

Sino Nordic Business Development Center **NEWSLETTER VOL2-2019**

China Launches National Energy-saving Week

A nationwide energy saving week was launched from June 17th to 23rd in China. Different promotion activities will be held in different areas all over the country.

According to the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) released information, during the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) period, China's energy consumption per unit of GDP has declined 11.35 percent and the total energy consumption in 2018 was 4.64 billion tons of standard coal.

China is the biggest country in terms of producing, consuming and exporting refrigeration products in the world. The annual production value of China's refrigeration industry reached 800 billion yuan (\$116.04 billion), creating 3 million job opportunities. China have announced The Green High-efficiency Refrigeration Action Plan during the campaign. The action plan has set the tone for the development of the refrigeration industry, aiming to expand the market share of green high-efficiency refrigeration products to save the annual power consumption by 100 billion kilowatt-hours by 2022, with a long-term goal of saving 400 billion kWh annually by 2030.



During the campaign themed "prioritizing energy-saving in green development," different local governments will summarize the models and experience of regional energy-saving projects and guide the public to actively practice green lifestyles.

China steps forward with low-carbon actions

China published its first-ever guide to implementing carbon neutrality during big events, among other actions to cope with climate change.

Prior to the National Low-carbon Day on June 19th, 2019, the guide was issued by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE), offering event organizers specific measures to reduce carbon emissions, such as providing attendees with reusable daily supplies, double-sided printed materials and vegetarian options.

The usage of air conditioning systems and the number of decorative materials and wrappers should be as minimal as possible, according to the guide.

To offset greenhouse gas emissions during large events, organizers are encouraged to purchase carbon credits or carbon quotas, or grow new carbon-sink forests upon calculation of their emissions, the MEE said.

The organizers are specifically encouraged to give priority to buying carbon credits or plant forests in poverty-stricken areas, according to the MEE, so as to establish a new mechanism which combines carbon neutrality with poverty alleviation.

It is the first time for China to publish a national document on carbon neutrality. China has launched various low-carbon oriented events referring to related international standards since 2010. The new guide provides China a road map for further low-carbon movements.

As the world's largest developing country, China is resolute in coping with climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2018, China cut its carbon emissions per unit of GDP by about 45.8 percent compared with the 2005 level, fulfilling the target two years in advance.

After establishing a nationwide carbon emission trading system in December 2017, China saw its share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy consumption reach 14.3 percent in 2018, closing on the target of 15 percent by 2020.

National Low-carbon Day falls on the third day of the National Energy Efficiency Promotion Week in June every year, a campaign to raise public awareness of energy efficiency and promote green lifestyles.

Action plan to take aim at methane emissions

China's top environmental watchdog has pledged to make a greater effort to control emissions of methane, a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, by enhancing monitoring capability and drafting an action plan.

"To meet domestic and international needs for tackling climate change, the ministry will list methane as a key target in its work of controlling non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gases," Jiang Zhaoli, deputy head of the department of climate change at the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, said at a forum on June 19th, recognizing National Low Carbon Day.

Methane is over 20 times more powerful than carbon dioxide in warming the earth. While conducting research on major sources of methane and reduction of emissions, the ministry will also endeavor to get more exact data through monitoring to serve decision-making.

An action plan will be drafted and, in the following two to three years, the ministry will cooperate with major participants in the oil exploration, refining and retailing sectors to draft efficient policies and measures.

At the forum, the Institute for Sustainable Development Goals, Tsinghua University and the Environmental Defense Fund, an NGO headquartered in the United States, launched a platform for methane emissions reduction.

With an aim of realizing zero or near zero methane emissions in China in 2050, the platform was established to facilitate exchange and cooperation, and promote building capacity to reduce methane emissions.

According to the ministry, China has made great achievements in carbon reduction. In 2018, China's carbon intensity - the amount of emissions per unit of GDP - was about 45.8 percent below that of 2005, which means that it has fulfilled its goal to cut the level by 40 to 45 percent by 2020.

The ratio of energy from nonfossil fuel in the national primary energy structure increased to 14.3 percent.

