

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Earth System Science Programme

Enforcing Energy and Environmental Policies in China

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Abstract

China is the world's largest energy producer, consumer and emitter of many major pollutants, creating problems with unprecedented scales and urgency. On the one hand, her weak rule of law often results in ineffective policy enforcement and prevalent non-compliance to witness unacceptable energy-related environmental crises. On the other hand, starting from unfavorable background, China becomes the world's largest market of renewable energy, rapidly improves energy efficiency and installs pollution control facilities at astonishing rates. In this talk, I will analyze the enforcement of various energy and environmental policies in China from the perspectives of regulators and polluters, and propose a generalizable theory to explain phenomena and guide efforts.

