

Clean Water Act of 1966

Provided construction grants for wastewater treatment facilities.

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

Amended in 1990. Focused efforts to reduce polluted runoff in 29 coastal states

Federal Water Pollutant Control Act of 1972

Amended the Water Pollutant Act of 1948. Amendments broadened the government's authority over water pollution and restructured the authority for water pollution under the Environmental Protection Agency. The Act changed the enforcement from water quality standards to regulating the amount of pollutants being discharged from particular point sources.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973

Provided protection of animal and plant species that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated as threatened or endangered. Amended in 1988.

Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act of 1978 (PURPA)

Promoted alternative energy sources, energy efficiency, and reduced dependence on foreign oil. It also created a market for non-utility power producers and requires competition in the utility industry.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)

Created a \$1.6 billion Superfund to clean up abandoned hazardous waste sites; requires major industries to report annual releases of toxic wastes into the air, water, or ground

Brownfields

According to EPA, Brownfields are "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties takes development pressures off of undeveloped, open land, and both improves and protects the environment."