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## **Energy and Climate Report**

June 08, 2017 - Number 110

### News

#### *Air Pollution*

##### **Poor Data, Lax Enforcement Mar EPA's Oversight of Benzene Rule**

Benzene emissions from gasoline may be higher than the EPA estimates because poor data quality and inconsistent enforcement are hampering the agency's efforts, the inspector general said.

#### *Budget*

##### **Lawmakers Doubtful About Interior Spending Cut Proposals**

The Trump administration goal of a balanced federal budget within 10 years contributed to many of the proposed spending cuts for Interior Department programs, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke told House lawmakers June 8.

#### *EPA*

##### **EPA Failed to Update Science Advisory Board Policies, GAO Says**

The Environmental Protection Agency failed to adequately update policies for diversifying the scientists who advise the agency on policy matters, the U.S. Government Accountability Office said in a report on June 8. The GAO found that the agency did not adequately develop an updated policy statement on its Science Advisory Board, a group of scientific experts that advise the agency. The Federal Advisory Commission Act requires the EPA to establish guidelines for the advisory board.

#### *Energy*

##### **China's Clean Energy Ambition Floats on Abandoned Coal Mine**

China's ambitions to dominate new energy technologies are unfolding at the site of an abandoned coal mine about 300 miles northwest of Shanghai.

#### *Energy*

##### **India's Answer to Trump on Climate Is Nuclear Power**

Business has been slow at a Larsen & Toubro Ltd. factory in western India that makes parts for nuclear power plants. The Mumbai-based construction company opened the plant in 2012, hoping to profit from government plans to build more reactors in a country where more than 200 million people lack access to electricity. But most of the projects have gone nowhere, and L&T's facility in Hazira is running at one-fifth of capacity. "That's not the best use of resources," ...

#### *Energy*

##### **Nuclear Subsidies Slow to Catch on as Opposition Steps Up**

Almost a year after New York became the first state to approve subsidies for nuclear reactors threatened with closure, efforts to replicate the model elsewhere are proving a tough sell.

### ***Energy***

#### **U.S., China Discuss American Liquid Natural Gas Exports**

Energy Secretary Rick Perry advanced the prospect of expanding American liquid natural gas (LNG) exports to China during a June 8 meeting with Executive Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli in Beijing.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **German Renewables Peak as Country Bolsters Paris Commitment**

Germany's latest wind and solar power record is unlikely to be the last as the nation deepens its commitment to a low-carbon economy in the face of U.S. President Donald Trump's decision to quit the Paris climate accord.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **Hydro Overpowers Energy Needs in China**

Unused energy from hydropower facilities in the southwest China provinces of Yunnan and Sichuan in 2016 was more than the amount needed to power Hebei, the main province surrounding Beijing, for a month, raising questions about the need for future projects.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **U.K. Seen Headed for Subsidy Free Power from Offshore Wind Farms**

Britain may soon join Germany in harvesting subsidy-free electricity from offshore wind farms, giving government ministers new options in securing power supplies that don't pollute.

### ***Vehicle Fuels***

#### **Biofuel Revamp Debate Powers Up, Includes Higher Ethanol Blends**

Long-awaited efforts to modify biofuel policy are entering the limelight across Capitol Hill.

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