China plans to further decrease the intensity metric by 60 to 65 percent and increase the ratio of nonfossil fuel to 20 percent by 2030.

China's largest ground source heat pump project near completion

China's largest ground source heat pump (GSHP) project is about to be completed at Beijing Daxing International Airport, Science and Technology Daily reported on April 24th, 2019.



GSHP is an energy-efficient and environment-friendly air conditioning system that uses shallow geothermal energy for heating and cooling buildings. It uses the earth as a heat source in the winter and a heat sink in the summer.

The GSHP project at the airport includes two energy stations with eight GSHP units, which can provide energy for a total area of 2.48 million square meters, according to an official at the construction headquarters for the airport.

The GSHP project is expected to extract an estimated 563,600 gigajoule (GJ) of shallow geothermal energy each year. This can save 1,735.89 cubic meters of natural gas for the airport, equivalent to 21,078 tons of standard coal, cutting carbon emissions by more than 15, 800 tons.

New guidelines regulate battery recycling sector

China is the world's largest manufacturer of lead-acid batteries, which are widely used to power electric bikes and supply the ignition spark for conventional automobiles.

However, spent batteries, which are officially designated as hazardous waste, are often disposed of illegally, squandering large amounts of valuable lead and causing pollution that is costly to remedy.

The problem has attracted the attention of the central government, which responded earlier this year by publishing new guidelines and launching a pilot program designed to strengthen governance of battery disposal.

Industry insiders and experts believe the initiative will help to overcome many of the obstacles hampering the development of the battery disposal sector, because it will not only address the environmental damage caused by illicit processing but also reduce China's reliance on lead imports.

However, they called for the government to increase financial support provided to legitimate disposal companies, arguing that failure to do so will give illegal processors an edge.

In 2017, China produced about 3.8 million metric tons of lead-acid batteries, more than 40 percent of the global total, according to the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

Most spent batteries are not disposed of properly, though, which pollutes air, soil and water, and also poses health risks.

Though the amount of acid differs among various batteries, the chemical often accounts for about 20 percent of the cell's weight, while the rest is lead and plastic.

Both acid and lead are highly polluting if disposed of improperly—for example, lead is a toxin that can cause severe health problems and even death at high levels of exposure.

Now, things are changing. In January, nine central government bodies, including the Ministry of Ecology and Environment and the National Development and Reform Commission, published new guidelines to strengthen the management of lead-acid battery disposal, and pledged to regulate the processing of 40 percent of spent batteries by 2020, rising to 70 percent by 2025.

Under the current laws, lead-acid batteries have to be transported in accordance with the requirements for hazardous waste, even though they are not damaged and will not leak. As a result, it can take as long as three months to complete the government procedures that allow batteries to be transported between provinces or regions. Moreover, the batteries must be carried in special vehicles designed for the transportation of hazardous waste, which cost twice as much as regular vehicles, Zhang said.

The new guidelines propose revisions to laws and regulations, including the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Solid Waste, to make lead-acid battery transportation more efficient and cheaper.

On Jan 24, the ministries of Transport and Ecology and Environment published a pilot program for 20 provincial regions, including Beijing and Tianjin, that will see lead-acid batteries transported as regular cargo, though their passage will be strictly monitored.

The guidelines also plan to introduce an "extended producer responsibility" system for the industry, whereby manufacturers will have to contribute to a fund to subsidize the recycling of spent cells. They also encourage the establishment of a collection system based on manufacturers' sales networks.

Speaking in April, Qiu Qiwen, head of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment's solid waste and chemicals management department, said that last year the ministry carried out a campaign against illegal processing, which is also a key target of environmental inspections headed by ministerial-level officials.

"It's not technologically demanding to process spent lead-acid batteries, and illegal plants also change their locations frequently, so their illegal activities could easily restart after a crackdown," he said.

Because it is difficult and costly to dispose of batteries that contain acid, some processing companies pay a higher price for cells whose chemicals have been removed. The higher profit margin prompts many collectors to dump the acid illegally, resulting in serious pollution, he added.

