

**Pollution Report Card:** China's "War on Pollution" appears to be paying off. The recently released 2016 State of Environment Report shows that groundwater quality has improved but there is still work to do with mixed news for rivers, lakes and reservoirs. Meanwhile, see how provinces fared in meeting their 12th Five Year Plan water quality targets with Greenpeaces' Deng and Bao who share from their latest report. Environmental protection was significantly stepped-up in China with its new Environmental Protection Law (EPL), which has been in force for more than two years. What have the impacts been? Professor Wang from the University of Political Science and Law in Beijing reviews. Environmental laws and regulations can actually have adverse effects through creating a "pollution haven conundrum" – we explore the unintended consequences of these havens. Meanwhile, solutions to curb pollution continue to be developed. CTEG's Liang & Zeng share how a key wastewater treatment plant can help pollution control in the PRD. Another solution as Derek Lam explains is a waterless, chemical-free toilet system that could help 2.4bn people. While there is concern over the US withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, it is encouraging to see China's efforts on climate and water pollution. Here's to China's steadfast commitment on the Climate Agreement.



JUNE NEWSLETTER

## EDITORIAL 🌱

**Pollution Report Card:** Despite recent noise over poor air quality, China's "War on Pollution" appears to be paying off according to official and NGO reports, the impacts of laws and available solutions.

The recently released 2016 State of Environment Report shows that groundwater quality has improved, bucking a five-year trend of deterioration. However, there is still work to do with mixed news for rivers, lakes and reservoirs. Meanwhile, see how provinces fared in meeting their 12th Five Year Plan water quality targets with Greenpeaces' Tingting Deng and Hang Bao who share key findings from their latest report.

Environmental protection was significantly stepped-up in China with its new Environmental Protection Law (EPL). It is now more than two years since it came into force. Has it been enforced? What have the impacts been? Professor Wang Canfa from the University of Political Science and Law in Beijing reviews.

Environmental laws, regulations and standards while intended to clean-up can actually have adverse effects through creating a "pollution haven conundrum" – the relocation of factories to countries or provinces with more lax regulatory environments. We explore the unintended consequences of these havens.

Meanwhile, solutions to curb pollution continue to be developed. Guangdong's wastewater treatment needs RMB39.8bn in the 13FYP. CTEG's Liang Xiangjing & Zeng Sasha share how a key wastewater treatment plant can help pollution control in the PRD. Finally, to help solve the problem of 2.4 billion people without access to clean sanitation, Derek Lam expands on the DEHTLET - an affordable waterless, chemical-free toilet system.

While there is concern over US President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, it is encouraging to see China's efforts on climate and water pollution. Here's to China's steadfast commitment on the Climate Agreement.



#### 2016 State of Environment Report Review

The signs are positive for China's environment in 2016. Groundwater quality improved after 5 years of decline, though there is mixed news for rivers & lakes. Check out our review of the 2016 State Of Environment Report

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#### 12FYP Water Quality Report Card

As we move ahead in the 13FYP, Greenpeace's Bao & Deng share key findings from their report on provincial performance in the 12FYP. Which provinces met water quality targets? Which failed?

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#### Environmental Law: 2 Years On

China's new Environmental Protection Law has been in force more than two years now. Has it been enforced? Are there impacts? Prof Wang from the University of Political Science and Law in Beijing reviews

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#### No Safe Haven For Polluters

As affluent eastern provinces are cleaning-up, companies are moving inland where regulations are more lax. CWR's Theriot explores this pollution haven effect & why it can be a short-sighted strategy

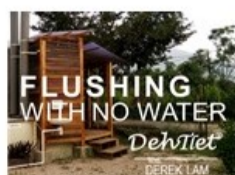
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#### Integrated Wastewater Treatment In The PRD

Guangdong needs RMB39.8bn for wastewater treatment in the 13FYP. Hear from CTEG's Liang & Zeng on how a key wastewater plant can help pollution control in the region as well as benefit its various stakeholders

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#### Flushing With No Water

2.4bn people still lack clean sanitation but flushing toilets may not be the answer with limited or no access to water. Lam expands on an affordable alternative - a waterless, chemical-free toilet system named DEHTLET

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## TAPPING IN 🚰

## Government

- General Office of the State Council: [Opinions on Promoting Waste Resource Utilization of Livestock](#): utilization rate of livestock waste to reach 75% by 2020
- MEP, CIRC: [Measures for Management of Environmental Pollution Mandatory Liability Insurance \(Consultation Paper\)](#): industries with high environ risk to have insurance; floating premium rate depending on risk
- MEP: [Modifications to 'Measures for Environmental Departments to Conduct Daily Fines'](#): fines for repeat violations increased
- MEP: [Guideline on Available Technologies of Pollution Prevention & Control for Thermal Power Plants](#): new plants to adopt centralised wastewater treatment tech
- NEA: [Notice on Demonstration Work for Reducing Wind Energy Prices](#): selected wind energy projects will be connected to the grid at a reduced price

## Reports

- MEP: [2016 State of Environment Report](#)
- Greenpeace East Asia: [Assessment Report on Provincial Surface Water Quality Improvement in China's 12FYP](#)
- IERL: [2nd Annual Report on the Assessment of the new Environmental Protection Law's Implementation](#)
- REN21: [Renewables 2017 Global Status Report](#): China = 32% of global renewables financing in 2016

## Interest

- China & California sign deal on climate change; to cover investments in low-carbon energy sources & cooperation on climate research
- China switches on world's largest floating solar power plant
- China's South-North Water Diversion Project benefits 53mn people
- 120,000 people & 15.6mn mu of crops affected in northern China drought
- Three suspects detained over zinc-laden waste dumped into river
- Air pollution inspectors found 285 companies in violation of standards
- Shanghai to introduce river chiefs & clean up 1,864 river sections

## Hot on Weibo:

- <30% of Chinese cities met air quality standards in 2016

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