

July 4, 2022, RAWSEP news paraphrased

See the last 8 minutes of PBS newshour broadcast July 4, 2022 for a preview, and see the PBS broadcast **"America Outdoors" by Baratunde Thurston with some coverage of smoke pollution around the world** broadcast by PBS at 8 PM Central (7 PM Eastern Time) Time on July 5, July 12, July 19 and July 26, 2022. Recordings possibly also available on Passport from PBS.

1.U.S. Midwest

[Wisconsin Supreme Court weighs arguments on whether to ...](#)

<https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-supreme-court-weighs...>

Mar 10, 2022 — *Fred Prehn* from the board after his term expired in May. In 2015, former Republican Gov. Scott Walker appointed Prehn to a six-year term. Gov.

[Fred Prehn gets to stay on the Natural Resources Board ...](#)

<https://www.wpr.org/fred-prehn-gets-stay-natural-reso...>

Jun 30, 2022 — We learn more about a Wisconsin Supreme Court decision to allow a Natural Resources Board member to remain in his position despite having an ...

[Wisconsin Supreme Court rules Prehn can stay on DNR board](#)

<https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/wisconsin-supre...>

Jun 30, 2022 — Former Republican Gov. Scott Walker appointed *Fred Prehn* to the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board in 2015 and his term expired in May 2021, ...

[Wisconsin court: Fred Prehn can stay on DNR board - WEAU](#)

<https://www.weau.com/2022/06/29/wisconsin-court-fr...>

June 30, 2022 — A conservative member of the state Department of Natural Resources policy board can remain on the panel indefinitely even though his term ...

RAWSEP View: In Wisconsin, regulation of **emissions of all air pollution** remains lax, because present Governor Tony Evers appointed a new Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) board member in October 2021 to replace conservative **Fred Prehn, whose term expired in May 2021**, but the Wisconsin Republican-controlled state legislature, gerrymandered to a 2/3 majority although voters are 50/50 on Republicans versus Democrats Wisconsin state-wide, petitioned the Wisconsin Supreme Court and received the decision from the Republican-controlled Wisconsin Supreme Court on 6/30/2022 that Fred Prehn does not have to resign, making his tenure similar to that of a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, **a lifetime appointment** rather than 6 year appointment, contrary to the will of the people demonstrated through voting Governor Tony Evers into office.

2.U.S. Northeast

New York

[Greenridge air permit denied by DEC - The Chronicle Express](#)

The Chronicle Express

... with "a request for minor revisions to the monitoring requirements for particulate emissions (PM-10, PM-2.5 and Particulates), which includes ...

RAWSEP View: Rather than allowing Greenridge power plant to continue using behind-the-meter and bitcoin to operate, the Greenridge power plant in New York states was denied a permit to operate.

Traditionally, the most common behind-the-meter system was the **gas or diesel generator**, which offered an easy way to generate power when the grid was down or unavailable. In recent years, however, generators have been falling out of favor because they are expensive to operate, noisy, and

run on polluting fossil fuels. Proof of work (PoW) is a form of **adding new blocks of transactions to a cryptocurrency's blockchain**. The work, in this case, is generating a hash (a long string of characters) that matches the target hash for the current block. The crypto miner who does this wins the right to add that block to the blockchain and receive rewards.

Pennsylvania

[Open fire violations topic for Shirley Twp. officials | Local | huntingdondailynews.com](#)

Huntingdon Daily News

Letters send out to residents who violated the **ordinance** were reminded that, per Department of Environmental **regulations**, only paper, **wood**, ...

