

[Press release: Environment Agency minded to approve application at Horse Hill](#)

The application is for a bespoke environmental permit to drill a new well, drill a side track to the existing well and to carry out flow testing. Horse Hill Developments Limited have also applied for a Standard Rules Permit to store oil on site. In deciding whether or not to issue the permits, the Environment Agency will take into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

Before the Environment Agency grants the bespoke environmental permit there will be a further consultation period, which closes on 4 August 2017, to allow people to comment on the application.

[Further information on the bespoke application, a copy of our draft decision document and details of how to comment.](#)

An Environment Agency spokesperson said:

An environmental permit sets out stringent conditions that a site must adhere to. We will not issue an environmental permit for a site if we consider that activities taking place will cause significant pollution to the environment or harm to human health.

Although we are minded to approve the application for the bespoke permit we are still in the determination process and a final decision has not yet been made. We want to hear from the public and understand peoples' views on the application. Everybody has the chance to see what the bespoke permit may look like and to raise any additional concerns before we make any final decision.

- [How you can participate in decisions on applications for environmental permits](#)
- [Information on the environmental permits and permissions you need for onshore oil and gas operations in England](#)

[Killer pedophile arrested in central](#)

China

A man has been arrested in central China's Hunan province for alleged rape and murder of children and teenagers, said local police.

Yao Changfeng, the suspect, was caught on Saturday while attempting to rape an 11-year-old girl by a road in Yuanling county.

By comparing him with images in the database, police found Yao was wanted for allegedly killing two children in December 2011, and a 15-year-old girl in February 2013.

After investigation, police learned that between 2013 and 2017, Yao raped ten others, three of whom were minors.

Yao also confessed to 42 thefts involving more than 17,000 yuan (about 2,500 U.S. dollars).

To avoid the police, he allegedly travelled by bike and lived in caves, under bridges or tents in the wilderness.

The Enshi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of the adjacent Hubei province issued a notice in February, offering 200,000 yuan for information which may lead to Yao's arrest.

Xi receives credentials of 8 ambassadors

Chinese President Xi Jinping received the credentials presented by eight new ambassadors to China at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Wednesday.

The ambassadors are Selim Belortaja from Albania, Jose Bernal from Mexico, Usenov Azamat from Kyrgyzstan, Mothusi Palai from Botswana, Edward Boateng from Ghana, Terry Branstad from the United States, Jean-Maurice Ripert from France, and Patricia Rodriguez Holkemeyer from Costa Rica.

Xi welcomed the ambassadors to China and asked them to convey his sincere greetings and good wishes to the leaders and people of their countries.

The Chinese government will provide convenience and support for the work of the ambassadors and hopes that they will actively contribute to bilateral relations between China and their countries, Xi said.

Xi spoke positively of traditional friendship and sound relations with the eight countries, and said China will enhance mutual trust, promote pragmatic

cooperation, and deepen people-to-people exchanges to boost bilateral ties.

The ambassadors conveyed greetings from their state leaders to Xi. They said their countries highly value the relations with China, as well as the friendship between the peoples, and expect to participate in the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative.

They said they feel greatly honored to serve as ambassadors to China, and will devote their best efforts to promoting cooperation between their countries and China, as well as deepening mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples.

[The Tories have completely failed to deliver an energy system that works for people, businesses or our environment – Rebecca Long-Bailey](#)

Rebecca

Long-Bailey, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, responding

to the Citizens Advice Bureau report calling for £7.5 billion of profit made by energy network operators to be returned to bill payers, said:

“The

Citizens Advice Bureau's figures showing that energy networks have made over £7.5 billion unjustified profit over an 8 year period, are quite simply eye watering. The Tories have completely failed to deliver an energy system that works for people, businesses or our environment.

“It

is simply unacceptable that customers are forced to accept such costs in their bills. They have no choice, there is no option to shop around as these companies hold a monopoly over the network, which is why Labour proposed to gain greater public control and transparency over these companies in our manifesto.

“The

Government must direct Ofgem to take action on this unjustified behaviour immediately. Sadly, despite the Government promising to cap energy bills during the General Election, they have already rowed back on such strong action under

pressure from the Big Six energy companies.”

[Special treat to cool off animals at Beijing Zoo](#)

A large part of China is sweltering in intolerable heat as temperatures in central and eastern regions have soared to 40 degrees Celsius.

A panda sits with an ice cube in Beijing Zoo in Beijing, capital of China, July 12, 2017. [Photo/Xinhua]

Not only humans are suffering, so are the animals.

With its mouth wide open, a rhino at the Beijing Zoo greedily enjoyed a spray of water. Not far away, others swallowed watermelons prepared by their feeders.

Li Dongrui, a member of the zoo’s feeding team, told Xinhua they sprayed water at least twice a day to cool down the overheated animals.

“We also set up paddling pools for the pandas and elephants, and air conditioners for the polar bears,” he said. “This year, we even created a 10-square meter mud pool for the rhinos.”

When the temperature hits 35 degrees Celsius, giant ice cubes are delivered to the enclosures of polar bears, red pandas, golden monkeys, and chimpanzees.

The ice cubes, weighing 15 kilos each, are prepared three days in advance. Eight to ten ice cubes are needed each time.

The giant pandas receive a special treat – a dessert of mung bean soup, a traditional Chinese summer soup believed to be beneficial to human body, and in this case animal body, to reduce heat.

“Giant pandas cannot handle the heat, so we must keep the indoor temperature between 24 to 26 degrees Celsius,” Li said. “They eat eight meals every day to maintain strength, including bamboo shoots, carrots, and mung bean soup. Each panda consumes almost 50 kilos of bamboo a day.”

This summer, the Beijing Zoo has served 12 kinds of fruit, 28 kinds of vegetable, three kinds of green fodder as well as sugar and beverages daily to keep the animals healthy under the baking sun.

It is estimated over 48,000 kilos of fruit, 450,000 kilos of vegetables and 256,000 kilos of green fodder will be consumed during the summer.

To guarantee the freshness, all the green fodder is delivered at night and given to the animals within 15 hours. Bamboo leaves have been transported refrigerated since June, so that the giant pandas can have the best quality of their favorite food.