

The book contains a plethora of useful information, detailing first the laws affecting due diligence, the sources of information on a piece of property, and very practically how to go about getting that information. Even though the book appears to be written for lawyers, bankers and real estate people it contains much good advice, procedures to be followed and sources of information that will be of great use to environmental auditors.

Some indication of the scope of the book is given by the chapter titles:

1. Impact of Environmental Liability on Business Transactions
2. Sources of Legal Liability
3. What to Look for and Why
4. Public Records Review: What, Where and Why
5. Role of Environmental Assessments and Compliance Audits
6. Lender Risk Management
7. Purchase/Lease Risk Management
8. Fiduciary Risk Management
9. Real Estate Broker, Agent and Appraiser Liability Issue
10. Due Diligence and Contractor Selection

Approximately one-third of the book is devoted to appendices containing supplemental information on:

- A. The Weldon Bill – HR 2787 to amend CERCLA to provide specific requirements for the Innocent Landowner Defence.
- B. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Policy Statement (Fed. Reg. 51 (131) July 9, 1986, p. 25004.)
- C. Superfund *De minimis* Landowner Settlements
- D. Fannie Mae Procedures for Audits
- E. Thrift bulletin — Environmental Risk and Liability, Feb. 6, 1991.
- F. Owens Bill – HR 5927 to clarify the liability of lending institutions under CERCLA.

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*Waste Management Guide: Laws, Issues, and Solutions*, by D.H. Jessup, BNA Books, Washington, DC, 1992, ISBN 0-87179-713-5, 445 pp., \$52.00.

There is no more pervasive and complex law than RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) that the U.S. Congress passed in 1976 to completely govern hazardous waste from its generation to its disposal (cradle-to-grave). The law and the comprehensive amendment passed in 1980 (called the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendment) spawned a formidable body of detailed regulations. To comply with these rules is no simple task.

The book is well written, but in a different style from most texts I have read. I suspect because the author is a journalist formerly on BNA staff and not a scientist or engineer. She discusses aspects of the law but in a most readable style, not slavishly tied to the detailed regulations themselves.

Laws discussed in addition to RCRA, so far as they affect it, include: CERCLA, TSCA, (PCB regulations), Medical Waste Management, the Pollution

Prevention Act (1980), and the Ocean Dumping Law. Also discussed is the management of nonhazardous waste (garbage) and sewage sludge.

Given that Congress is almost always considering new (additional) environmental legislation, I was pleased to see the author discussed bills introduced in Congress and predicted what might be their course of action. The author also pointed out regulations, the U.S. EPA is required to issue under prior legislation and guessed when they might come out and what they might entail.

Chapter 1 contains a brief but well-written description of the Federal laws noted above. Then follows the “meat” of the book.

Chapter 2 concisely reviews (with appropriate citations to the Code of Federal Regulation) the “Rules of Hazardous Waste Management”. Chapter 3 lists nonhazardous solid waste management guidelines and rules (including some very interesting data on the comparative costs of landfilling and incineration — with and without energy recovery). Chapter 4 is a follow-on chapter that discusses the trends in state-regulated solid waste management. It includes a recitation of the technical assistance offered by each state for waste minimization/pollution prevention. Concluding this section of the book is a Chapter 5 which describes how RCRA, the Clean Air Act other rules and proposed rules relate to air emissions (or potential emissions) caused by waste management (landfills and incinerators mainly).

The second major theme of the book is comprised of the following four chapters which deal with waste avoidance/waste minimization/pollution prevention:

Chapter 6: Pollution Prevention

Chapter 7: RCRA Hazardous Waste Minimization

Chapter 8: Industrial Waste Recycling

Chapter 9: Municipal Solid Waste Recycling

The next two chapters are more technical. Chapter 10 deals with pretreatment requirements that resulted from the 1980 amendments to RCRA. It goes on to further prevent groundwater from migrating constituents of hazardous waste disposal on land. The amendment directs the U.S. EPA to ban untreated waste from landfills, injection wells, and impoundments. The regulation became known as the “land bans”. Chapter 11 discusses disposal facilities, technical standards, issues and guidelines. Items covered in the chapter are solid and hazardous waste incineration, industrial boilers, landfills, and deep injection wells.

The best (or most difficult) topic is saved for the last two chapters: *siting*. It is a key problem because the question “where will we put it?” now totally dominates all discussion of planning for future waste disposal facilities. The discussion here is interesting with some good advice given for handling the public relations aspects of a siting venture but no magic answers to the NIMBY syndrome are found. The good news is that several successful siting ventures are discussed — for solid waste at least. The final chapter discusses the circumstances surrounding one successful hazardous waste facility siting venture in Colorado and two unsuccessful ones in Arizona and North Carolina. NIMBY, NIABY and NOPE are frustrating acronyms that seem to dominate

any siting venture: Not In My Back Yard; Not In Anybody's Backyard; and Not On the Planet Earth. Throughout the book, Jessup cites sources of her information, giving names, addresses and telephone numbers that will allow the reader to pursue his/her interests in that topic more thoroughly.

The last one-third of the text is devoted to appendices, some useful, some not. Appendix A contains directors of U.S. EPA offices, hotlines, and pollution prevention offices. State offices are also listed. So are the major waste exchange — 30 pages well spent. But not the almost 100 pages of hazardous waste (types thereof) tables, I fail to see their relevance to the text.

But let not this perceived “waste of space” at the end of this book deter the potential reader. This is a very useful and well written book, perhaps not for the expert, but certainly for the government planner and/or the consultant/engineer/environmental scientist newly entering the solid waste field.

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*Materials Handling Technologies Used at Hazardous Waste Sites*, by M. Dosani and J. Miller, Noyes Data Corp., Park Ridge, NJ, 1992, ISBN 0-8155-1299-6, 213 pp., \$45.00.

Written for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this book discusses the types of debris, materials and contaminants found at Superfund and other hazardous waste sites. It then describes materials-handling equipment and general procedures used to perform site restoration and cleanup.

The book has three major chapters:

- Site Characterization
- Materials-handling Equipment and Procedures, such as
  - extraction and removal;
  - dredging;
  - pumping;
  - size, volume and reduction;
  - separation and dredging;
  - conveying systems;
  - storage containers, bulking tanks and containment;
  - compaction;
  - drum handling and removal;
  - asbestos remediation;
  - emission control;
  - low level radioactive waste; and
  - equipment decontamination.
- Case Studies which contains 22 case studies with at least two cases cited for each U.S. EPA Region (except for Region 9)  
There are seven appendices.

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