

INSIGHTS

For the Mainstream Investor

WEEK ENDING JULY 14, 2017 EDITION 202



FRANCE'S POLLUTION PLAN

French government reveals reduction goals

France's highest court has ordered the French government to address its poor air quality in a landmark court case ([here](#), in French) brought by Friends of the Earth France with the support of environmental lawyers [ClientEarth](#).

"The French court followed the example of a growing host of judges across Europe who are protecting people's right to clean air and holding authorities accountable," said a lawyer for ClientEarth. [READ MORE](#)

WHAT WE'RE WATCHING

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt hopes to launch a [debate about climate change](#) that may air on television. He said he wants scientists to prove the widespread view that global warming is a serious threat. Stay tuned.

BANKS COMMIT TO TRANSPARENCY

11 banks to calculate climate change exposure

The financial risks and opportunities associated with climate change are becoming increasingly clear. This week some of the biggest names in global finance signed onto the UN-backed disclosure effort, pledging to investigate their exposure to climate-related risk.

This is likely to include information on fossil fuel firms, transportation companies, and the renewable energy sector. Investigation is a step toward full disclosure on climate-related risk which would inevitably shift lending patterns away from carbon intensive sectors. "The scale and sophistication of climate risk and opportunity continue to grow," Citi Bank spokesman Ed Skyler said in a statement on Tuesday.

[READ MORE](#)

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

300,000

plus people have been infected by cholera in Yemen, says the International committee of the Red Cross

2,240

sq. mile (5,800 sq. km) iceberg has broken off from Antarctica's Larsen C Ice Shelf (see photo below)

463

MW of battery-based energy storage has been awarded to the new Fluence company, a joint venture between AES and Siemens

325

million USD was raised by UBS for a private equity impact fund backed by Bono

60

percent of Poland's energy will come from coal by 2030

56

billion USD UN pension fund will consider ESG as a factor for its portfolio risk system

18

GW extra power demand by 2050 could be created by electric vehicle sales in the UK

1

billion USD is the planned expenditure per year by Royal Dutch shell on its New Energies Division

IMAGE OF THE WEEK

An iceberg seven times the size of New York City has broken away from an ice shelf in Antarctica.



Photo by NASA/REX/Shutterstock (8791697p)
NASA/NASA via ZUMA Wire/REX/Shutterstock

Source: [Reuters](#)

The above research materials are for informational purposes only. They are not an offer or solicitation for any security or investment product managed by SICM and should not be construed as investment advice. Investment strategies implemented by SICM on behalf of its clients may or may not trade or hold positions in the securities referred to above. Further, investment accounts managed by SICM may or may not employ strategies based on or related to the above research.

INSIGHTS

For the Mainstream Investor

WEEK ENDING JULY 14, 2017 EDITION 202



Sustainable Insight
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

@sicmgt

ARMS SALES CONTINUE

Court rules for defense

On Monday, the decision to continue the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen's civil war was reached by London's high court. Over the past two years, the civil war has resulted in at least 10,000 deaths, millions of displaced civilians, famine, and an economic disaster.

The sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia was challenged by various human rights groups with evidence that the weapons had been used to devastate Yemen's civilian population, a violation of international law. This evidence was disregarded by the court as they ruled in favor of Britain's Defense Ministry on the grounds that the Ministry had access to additional information. The Saudis continue to claim that there has been no violation of international law.

[READ MORE](#)

UPDATE: COAL

An investor-backed group led by the Church of England is [demanding](#) that the largest coal companies show how they will reduce emissions to meet targets set by the Paris Climate Accord. Currently only [20 coal companies](#) have set targets.

And in case you missed it from last week, check out the Global Coal Database [HERE](#)

GOOD NEWS... PERHAPS

[Drinking coffee](#) may help you live longer. However, before you reach for that second cup, some are saying the findings are not clear cut and don't take all factors into account. [READ MORE](#)

FIGHTING DISEASE WITH TECH

Robotics versus mosquitoes

Various companies including Microsoft, Alphabet, and MosquitoMate Inc., are attempting to combat the spread of Zika and other [mosquito-borne illnesses worldwide](#) through technological innovations. Microsoft has already installed ten "smart traps" in Texas which are able to identify, isolate, and capture mosquitoes carrying the Zika virus. The smart traps use infrared sensors, machine learning, and cloud computing to help entomologists and health officials predict potential disease outbreaks.

Other companies including Alphabet, Oxitec, and MosquitoMate Inc, are attempting to genetically modify male mosquitoes making them completely sterile. The release of millions of laboratory-bred sterile mosquitoes (male's don't bite) into the outdoors could shrink mosquito populations and eliminate the threat of mosquito-borne viruses.

DID YOU SEE?

The [US EIA](#) forecasts that coal will overtake natural gas as the primary fuel for power generation in 2017. [READ MORE](#)

WORTH NOTING

Films have the power to highlight important social issues. Bollywood is to release a film titled 'Toilet: A love story' to highlight sanitation issues in India. [READ MORE](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING



PRI

Shifting perceptions:
ESG, credit risk and
ratings – part 1: the
state of play

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Airlines changing menu items can stir strong religious nationalism.

[READ MORE](#)

The above research materials are for informational purposes only. They are not an offer or solicitation for any security or investment product managed by SICM and should not be construed as investment advice. Investment strategies implemented by SICM on behalf of its clients may or may not trade or hold positions in the securities referred to above. Further, investment accounts managed by SICM may or may not employ strategies based on or related to the above research.