Qiu said the ministry will "make a concerted effort with other government bodies to strengthen cooperation and promote the establishment of a regulated, orderly collection and processing system".

New policy initiatives introduced to promote private medical institutions growth

China has introduced a series of policy initiatives to promote the healthy development of private medical and health institutions, according to a new directive jointly released by 10 central government agencies.



The government will ramp up support for private medical and health institutions, and push forward efforts to upgrade services and simplify government approvals, says the document.

The number of private medical and health institutions reached 459,000, accounting for about 46 percent of the country's total, as of the end of 2018, according to Wang Hesheng, deputy head of the National Health Commission (NHC), on June 12nd 2019 policy briefing about the directive.

As of the end of last year, China had 21,000 hospitals run by private sectors, or 63.5 percent of all hospitals, Wand added.

China saw steady growth in the proportion of staff workers, sickbeds and treatments at private medical and health institutions in recent years, the official noted.

The number and scale of public hospitals should be strictly controlled in accordance with requirements of the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) to leave sufficient room for the development of private medical institutions, according to the directive.

When increasing or adjusting medical and health resources, local authorities should first consider medical and health institutions run with funding from non-government sectors, says the document.

Government purchases of services from private medical and health institutions should be supported, in accordance with the principle of fair competition and merit selection, in a bid to provide community residents with family doctor services, among other public health services.

World Green Design Organization (WGDO)

Nordicflexhouse has made strategic partnership with the World Green Design Organization (WGDO) to promote and establish collaboration with Nordic Technology companies on China market. The WGDO was founded in September 2013 in Brussels, Belgium. It is the world's first non-profit international organization dedicated to promoting green design. It aims to promote and disseminate the concept of “green design” on a global scale, and to use “green design” as a means to lead the transformation of production methods, lifestyles and consumption patterns, and to achieve the symbiosis between man and nature. WGDO builds a global green development dialogue platform, promotes cooperation and exchanges of information, technology, materials, projects, capital, and talents in “green design”, by holding the World Green Design Forum China Summit / European Summit, the World Green Design Expo and the Green Design International Award / Green Design International Contribution Award.



WGDO brings together a wide range of international resources, including international organizations, companies, universities, institutions and government departments. Green Design Institute (GDI), a platform of WGDO, focuses on the green innovative design concept and is guided by the sustainable development strategy. GDI is committed to promoting the



绿色设计研究院 Green Design Institute

development of China's green technology, green materials, green energy, urban sustainable development, and green design innovation supply chain by means of resource sharing and cooperation. The Green Design Institute is an innovative resource platform. As an export platform of WGDO's resources, GDI plays an important role in localizing these high-quality international resources and transforming them into market-oriented operations.

The Green Design Institute has widely disseminated green design concepts by introducing high-quality green technologies, institutions, projects, talents and experience at home and abroad, promoting the green technology transformation and industrial chain development through joint establishment and cooperation, building a bridge between international green technologies, green talents and green projects, and promoting the development of the green innovative design industry.

The business purpose of the Green Design Institute:

Be an advocate and communicator of green design and innovative design concepts, promote the growth of green design talents and promote the local cooperation of international green innovation technologies in China.

Cooperation partners:



Cooperation areas:

- Cooperate with local governments and industrial parks to build international green technology innovation parks, and introduce green innovation technologies, enterprises and institutions as first priority to enter industrial parks and jointly develop the Chinese market.
- Cooperate with local governments and real estate operators to build an innovative science and technology park, and give priority to partners and offer them more preferential investment policies
- Green projects that work with local governments and companies prioritize green technology for partners
- Prioritize using the green technologies from partners for green projects with local governments and enterprises.
- According to the market prospects of technology and projects held by partners, establish joint ventures with partners in China, and share platform resources and project cooperation revenue.
- Invite partners to participate in the domestic and international high-end green innovation conference forums and exhibitions organized by WGDO, and give priority to recommending partners to participate in the selection and recognition of the international green technologies, institutions, and talent awards of the World Green Design Forum.