RAWSEP View: The open fire ordinance adopted in 2002, allows some kinds of outdoor wood burning. Paper, wood, cardboard and yard waste are allowed to be burned. In Pennsylvania, Shirley Township, Letters were mailed out to residents caught violating a fire violation ordinance. The letters are intended as a warning; supervisors say the next step for ongoing violations is fines. According to the township's open fire ordinance, adopted in 2002, anyone burning waste must abide by the following rules: burning is not allowed within 100 feet of a residential structure, burning can take place only from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, such fires must be supervised at all times, such fires are not allowed to smolder, such fires are not permitted on streets or sidewalks, materials that can be recycled are not allowed to be burned, fines can go up to \$300 per violation. Letters send out to residents who violated the ordinance were reminded that, per Department of Environmental regulations, only paper, wood, cardboard and yard waste are allowed to be burned. A township chairman said some residents were obviously burning materials not included in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) list. He said, for example, one resident he encountered was burning insulation off copper. He said in other cases, the smell alone provided evidence that plastics were being burning.

3.U.S. West Coast (including Alaska, & South America)

Alaska, Nome, PurpleAir monitor gives best air quality data

[Smoke smothers Seward Peninsula and points north | The Nome Nugget](#)

The Nome Nugget

Nomeites woke up to the stinging smell of freshly burned **wood** and the sight of dense fog that actually was **smoke** from two wildfires **burning** 430 ...

RAWSEP View: A **PurpleAir** monitor gives the best air quality data on two wildfires burning in Alaska. The best data on air quality comes from a PurpleAir air quality monitor located at Norton Sound Regional Hospital. The monitor measured a value of 750 on Friday morning around 9:10 a.m. The value has since dropped to 240 as of 4:30 pm on Friday. However, low visibility and the pungent smell of burned wood remains. According to the wildland fire dashboard, there are currently 165 active fires burning in Alaska. This year's fire season has already burned a record of 1,005,196 acres as of June 18, making it the earliest date in at least the last 32 years to exceed a million acres. Abnormally hot and dry weather, a result of climate changes, has helped to ignite fires. Despite the obvious dense smoke in the region, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has not issued an air quality advisory for the northwestern region. On its Facebook page, the Alaska DEC posts air quality advisories for

Southcentral, Central, Eastern and Western Interior regions but not for the Norton Sound, Bering Strait or northern region.

4. Canada no news found today

5. Australia no news found today

6. New Zealand no news found today

7. U.K.

U.K., England, Leicester

[Wood burners pollution warning as more turn to solid fuel as energy prices rise](#)

Leicester Mercury

There are calls to ban **wood burners** as new evidence shows how many ... The warnings come as more people switch to burning wood for heat due to gas ...

[Wood burners ban calls over pollution more turn to solid fuel as energy prices rise](#)

Leicester Mercury

Tiny **particles** from the burners can be harmful. ... **Particulate** matter associated with **wood** smoke has been linked to health problems.

[Wood burners ban calls over pollution more turn to solid fuel as energy prices rise](#)

Leicester Mercury

The warnings come as more people switch to **burning wood** for heat due to gas prices soaring - and investigations into the harm his **burning** causes ...

RAWSEP View: Warnings to ban wood burners come as more people switch to burning wood for heat due to gas prices.

8. Germany in European Union and Europe

[Imported Energy Crisis Sees Wood Burning Stoves, Dry Firewood Sell Out in Germany](#)

Breitbart

The rush on **wood-burning** appliances is so pronounced the waiting time for some is a year, with no hope of delivery for this winter. While **wood burners** ...

[Imported Energy Crisis Sees Wood Burning Stoves, Dry Firewood Sell Out in Germany](#)

Breitbart

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RAWSEP View: Notice that the latest two stories on Germans rushing to burn wood are by the conservative U.S. news services Fox News and Breitbart. The emphasis by these conservative news organizations seems to be to push wood burning as a popular alternative in the face of high fossil fuel prices, caused by the Russian aggression in Ukraine. There remain alternatives to wood burning, the cleaner bridge non-solid fossil fuel natural gas, which produces thousands of times less particulates than wood burning, and the clean alternatives of heat pumps, and solar and wind power.

9. Nigeria in Africa

Ghana, African Law & Business (ALB) on Natural Gas for African nations, rather than wood burning

[Business leaders hail assertive Africa | ALB Article - ICLG](#)

ICLG. (What is ICLG? Online answer: United Cities and Local Governments **Africa (UCLG AFRICA)** and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability-**Africa (ICLEI Africa)** are very pleased to announce a strengthened collaborative partnership to accelerate the localization and implementation of the global and African development goals and targets at subnational level.)

