

Preface

The purpose of the symposium was to discuss the U.S. situation of cleanup of industrial sites that have become contaminated with chemical wastes. United States government policy toward hazardous wastes, including toxic chemicals, has become explicit and firm: "we don't like them, we don't want them, you can't dispose of them without treatment, and to the extent you don't produce them in the first place, everyone is better off."

The symposium consisted of morning and afternoon sessions. The first speaker addressed the available legal strategies for operating within the existing framework of environmental regulations. The other speakers of the morning discussed the redevelopment of a railyard and port facility, the *in situ* remediation of highly contaminated groundwater, and the cleanup of an industrial facility in an ecologically sensitive tidal area.

In the afternoon session, the topics discussed were the application of groundwater models to chemical waste sites, the remediation of contaminated soil in a semi-arid area, the investigation of contaminated groundwater in three dimensions, and the incineration of soil at a PCB-contaminated salvage yard.

One additional paper on waste minimization has been added to this group from a related symposium on contamination at chemical manufacturing facilities. An increasing emphasis on waste minimization is expected in the future as environmental regulations become more stringent and as experience in waste minimization is gained and exchanged.

NORMAN W. GABEL
DAVID E. GUSHEE