

CHOKE POINT: CHINA

Water scarcity and energy demand in
the world's fastest-growing economy



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Woodrow Wilson
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China Environment Forum

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THREE TRENDS CONVERGING

The tightening choke point between energy demand and freshwater supply jeopardizes China's economic stability.

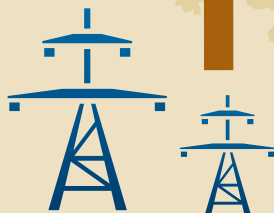
12%



rise in annual water use by 2020. In 2010, China used 30% more water than in 1990.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In Ningxia Province, one of China's largest coal producers, water supplies to farmers have been cut 30% since 2008.



58%

increase in total energy consumption by 2020. Chinese energy consumption has nearly tripled since 1990.

20%

of water used in China is to produce energy from coal. By 2020, coal consumption is projected to increase by 30%.



Since 1997, the Woodrow Wilson Center's **China Environment Forum** has created forums and exchanges to explore the most imperative environmental and sustainable development issues in China and has acted as a platform for business, governmental, research, and nongovernmental communities to collaboratively seek opportunities to address these issues.

Circle of Blue, a non-profit affiliate of the Pacific Institute, is the international and nonpartisan network of leading journalists, scientists, and designers reporting the information necessary to respond to the global freshwater crisis.

Through the **Choke Point: China** series, the China Environment Forum and Circle of Blue reveal, for the first time, the increasingly fierce competition between water and energy that threatens to upend China's progress.

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