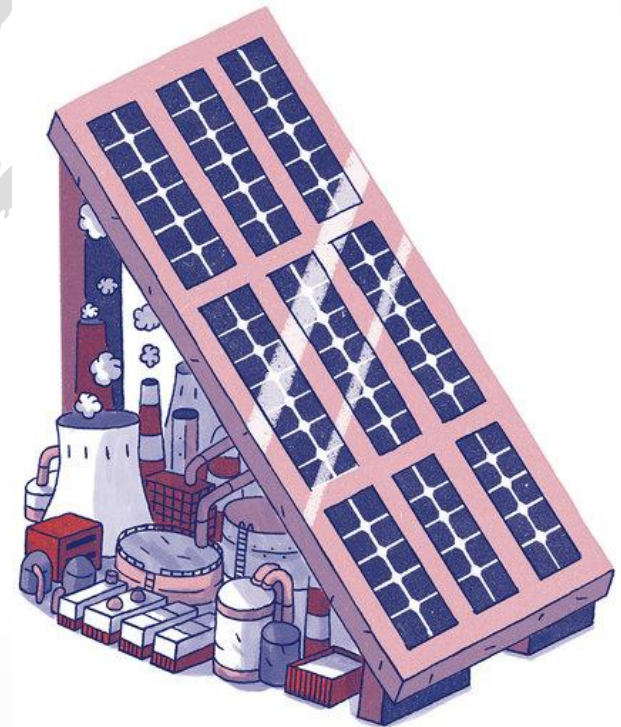


TRAVEL & TOURISM IN CHINA BEING AFFECTED BY GLOBAL WARMING

Kert Lasdoce

Photo Credit: New York Times



ABSTRACT

Research Question:

How can China effectively combat Global Warming that's threatening its tourism industry?

- According to World Travel and Tourism Council, from the year 2000 to the 2014, tourism contributed 2.6% towards the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). An amount of 1,620.3 trillion CNY (Chinese Yuan) or US\$235 billion provided an estimate of 23 million job ([WTTTC]www.wttc.org). However, global warming and its looming effects of the heating of the earth, threatens Chinas natural resources and travel destinations (Geiling, 2015).
- Keywords: *Global Warming in China, Tourism in China threatened, Climate Change*

THESIS

The government of China's energy agency has announced on January 5th 2017 that it will be investing US\$361 billion into renewable energy that would help decrease carbon emission from the heavy usage of fossil fuels such as coal, a direct cause of global warming (Song, 2017).

However, cities will need to quickly adapt and cut their coal dependency for power consumption. By cutting down the usage of coal as a primary source of energy consumption, adapting to alternative energies with the help of local involvement, launching an effective cap-and-trade program, planting more trees, and stopping the construction of future coal-powered factories are the keys to ensure China's travel and tourism's industry to flourish.



The Greenhouse Effect

Some solar radiation is reflected by the Earth and the atmosphere.

