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**From:** Bloomberg BNA  
**Sent:** Tue 10/3/2017 12:03:15 AM  
**Subject:** Oct. 03 -- Daily Environment Report



## **Daily Environment Report**

October 03, 2017 - Number 190

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### Leading the News

#### *Courts*

##### PODCAST: Celebrate SCOTUS Day With Parts Per Billion

For attorneys, today is like Christmas, July 4th, and Super Bowl Sunday all rolled into one. It's the first day of the Supreme Court's new term.

#### *Electronic Waste*

##### Hong Kong to Recycle Homegrown Electronic Waste

Hong Kong is about to open its first recycling plant specifically to process domestic electronic waste, which should help reduce water and soil pollution, but isn't necessarily good news for e-waste traders.

#### *Energy*

##### Trump May Have Paths to Save Coal, Hobble Clean Energy

President Donald Trump may soon have a chance to prove wrong the notion that economics will kill the U.S. coal industry and keep clean energy thriving. Two initiatives pending in Washington—one to prop up large traditional power plants and a second to impose tariffs on solar panels—could let Trump upend wholesale electricity markets and tip the advantage away from renewables.

#### *General Policy*

##### Zinke's Charter Jet Flights Draw Probe From Interior Watchdog

The Interior Department's Office of Inspector General will probe Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's use of charter jets to travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands, Alaska and Montana, amid questions about Trump administration officials' reliance on private planes.

### News

### ***Air Pollution***

#### **China's Pollution Curbs May Start Slowing Growth Within Months**

China's drive to cut pollution could reduce economic growth by 0.25 percentage point in the next six months while boosting factory inflation, according to Societe Generale SA.

### ***Chemical Testing***

#### **Correction**

A Sept. 20 story, "EPA Non-Animal Chemical Testing Strategy Imminent," incorrectly said that the strategy would be released to a review panel Nov. 3. It will be publicly released at that time. The online version has been corrected.

### ***Climate Policy***

#### **U.K. Clean Growth Strategy Due in Weeks, Climate Minister Says**

The U.K. government will support carbon capture and sequestration technologies in its delayed Clean Growth Strategy that's expected in the coming weeks, Climate Change Minister Claire Perry said.

### ***Coal-Fired Power Plants***

#### **Navajo Coal Plant Slated for Closing Identifies Potential Buyers**

The Navajo Generating station, the largest coal-fired power plant in the U.S. West, has identified a group of potential investors with financing that may avert a planned 2019 shutdown.

### ***Contribution***

#### **ARCO May Pursue Ranch for Superfund Cleanup Costs**

ARCO may seek to recoup Superfund cleanup costs from a ranch where waste from a corporate predecessor's mining operation migrated, the District of Nevada ruled (*Diamond X Ranch LLC v. Atl. Richfield Co.*, 2017 BL 346998, D. Nev., No. 13-cv-00570, 9/29/17).

### ***Energy***

#### **Brexit May Threaten U.K. Nuclear Renaissance Dream**

Britain's plan to spend billions of pounds on a fleet of new nuclear reactors could be stopped in its tracks if Prime Minister Theresa May ends the rights of skilled European migrants to work in the nation after it leaves the European Union.

### ***Energy***

#### **Fossil Fuel, Renewables Groups Fight Trump's Coal Plan**

Energy Secretary Rick Perry's plan to rescue money-losing coal and nuclear plants has spawned a coalition of unlikely bedfellows.

### ***Energy***

#### **Kinder Morgan Foes Launch Legal Challenge to Canada Pipeline**

Kinder Morgan Inc.'s plan to expand the Trans Mountain pipeline linking Alberta's oil-sands to British Columbia's Pacific Coast is facing a long legal battle as communities and activists challenge the project in court.

### ***Energy***

#### **Lower Corporate Tax Rate May Alter New Energy Project Investment**

A 20 percent corporate tax rate proposed in the new Republican tax framework Sept. 27 could reduce tax equity investments in future renewable energy projects, meaning that developers may need to find new funding mechanisms.

### ***International Climate***

### EU on Track for \$235 Billion in Climate Finance

The European Union is on track to generate about 200 billion euros (\$235 billion) in spending linked to climate protection, according to a top official.

### **Motor Vehicles**

#### Automakers Plan Electric Car Blitz as Tesla Burns Billions

Here are two facts that defy logic: By the end of the year, electric-car maker Tesla Inc. will have burned through more than \$10 billion without ever having made 10 cents. Yet companies around the world are lining up to compete with it.

### **Motor Vehicles**

#### Israel's Extended Tax Break Keeps Electric, Hybrid Cars Humming

Israel has extended its lower purchase tax rate on electric and hybrid cars for two more years, continuing a “Green Taxation” reform that economic reports and automobile dealers indicate has helped put more low-emission vehicles on the road.

### **Natural Gas**

#### Oil Refiners in India to Aid Future for Natural Gas

A push to use more natural gas by India, the world's fastest-growing oil guzzler, is getting a boost from an unlikely source: the nation's gasoline and diesel makers.

### **Oil & Gas**

#### Shell, Total Join Statoil in Carbon Storage Project Off Norway

Royal Dutch Shell Plc and Total SA are joining Statoil ASA in a Norwegian government-sponsored project to store carbon dioxide from onshore industrial sites under the North Sea.

### **Sustainability**

#### Can the ‘Uber of Trash’ Clean Up Its Own Business?

Last month, an Atlanta-based company called Rubicon Global announced its entry into the rarefied “unicorn club” of startups worth more than \$1 billion. Rubicon is not an obvious candidate—it's in the gritty business of waste disposal. Then again, it's not a typical garbage company.

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