Drawing from his own extensive personal knowledge of the environmental impact process gained in 25 years of practicing, Lawrence writes with much authority on the topic. After discussion the Conventional EIA in Chapter 2, Lawrence expands the reader's focus with a series of "how to" chapters:

- How to make EIAs more rigorous?
- How to make EIAs more rational?
- How to make EIAs more substantive?
- How to make EIAs more practical?
- How to make EIAs more democratic?
- How to make EIAs more collaborative?
- How to make EIAs more ethical?
- How to make EIAs more adaptive?
- How to connect and combine EIA processes?

In the final chapter, Lawrence writes: "This book began with a not-so-hypothetical scenario. The scenario describes how a well-intentioned EIA process came apart at the seams. The process broke down because of a failure to anticipate, acknowledge, and respond adequately to a series of problems that emerged through the process. The problems arose from inadequately addressed stakeholder demands. The demands (i.e., make the process more rigorous, rational, substantive, practical, democratic, collaborative, ethical, and adaptive) reflect common stakeholder perspectives ... The procedures and methods presented in the preceding chapters are, at best, conducive to avoiding and ameliorating the recurrent problems."

The book is well written and filled with a series of useful tables and diagrams to illustrate the flow and review of information developed in the EIA. This book will be of much interest to practitioners in the field.

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Proceedings of the 2002 National Conference on Environmental Science and Technology

Godfrey A. Uzochukwu, Keith Schimmel, Gudigopuram B. Reddy, Shoou-Yuh Chang and Vinayak Kabadi (Eds.), Battelle Press, Columbus, OH, 2003, 394 pp., ISBN: 1-57477-138-8, US$ 80.00

This book contains 34 papers presented at Greensboro, NC, in September 2002. The presentations covered a wide variety of environmental topics as illustrated by the titles of the seven major sections of the book: (1) Bioprocessing, (2) Bioremediation, (3) Environmental Justice, (4) Fate and Transport, (5) Innovative Environmental Technologies, (6) Pollution Prevention Separation Processes and (7) Risk and Economics. The papers found in the proceedings were the result of asking each presenter to submit a six-page paper detailing his/her work. In the main, the authors appear to have followed this request. Therefore, the information is concisely presented.

Unfortunately, the quality of the writing is variable and at times very poor. Although peer review was claimed, I fear that a technical editor was not employed. Some of the papers would have benefited from further editing. Additionally, I found that some of the papers were strangely placed under the topic headings. For example, NO_x removal from catalytic cracking gases was placed in the Pollution Prevention chapter.

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