

103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3843

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program under which States may be certified to carry out voluntary environmental cleanup programs for low and medium priority sites.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1994

Mr. VISCOSKY (for himself, Mr. REGULA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GALLO, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. FINGERHUT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program under which States may be certified to carry out voluntary environmental cleanup programs for low and medium priority sites.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Brownfield Cleanup
5 and Redevelopment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Hundreds of thousands of obsolete industrial sites nationwide are polluted with medium to
2 low amounts of environmental contamination.

4 (2) Reusing these sites requires cleanup of the
5 contamination, adding costs and uncertainties to the
6 redevelopment process.

16 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to encourage
17 cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated industrial
18 facilities (known as “brownfields”) as economically viable
19 alternatives to previously undeveloped “greenfield” sites.

20 SEC. 3. CERTIFICATION OF STATE VOLUNTARY CLEANUP

21 PROGRAMS

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
24 the Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter in this
25 Act referred to as the “Administrator”) shall establish cer-

1 tification criteria for State voluntary cleanup programs at
2 eligible facilities. If a State meets the criteria for certifi-
3 cation, the Administrator shall certify the State to carry
4 out the cleanup program in such State at eligible facilities
5 in lieu of any Federal program that addresses the cleanup
6 of such facilities under the Comprehensive Environmental
7 Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 or the
8 Solid Waste Disposal Act.

9 (b) BIENNIAL AUDITS AND REVOCATION OF STATE
10 CERTIFICATION.—The Administrator shall ensure that
11 State programs continue to meet the terms of the certifi-
12 cation issued pursuant to subsection (a) by conducting bi-
13 ennial audits of State voluntary cleanup programs. If the
14 Administrator finds that the State is not administering
15 the program in accordance with the terms of the certifi-
16 cation, the Administrator shall notify the State of defi-
17 ciencies and of the Administrator's intention to withdraw
18 the State's certification if the deficiencies are not resolved
19 within 6 months. Withdrawal of State certification shall
20 not affect any cleanup completed and approved by the
21 State as of the date of such withdrawal.

22 (c) SPECIFIC CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall re-
23 quire that, in order for a State voluntary cleanup program
24 to be certified under subsection (a), the program shall, at
25 a minimum, contain each of the following provisions—

23 (5) provide for a certification from the State to
24 the owner or prospective purchaser of an eligible fa-
25 cility that the cleanup is complete.

1 (d) ELIGIBLE FACILITIES.—For purposes of this Act,
2 the term “eligible facility” means a facility or property
3 in a State that is determined by the State to have environ-
4 mental contamination that—

5 (1) could prevent the timely use, development,
6 or reuse of the facility or property; and

7 (2) is limited in scope and can be comprehen-
8 sively and readily evaluated.

9 Such term shall not include any of the following:

10 (A) A facility that is eligible for abatement ac-
11 tion under section 106 of the Comprehensive Envi-
12 ronmental Response, Compensation, and Liability
13 Act of 1980.

14 (B) A facility that, as of the date of the enact-
15 ment of this Act, is subject to Federal enforcement
16 action under the Comprehensive Environmental Re-
17 sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42
18 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

19 (C) A facility included, or proposed for inclu-
20 sion, on the National Priorities List or on the com-
21 prehensive environmental response, compensation,
22 and liability inventory system (“CERCLIS”) that
23 has been evaluated as high priority under the hazard
24 ranking system.

6 (E) A land disposal unit with respect to which
7 a closure notification under subtitle C of the Solid
8 Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.) is sub-
9 mitted and closure requirements are specified in a
10 closure plan or permit.

11 (F) A facility subject to corrective action under
12 section 3004(u) or 3008(h) of the Solid Waste Dis-
13 posal Act (42 U.S.C. 5924(u) or 6928(h)) that is
14 evaluated as high priority under the Environmental
15 Protection Agency's National Corrective Action Pri-
16 ority System as set forth in regulations under sub-
17 title C of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

1 (H) A facility owned or operated by a department,
2 agency, or instrumentality of the United
3 States.

4 (e) RELATIONSHIP TO PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.—No
5 Federal, State, or local permit shall be required for any
6 cleanup conducted under a State voluntary cleanup pro-
7 gram certified under this section, if the cleanup is carried
8 out in compliance with the certified program.