... arguing that natural gas and even coal were more environmentally friendly than the traditional **wood burning** that fuels much of the continent.

RAWSEP View: The speakers were from African nations. The speakers were keen to push back on an increasing Western focus on renewables (wood burning), arguing that natural gas and was more environmentally friendly than the **traditional wood burning that fuels much of the continent**. One major source of gas reserves is Mozambique, and a representative of the Mozambique's Chamber of Energy, described the importance of natural gas to developing countries, saying that "the world is looking at gas as a transition source of energy". He acknowledged that the energy mix must incorporate renewables (wood burning), but criticized Friends of the Earth's lawsuit against the UK government's investment in Mozambiquan gas, a project which he said was having a huge impact on the lives of local people.

10.India in Asia

China, Macao, particulates & hospitalization linked

[Viral etiology among children hospitalized for acute respiratory tract infections and its ...](#)

BMC Infectious Diseases - BioMed Central

Meteorological factors and air pollutants (PM₁₀, **PM_{2.5}** and NO₂) were associated with the risk of viral ARI hospitalization.

RAWSEP View: High air pollutant level has been associated with increased asthma attacks and emergency department visits caused by respiratory diseases [42,43,44]. In recent years, studies of viral respiratory infection among children in different regions had been published [45, 46]. Since the environment varied in different regions, for the first time we tried to explore the association between meteorological factors and viral infection among children hospitalized for ARI in Macao. Air pollutants were known to have great influence on the risk of viral respiratory infection among children. In Macao, the levels of PM₁₀, **PM_{2.5}** and NO₂ were positive correlated. Elevated level of air pollutants can be harmful to children's respiratory tracts and cause increased risk of viral infection [23, 45,46,47].

Fernando et al. described that fine particulate matter can cause inflammation of airway mucosa and airway clearance dysfunction [48].

Fine particulate matters in human alveolar epithelial cell A549 can induce oxidative stress and inflammation. Oxidative stress was characterized by elevated intracellular levels of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and production of antioxidant enzyme (superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT) and hemeoxygenas-1 (HO-1)). During oxidative stress, TNF- α and IL-6 levels increase and cause cell damage. Cell damage is characterized by decline in cell activity, release of LDH increases, formation of apoptotic body and necrosis. All these eventually lead to inflammation of lung tissue and decrease local resistance to infection. Our study confirmed that high levels of air pollutants were associated with an increased risk of viral infection and the lag effect lasted for 3–5 days. Hence, if high level of air pollution was detected, the government could advise the public to avoid unnecessary outdoor activities in the next 5–7 days, in order to reduce the delayed effect on the incidence of respiratory viral infection.

India, Delhi

['Stringent steps needed to combat Delhi-NCR air pollution' - The Sunday Guardian Live](#) Sunday Guardian ... for Forest and Environment (LIFE) has stated that GRAP doesn't take all the pollutants into consideration except for **PM 2.5** and PM10.

RAWSEP View: Stringent steps are needed to combat Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) air pollution (including PM 2.5). "As we move away from Delhi, we can see that there is hardly any implementation to control pollution on the ground level. Industrial emissions, **stubble burning, garbage burning**, and so forth continue to take place and no strict actions have been taken to control the pollution," an environmentalist told The Sunday Guardian. As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Air Quality Status for Delhi on 1 July shows that **PM2.5** and PM10 are the **prominent pollutants**. The rise of **PM2.5 leads to asthma and heart diseases and in the long run, it reduces lung functions, and leads to lung cancer, and chronic bronchitis**. To combat air pollution, the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was implemented in January 2017 and has been continued since then from autumn to winter in the NCR region. A report by the Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) has stated that GRAP doesn't take all the pollutants into consideration except for PM 2.5 and PM10.

11. The Future