

The authors, all lawyers, practicing in the field of environmental law have written in clear, concise and understandable style describing each (with its own chapter) of the major U.S. environmental laws: RCRA, UST, CAA, CWA, OPA, SDWA, CERCLA, NEPA, TSCA, Pesticides, PPA, EPCRA and OSHA (all U.S. laws are listed by their common acronyms).

The information in the chapters is liberally footnoted (usually to the law being discussed itself, the Federal Register or the U.S. Code). One chapter (Safe Drinking Water Act) lists Resource Sources including several web sites.

A new chapter has been added to the book this year, "ISO 14001 and Environmental Law", to reflect the evolution of environmental compliance to a higher level, through a statement initiated by industry:

ISO 14001 is a comprehensive system's standard that calls for organizations to conduct their environmental affairs through a structured management system. The basic tenet of ISO 14001 is: 'say what you do, do what you say, and be able to demonstrate that you did it'. ISO 14001 was designed to assist organizations in systematically identifying and managing their environmental obligations that are established outside of ISO 14001.

Environmental management systems are the application of well-accepted business principles to environmental protection: identify your key issues, establish what you want to do (policy and objectives), determine how you want to do it (programs, procedures and instructions), tell people what you want them to do (communication and training), make sure they do it (implementation, measurement and auditing), and periodically review the entire process to identify opportunities to improve. Management has been applying these 'plan, do, check, act' principles to functions such as inventory, finance, quality and production for decades.

This chapter (and, indeed the book) ends with the following:

ISO 14001 is a voluntary environmental management system's standard that is intended to assist organizations in identifying and meeting their environmental obligations and commitments, including their legal ones. ISO 14001 is based on the concept that better environmental performance can be achieved when environmental obligations are systematically identified and managed. ISO 14001 has become the internationally accepted framework for this approach.

A positive ending to an excellent book. Not only is the law and all its complexities discussed, but also a forward looking approach to compliance is included. Such additions (as the last chapter on ISO), plus continued revisions and updating of the chapters (and each major environmental law) make the book so topical, useful and necessary.

Gary F. Bennett

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Hazardous Waste Handbook for Health and Safety

William F. Martin, John M. Lippitt, Paul J. Webb, 3rd edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, Boston, 2000, \$39.95 (8.5" × 11"), 262 pp., ISBN: 0-7506-7135-1

The introduction to this book outlines its purpose well:

This handbook is a training manual and guidance document for employees and supervisors responsible for occupational safety and health programs at hazardous waste sites. It was developed to give site supervisors specific instructions and guidelines on how to protect the safety and health of workers. A second goal of this handbook is to improve hazardous waste operations efficiency through knowledge and training of the work force. A third goal is to reduce the cost of hazardous waste cleanups through reduced lawsuits and liability losses of employers and individuals.

I am perplexed, however, as to why the cover lists the title *Hazardous Waste Handbook* (which it is not, as it does not address hazardous waste issues). Conversely, the title shown inside the cover (*Hazardous Waste Handbook for Health and Safety*) is appropriate.

The book is divided (almost evenly) into two sections: (1) 13 chapters and (2) 12 appendices. By title, the chapters are:

- Introduction: Laws and Regulations
- Hazards
- Planning and Organization
- Site Characterization
- Air Monitoring
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Site Control and Work Practices
- Decontamination
- Spills and Site Emergencies
- Medical Monitoring Programs
- Training
- Monitoring Well Safety at Hazardous Sites
- Hazardous Waste Transportation Safety

The first (introductory) chapter was used to briefly describe US Federal laws (SARA, CERCLA, RCRA, TOSCA, NEPA and FIFRA). One minor error occurred in their reference to Government Institutes as publishers of the Hazardous Materials Spills Conference Proceedings and the Superfund Conferences. These two series (with this reviewer as editor) were published by the Hazardous Materials Control Research Institute.

Each fairly short chapter (approximately 10 pages each) begins with an overview of the chapter, that overview often being a list of the chapter's table of contents. In writing, the authors liberally use tables (but not figures) to illustrate their points. The writing style is concise and clear.

As noted above, approximately one-half of the book is devoted to appendices. Given the targeted audience of the book, this breakdown is appropriate, although, I might have omitted the sections titled "Abbreviations", "Acronyms", "Chemical Formulas" and "Glossary". The other appendices (listed below) appear to be appropriately included:

- Sample Site Safety Plan
- Medical Occupational History
- Hazardous Substance Data Sheet

- Chemical Protective Clothing Recommendations
- Decontamination Procedures for Three Typical Levels of Protection
- Health and Safety Checklist
- Chemical Hazard Data-NIOSH Pocket Guide (sample)
- Toxicology Review

The last appendix (Toxicology Review) was an abstract of a chapter from the NIOSH textbook, *The Industrial Environment: Its Evaluation and Control*. The topic is so important to the purpose of the book that I would have preferred to see it included in the main section of the book in an expanded form.

Overall, this is a well written, easy to use book that should be very useful to hazardous waste site worker training programs.

Gary F. Bennett

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Handbook of Environmental Management and Technology, 2nd edition

Gwendolyn Holmes Burke, Ben Ramnarine Singh, Louis Theodore (Eds.), Wiley/Interscience, New York, 2000, US\$ 125.00, 824 pp., ISBN: 0-471-34910-0

This book is advertised as a “comprehensive, easy-to-understand overview of the complex problems encountered in environmental management today”. It is intended as “a resource for ... (those) ... seeking a firm foothold in a wide range of technical, scientific and regulatory issues”.

It is indeed a text covering a wide range of environmental topics from solid radioactive waste management issues to used oil recycling and ISO 14000. There are 48 separate chapters divided almost equally under 10 major headings.

1. Introduction to the Issues
2. Air Pollution Management Issues
3. Water Pollution Management Issues
4. Solid and Radioactive Waste Management Issues
5. Hazardous Waste Management Issues
6. Pollution Prevention
7. Additional Environmental Concerns and Management Considerations
8. New Technologies and Approaches
9. Risk-Related Topics
10. Recent Developments

This book is very well written and a pleasure to read. As stated above, it covers a wide variety of topics that should make it a useful, encyclopedic resource. However, the field is changing so rapidly, much of the material will be out-of-date soon.

The authors recommend the interested reader consult the references they have included for further information. Unfortunately, the references are quite limited and often refer only to USEPA publications. Moreover, some references were to newspapers (albeit the prestigious New York Times), but I do not really accept citations to other than the scientific literature).