion U.S. battery factory in North America.

[Nestle's Beijing food safety research centre to provide basis for stds](#) (fnbnews, 03/31/2014) As part of efforts to strengthen Nestlé's food safety research in China, the company has opened a food safety research centre in Beijing. Called the Nestlé Food Safety Institute (NFSI), it would work closely with authorities to help provide the scientific foundation for food safety policies and standards.

[China Household Water Purifier Industry Report - Forecasts to 2016](#) (DigitalJournal, 04/02/2014) The frequency of water pollution incidents arouses public's growing

concern over the quality of drinking water, calling for increasingly demanding quality of drinking water. Thus, the household water purifier market has got boosted. In 2008-2013Q1, China household water purifier market kept growing by more than 30%.

[China's Fosun keen on German environment technology firms-paper](#) (Reuters, 04/04/2014) China's Fosun International Ltd is interested in acquiring German companies in the environment technology sector, its Chairman Guo Guangchang was quoted saying by a German daily.

[China Solid Waste Disposal Industry Report 2013 Now Available at ChinaMarketResearchReports.com](#) (DigitalJournal, 04/04/2014) Firstly, disposal scale continued growing: in 2012, the amount of household garbage clear-up in urban regions of China rose by 4.15% year-on-year to 170 million tons; the volume of harmless garbage disposal grew by 10.7% year-on-year to 145 million tons; in 2012, the industrial solid waste output in China increased by 1.94% year-on-year to 3.29 billion tons.

[China Recycling Energy Corporation Expects to Benefit from China's Energy Saving and Environment Protection Policies](#) (MarketWatch, 04/09/2014) China Recycling Energy Corp., a leading industrial waste-to-energy solution provider in China, today announced that it expects to benefit from recent policy announcements made by the Chinese government. Mr. Li Keqiang, China's Premier and Party Secretary of the State Council, chaired an executive meeting of the State Council in February to discuss environmental protection, and in particular air pollution.

GOVERNMENT

[China, EU collaborate on environmental governance](#) (eco-business, 04/04/2014) The EU is collaborating with the Chinese government on environmental governance through improving public participation and corporate environmental responsibility in a bid to reduce the harm to society and civilians caused by pollution and ineffective environmental management.

[China to Shut Down 1,725 Small Coal Mines](#) (China Topix, 04/08/2014) In an urgent effort to arrest the worsening air quality across China, some 1,725 small-scale mines with low-quality coal output will be closed. These mines to be shuttered yield nearly 117 million tons annually.

[Nepal, China join hands in tackling climate change](#) (Global Times, 04/08/2014) China and Nepal on Monday signed several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) in the framework of the Third Pole Environment program. The Third Pole Environment (TPE) program, launched by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in 2009, was dedicated to the study of regions on the Tibetan Plateau; home to millions of people and thousands of glaciers.