

An Introduction to Jiangsu Ecological Environment Department

The administrative department of Environmental Protection of Jiangsu Province was founded in 1976, by then it was named Jiangsu Environmental Protection Office. In 1979, the Jiangsu Provincial Environmental Protection Bureau was established separately and renamed the Jiangsu Provincial Environmental Protection Agency in 2000. It was the first provincial environmental protection agency nationwide to be listed as a government component. According to the unified deployment of the Party Central Committee and the State Council as well as the arrangement of the Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial Government, the newly established Jiangsu Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment was officially launched in October 2018. The entire department has a total of 361 permanent administrative staff and consists of 22 functional offices (bureaus) and 5 environmental surveillance offices and 24 directly affiliated institutions. Through this institutional reform, the environment related responsibilities previously scattered across various departments have been centralized. For example, now the ecological environment department are full in charge of the prevention of groundwater pollution, the formulating of water function zoning, the planning of sewage outlet locations, the protection of watershed water, the protection of marine environmental, the supervision and guidance of agricultural non-point source pollution control, and the response to climate change. The ecological environment department can be the supervisor of ecology and environmental protection in a unified manner, through four of its main duties: the making of regulations, the surveillance and evaluation of the environment, the supervision and law enforcement, and inspection and accountability.

An Overview of the Work in 2019

In 2019, Jiangsu firmed the concept of green development by organizing a large-scale campaign of water, air, and soil pollution control with unprecedented determination and strength. With the GDP of the whole province increasing by 6.1% annually and the total amount reaching 9.96 trillion yuan, the average annual concentration of PM_{2.5} decreased by 8.5% to 43 $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$. The surface water quality that reached grade III or better in state monitoring sections was 78.8%, an annual increase of 9.6%. Water with grade V or inferior in state monitoring sections and their tributaries have been eliminated. The proportion of clean seawater in the coastal regions reached 89.7%, an annual increase of 41.2%. Overall, the air and water quality in 2019 was the best over the past five years, and the improvement also the largest in the Yangtze River Delta. The target for reduction of carbon emission in the 13th Five-Year Plan was completed one year ahead of schedule, achieving a win-win solution for economic development and ecological environmental protection. The following eight aspects of work should be emphasized:

In terms of space management and control, the "Regional Management and Control Plan for Ecological Space in Jiangsu Province" was issued, delineating 811 land ecological space protection areas in 15 categories, with a total area of 23216.24 square kilometers, covering 22.49% of the province's land area, and protecting 60 % of Jiangsu's forest (woodland) ecosystems and more than 50% of wetland ecosystems.

In terms of industrial development, we steered towards higher, lighter, better,

and cleaner developments, and have lawfully in total closed 735 chemical companies, shut down 10 chemical industry parks, more than 4,000 "scattering and polluting" companies and 223 shell companies. Iron and steel enterprises have basically completed the entire process of ultra-low emission transformation, and industries such as iron and steel, cement, etc., have completed the capacity reduction task in the 13th Five-Year Plan.

In terms of resource utilization, the province's total coal consumption decreased by 26 million tons compared with 2016. The proportion of coal consumption dropped to 58%, and the province's installed clean energy capacity reached 37.8%, of which non-fossil energy installed capacity reached 25.7%, accounting for 10.4% of the total energy consumption in the whole society.

In terms of law enforcement supervision, we took the lead in the country to achieve full coverage, full networking, and full use of law enforcement recorders, with a cumulative update of 1,629 sets of mobile law enforcement equipment and 2,482 law enforcement recorders, effectively improving the standardization of law enforcement. We have seriously investigated and dealt with illegal activities against the environmental law, and issued a total of 14,000 penalty decisions and fines of 1.246 billion yuan, effectively deterred violations of the environmental law.

In terms of infrastructure building, the daily urban sewage treatment capacity has increased by 670,000 cubic meters, the newly-built urban sewage pipe network has been increased by about 1,300 kilometers, and the domestic waste incineration capacity has been increased by 10450 tons/day. All coastal ports along the river now have the capacity to receive ship

pollutants, and the same for over 85% Inland ports. The hazardous waste disposal capacity has exceeded 2 million tons per year, which is at least three times more than three years ago. Cities above the county level achieve full coverage of automatic air monitoring stations, and the number of automatic water monitoring stations is the largest across the whole country.

In terms of ecological construction, the overall management of landscapes, forests, fields, lakes, and grasses was promoted. The province's forest coverage rate reached 23.6%, and the natural wetland protection rate reached 55.8%. A total of 16 national eco-friendly construction demonstration zones and 2 practical innovation bases in the motto of "mountain of green is mountain of gold" have been built, ranking among the top in the country in total.

In terms of service development, better use of green finance policies to help companies reduce cost, the introduction of four policy documents including green bond discounts, green guarantee bonuses, green insurance subsidies, and green industrial enterprises listing rewards provided bonus funds of 18,178,200 yuan for 1,160 companies; The "Finance and Environmental Protection" Dialogue was held to promote the upgrade of "Environmental Protection Loans", and a total of 8.152 billion yuan of such low-interest loans were issued for 168 projects.

In terms of publicity and education, the theme exhibition of "Beautiful China, I Am a doer" on 5th June Environment Day and a series of environmental protection public welfare activities were held. We promoted the opening of the province's environmental protection facilities to the public. The province's 45 environmental protection facilities and municipal waste and

sewage treatment facilities have organized more than 1,200 open activities. We guided the healthy development of community organizations. So far, the alliance of the province's environmental protection social organization has 41 members, and the Jiangsu University Environmental Protection Public Welfare Association has 40 members.

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