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**From:** Liz Shorter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 April 2015 20:41  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: CEN Picture Story: River So Polluted It Catches Fire

**From:** CEN Online Desk  
**Sent:** Friday, March 07, 2014 9:57 AM  
**To:** 'Liz Shorter'  
**Subject:** FW: CEN Picture Story: River So Polluted It Catches Fire

Also this one 50 GBP

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**From:** Matthew Tucker [mailto:matthew.tucker@buzzfeed.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 07, 2014 10:50 AM  
**To:** CEN Online Desk  
**Subject:** Re: CEN Picture Story: River So Polluted It Catches Fire

Hi,  
We'd like to get this for our standard story rate with you, I'll record the purchase,  
Thanks,  
MAtt

On Thu, Mar 6, 2014 at 10:56 AM, CEN Online Desk [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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NB: CEN\_RiverFire\_01-07.jpg sent to pic desk. Also available [REDACTED]

(starts)

A Chinese river was so polluted that it ended up catching fire and needed to be extinguished by fireman in the city of Wenzhou in Zhejiang province in eastern China.

According to locals the river has been heavily polluted for years thanks to oils and other chemicals released by several shoemaking factories and packaging firms further upstream. But they complain that the council's environmental protection office had never done anything against the polluters because they were too important to the local economy.

Local woman Peng Tu, 38, said: "It was hardly a surprise that the river was flammable, the smell has been unbearable for years but no one has taken any notice. Perhaps now they might do something."

The blaze in which the river caught fire apparently happened after somebody threw a lighted cigarette into the water, according to firemen.

The flames which went up 5 metres into the air were high enough to set fire to a wooden railing around the river and also destroyed several cars that had been parked next to the pavement that ran alongside the river.

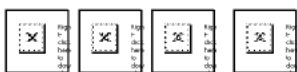
Firemen had to use special foam fire extinguishers to extinguish the blaze. Police are now investigating where the chemicals might have come from.

(ends)

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**Matthew Tucker** | Picture Editor | [REDACTED]

**BuzzFeed: The Social News and Entertainment Company**  
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Release Date: 03/06/14