

As Goes China, So Goes the World: Chinese Development and Environment Challenges

Presented by the Sustainable Development Law & Policy Journal

Thursday, March 26, 2009

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

American University Washington College of Law, 4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW,
Room 603, Washington, DC

It is impossible to deny China's huge and growing impact as a world economic and political power. The country's unprecedented growth and incredible investment potential have caused increased international interest in China's every move. China has a history of environmental degradation, but recent reports show the standards may be shifting. Although China's environmental regulatory scheme, which is comparatively strong, suffers from lack of enforcement, there appears to be a broad consensus at the top of Chinese central leadership to clean up the environment. A variety of issues will be discussed at this conference including: post-Kyoto decisions on climate change and establishment of a carbon constrained economy; technology transfer, green technologies, and legal dynamics of weak IP protection; increase in public participation and viability of citizen suit litigation; energy investment, carbon sequestration, and development of clean coal; environmental impact statements: requirements and enforcement; food safety and exports from China; the intersection of human rights and environmental/development issues; increasing Chinese influence in the international (and especially developing) world; what kind of example will they set; and evaluation of how China is complying with international environmental and development regimes. Speakers are being finalized and will include: *Roger Martella*, a partner in the Environmental Practice Group at Sidley Austin LLP; *Robert Percival*, professor of law at the University of Maryland's School of Law; *Chris Williams*, Director Freshwater Conservation, World Wildlife Fund; and *Quoc P. Nguyen*, Honors Fellow, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; *Linda Tsang*, an associate in the Environmental Practice Group at Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.; *Steve Wolfson*, Senior Attorney with the EPA Office of General Counsel; and *Andrea Worden*, General Counsel and Senior Advisor on Criminal Justice for the Congressional-Executive Commission on China.

9:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:30 am	Welcome Remarks
9:45 am	Going Green: The Development of Chinese Environmental Law
11:15 am	Break
11:30 am	Development's Human Cost: Human Rights and the Environment in China
12:45 pm	Networking Lunch
1:30 pm	Giant Opportunity: China as a Partner in International Environmental Law
2:45 pm	Closing Remarks

General Registration – no charge, CLE accreditation can be applied for (\$35 registration)

To register, please go to www.wcl.american.edu/secle/register. For further information, please contact: Office of Special Events & Continuing Legal Education, American University Washington College of Law. Phone: 202.274.4075, or E-mail: secle@wcl.american.edu

Live webcast: <http://www.wcl.american.edu/go/irc>