

Tour Day 5

Dazhou Shiban Coal Line

This line south of Dazhou serves a power station at Shiban. The coal comes from a mine just under the G65 expressway south east of Shiban.

We transferred from Wangcang in the morning and arrived to find the rails on this 762 mm electric line bright yellow with rust with no sign of any trains. After lunch, things improved.



We found No. 6 at the power station end from where it took some wagons back to the depot which is in the middle of nowhere. We managed to drive there with a short hike up to the line but were turned away with 'no access, no photography' spelt out loud and clear by a young and officious employee.

We retreated to the big bridge close to the mine but rain and murk made it challenging photographically.



When the rain cleared, No. 2 crossed the bridge will 11 empties.



No. 5 (previous page) was the other loco in action.



Here is No. 2 returning from the mine with the fulls for the power station exiting the tunnel near the mine and going under the expressway.



No. 2 crossing the big bridge and straight into another tunnel.



No. 5 waits while its train is loaded by cable at the hoppers.



On our way back, we found this dredger parked up long the river. It most likely dredges sand and gravel for construction.

John Raby
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