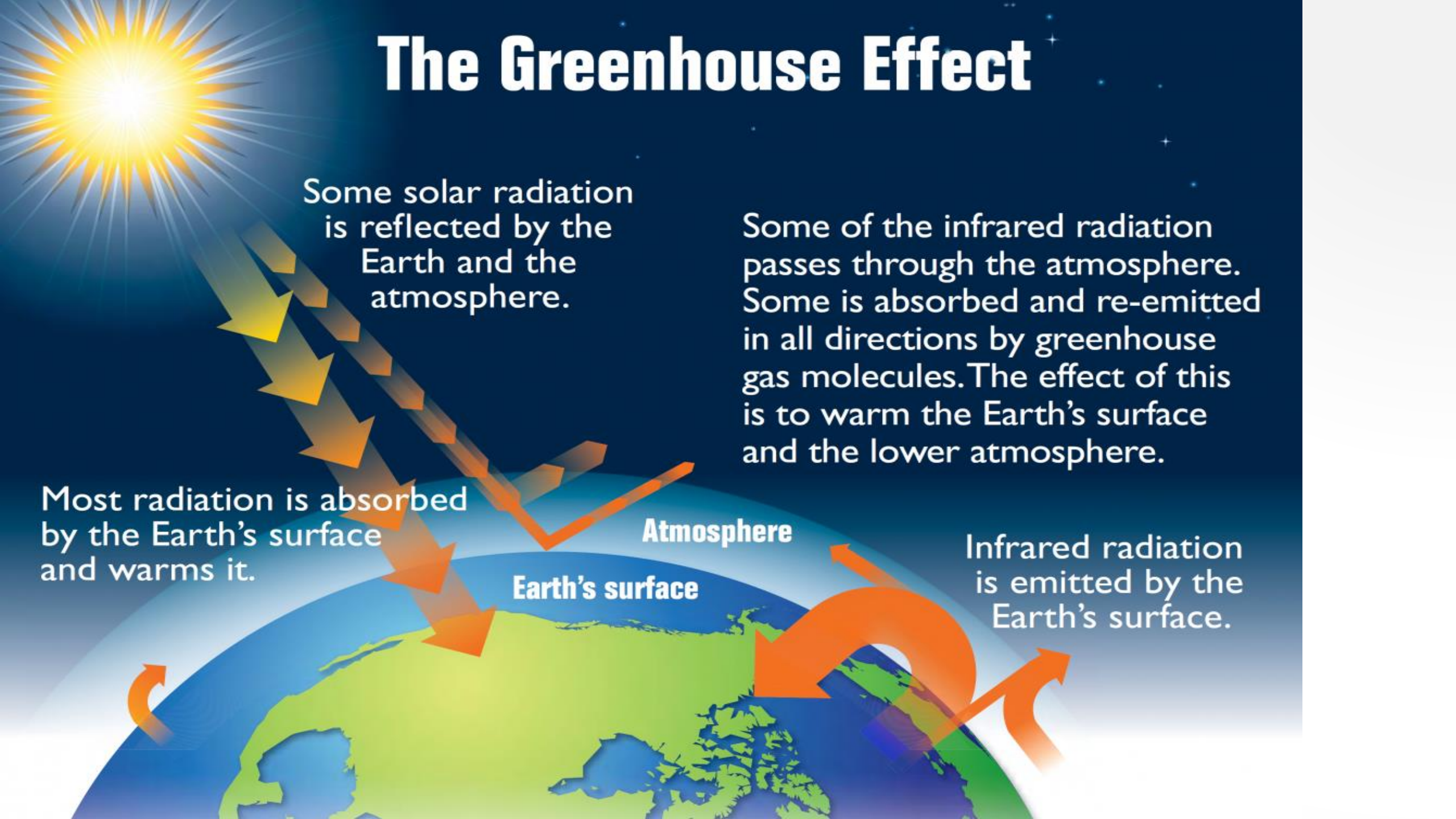
Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere. Some is absorbed and re-emitted in all directions by greenhouse gas molecules. The effect of this is to warm the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.

Most radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface and warms it.

Infrared radiation is emitted by the Earth's surface.

