

ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

Issue 238, May. 25th to Jun. 7th, 2014

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OPINION

[Xinhua Insight: "Homelands of longevity" hide aging, environmental problems](#) (Global Post, 05/31/2014) "Homelands of longevity" are mushrooming in China as life expectancy increases, but such localities' reputations for longer lives masks deepening aging and environmental woes.

[The East is Green: The Future of China's Environmental Regime \(Part 2\)](#) (China Briefing, 06/03/2014) In Part 1 of this article, we looked at China's Revised Environmental Protection Law and its implications for foreign investment. In a further sign of the times for Chinese environmental policy, two new environmental taxes are currently under legislative consideration: an environmental tax and carbon tax.

[China facing environmental crisis](#) (Big News Network, 06/04/2014) China's environment is in a critical condition, especially its water and air quality, a minister revealed Wednesday. Although China's environment has improved in general, water quality is "not optimistic" and air quality in cities is "serious", Xinhua quoted vice minister of environmental protection Li Ganjie as saying at a press conference ahead of World Environment Day, falling Thursday.

[Column: China Must Admit Its environmental crisis](#) (Valley News, 06/04/2014) Buried in this month's China headlines — about the gas pipeline deal with Russia, the U.S. Department of Justice's indictment of Chinese military hackers, and saber rattling with Vietnam — was this juicy morsel: Petco and PetSmart will soon stop selling dog and cat treats made in China.

[China's annual state of the environment report is miserable](#) (Quartz, 06/06/2014) China's government swears it is finally getting tough on pollution, cracking down on everything from factory emissions to cars in the capital city. One sign that things are changing: analysts say the clean-up is already impinging on China's economic growth.

[China's Plan to Flatten Mountain Will Have Adverse Effects on Environment](#) (Austrian Tribune, 06/07/2014) After receiving accolades from international community over plans to reduce limits of carbon emission, China is facing criticism from scientists in the country for leveling natural mountain habitats to create new houses and cities. From

past 10 years, China is continuously involved in massive demolition of these landscapes without considering the long-term effects caused by its actions on the environment.

RESEARCH AND CIVIL SOCIETY

[China to improve countryside living environment](#) (Shanghai Daily, 05/28/2014) The General Office of the State Council, China's cabinet, issued a guideline on Thursday vowing to "substantially improve" the living environment in the countryside by 2020 to build beautiful and livable villages.

[Chinese scientists warn against plan to turn mountaintops into cities](#) (News1130, 06/04/2014) China's campaign to shave off mountaintops and fill in valleys to make way for cities may come at too high a price in the pollution, erosion and flooding unleashed by the unprecedented redistribution of earth, Chinese researchers warned Thursday.

[Poor outlook for quality of air, soil and water](#) (People's Daily Online, 06/05/2014) Only three of China's 74 major cities met state pollution standards last year, according to the 2013 China Environmental Situation Report. Haikou, Zhoushan and Lhasa were the least polluted while Beijing, neighboring Tianjin and cities in north China's Hebei Province were the worst.

[China's 'War on Pollution'](#) (CCTV, 06/06/2014) With air pollution on the rise in China, the country has stepped up its efforts to tackle the problem. On International Environment Day, the theme in China is 'Declare War on Pollution'. The war against pollution is being waged across China.

CORPORATE SECTOR

[Throw The Old Rules Out The Window](#) (Forbes, 05/30/2014) Changes in China's environmental regulations, the first revision in 25 years, take effect January 1 next year with stiffer penalties for companies that flout the law. In recent years, as well, there have been a number of cases across the country where residents' objections, because of environmental concerns, have led to major projects being scrapped.

[China's Environmental Problems and Prospects for Japanese Cooperation](#) (Nippon.com, 05/30/2014) According to statistics released by the World Trade Organization in April 2014, the total value of China's trade in 2013 topped that of the United States, making it number one in the world by this measure. As its economy continues to grow, China faces a number of issues to which no effective responses are yet in sight.

[China Everbright in reverse takeover of Singapore's HanKore](#) (Channel News Asia, 06/02/2014) China Everbright International plans to inject S\$1.2 billion worth of waste water treatment plants into HanKore Environment Tech Group, in a deal that will create one of China's largest waste water firms.

[Listed companies' environmental info disclosure disappointing](#) (CCTV, 06/05/2014)

June 5 is World Environment Day, but listed companies in China aren't coming clean about their environmental information. Prior to the official release, our reporter Feng Xin got a sneak peek from the China Forum of Environmental Journalists, a department under the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

[China power supply reliable, says official](#) (Hong Kong Standard, 06/06/2014) The Environment Bureau has refuted criticism concerning the reliability of the power supply from the mainland. Deputy Secretary for the Environment Vincent Liu Ming-kwong also said yesterday the electricity produced by the China Southern Power Grid (CSG) is cleaner than that produced by the two local power providers.

GOVERNMENT

[China unveils four new emission-cut standards](#) (Global Post, 05/30/2014) China's Ministry of Environment on Friday issued four standards to curb industrial waste and air pollutant emissions. The four standards that regulate emissions of tin, antimony and mercury as well as pollutants produced by industrial boilers, non-road motor vehicles and refuse burning are part of an ambitious five-year plan issued last year by the State Council to clean the air.

[Obama unveils historic rules to reduce coal pollution by 30%](#) (the Guardian, 06/02/2014) The Obama administration unveiled historic environment rules cutting carbon pollution from power plants by 30% on Monday, spurring prospects for a global deal to end climate change but setting up an epic battle over the environment in this year's mid-term elections.

[China plan to cap CO2 emissions seen turning point in climate talks](#) (Reuters, 06/03/2014) China said on Tuesday it will set an absolute cap on its CO2 emissions from 2016 just a day after the United States announced new targets for its power sector, signalling a potential breakthrough in tough U.N. climate talks.

[Chinese cities falling behind pollution goals](#) (UPI, 06/04/2014) Less than 5 percent of the major Chinese cities subject to air quality monitoring have met national standards, the government said Wednesday. Li Ganjie, vice minister for environmental protection, said only 3 of the 74 major cities subject to air quality monitoring met national quality standards set in 2013, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

[China aims to cap greenhouse gas output soon, but no date set](#) (Reuters, 06/05/2014) China plans to cap its soaring emissions of greenhouse gases as soon as possible but has not yet decided when, Beijing's top negotiator at U.N. climate talks said on Thursday. Xie Zhenhua, vice chairman of China's National Development and Reform Commission, also welcomed U.S. measures to combat global warming, saying both nations were "working very hard to address climate change".