

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1935

To provide for improved information collection and dissemination by the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 9, 1996

Mr. BRADLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To provide for improved information collection and dissemination by the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

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 “Public Trust and Envi-
5 ronmental Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
9 trator” means the Administrator of the Agency.

1 (2) improved coordination of information collec-
2 tion and information management to integrate sepa-
3 rate information resources, including the develop-
4 ment and implementation of common company, facil-
5 ity, industrial sector, geographic, and chemical iden-
6 tifiers and such other information as the Adminis-
7 trator determines to be appropriate;

8 (3) a system for indexing, locating, and obtain-
9 ing information maintained by the Agency concern-
10 ing parent companies, facilities, chemicals, and the
11 regulatory status of entities subject to oversight by
12 the Agency;

13 (4) ready accessibility of, and dissemination of,
14 publicly available information generated by or sub-
15 mitted to the Agency, including public accessibility
16 by computer telecommunication and other means;
17 and

18 (5) universal availability of electronic reporting
19 for all environmental reporting requirements estab-
20 lished under laws administered by the Agency di-
21 rectly or through delegations to States, territories,
22 and Indian tribes.

23 (d) COORDINATION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall co-
25 ordinate the Agency's information collection and dis-

1 semination activities with the activities of other Fed-
2 eral, State, and local agencies to reduce unnecessary
3 burdens and promote greater integration of informa-
4 tion.

5 (2) OTHER INFORMATION.—When necessary to
6 support the mission of the Agency, the Adminis-
7 trator may provide for the integration and dissemi-
8 nation of publicly available information not collected
9 by the Agency.

10 (e) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall affect
11 the duty of the Agency to maintain the confidentiality of
12 trade secrets, confidential business information, or infor-
13 mation that is subject to a rule of court or court order
14 requiring maintenance of confidentiality.

15 (f) PRICING.—The Administrator may set charges for
16 the provision of information under this section in accord-
17 ance with the pricing policies of chapter 35 of title 44,
18 United States Code (commonly known as the “Paperwork
19 Reduction Act”).

20 (g) DISSEMINATION POLICIES.—Dissemination poli-
21 cies of the Agency shall include fee reductions, fee waivers,
22 and other support services to encourage public use of in-
23 formation maintained by the Agency.

24 (h) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date
25 of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the

1 Administrator shall produce and make available reports
2 that summarize the information that has been made avail-
3 able under this section.

4 **SEC. 4. SOURCE REDUCTION AWARD PROGRAM.**

5 The Administrator shall establish an annual award
6 program to recognize companies that operate outstanding
7 or innovative source reduction programs.

○