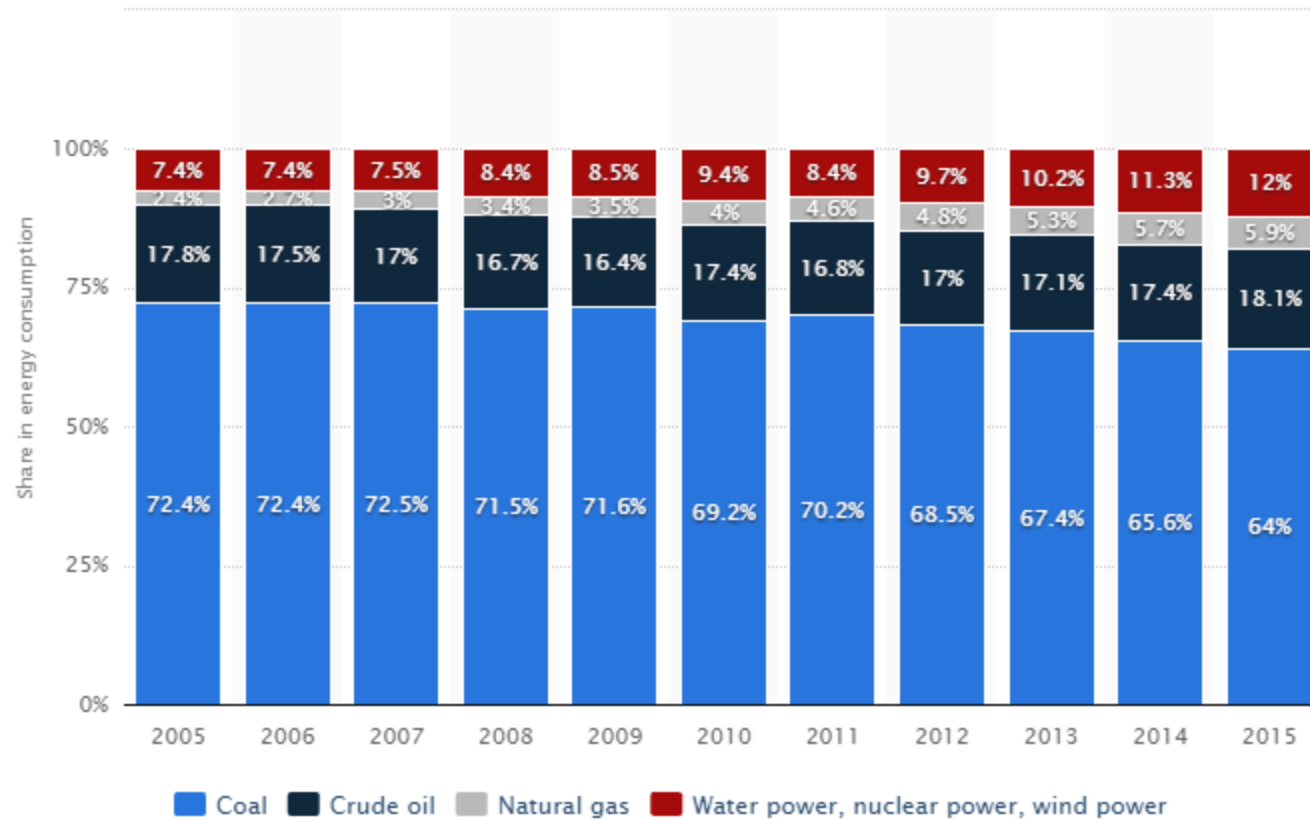
Atmosphere

Earth's surface



COAL

Energy consumption in China from 2005 to 2015, by source



China is the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases (GHG), sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and air particulate matters which is a direct cause for global warming

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Tourist Attractions Affected

JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAINS (LIJANG, YUNNAN PROVINCE)



- Provides a scenic view of like Glacier Park, Spruce Meadow, and Yak Meadow
- 5,600 meters above sea level
- about 4 of the 19 glaciers to completely melt
- Snow regressing earlier every year in result to increase in temperature

Tourist Attractions Affected

GIANT PANDA & GOLDEN MONKEYS



- Deforestation has impacted their habitat
- Shortage of water and food source like the bamboo has threatened their existence
- 90% of their diet is bamboo and Giant Pandas feed on average up to 4,000 stalks a day

Tourist Attractions Affected

MOGAO GROTTOES AND BUDDHA IN LESHAN



- Acid rain has been deteriorating the sculptures
- fluctuation of temperature which causes the murals to exfoliate over time.



WHAT IS CHINA DOING TO COMBAT GLOBAL WARMING?

- Cutting Coal

With 67% of the primary energy consumption and 73% of electricity generation from coal, China is the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases (GHG)

- Shutting down future coal-powered factories
The Chinese government has given a direct order to halt the construction of 103 coal-powered plants and factories according to China's National Energy Administration.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strategically place solar farms
- Continue developing new technologies to lower the cost of renewable energy.
- Find efficient ways to harness current wind energy

WHAT IS CHINA DOING TO COMBAT GLOBAL WARMING?

- Signing the COP21 (Paris Agreement)
Hosted by the United Nations with a purpose to devise a plan of solution for climate change and global warming. China has pledged for the Paris Agreement that it would cut its carbon emissions per unit of GDP by 60-65 percent from 2005 levels by 2030
- Investing into renewable energy
investing US\$361 billion into renewable energy that would help decrease carbon emission from the heavy usage of fossil fuels such as coal. Following their promise from the Paris Agreement, projects like the Solar City in Dezhou.



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