

106<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3625

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt agricultural stormwater discharges and silviculture operations from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2000

Mr. DICKEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt agricultural stormwater discharges and silviculture operations from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, 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 “Timber and Agri-  
5       culture Environmental Fairness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION**  
2 **SYSTEM.**

3 Section 402(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control  
4 Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(1)) is amended by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6 “(3) AGRICULTURAL STORMWATER DIS-  
7 CHARGES.—The Administrator shall not require a  
8 permit under this section for discharges composed  
9 entirely of agricultural stormwater discharges (in-  
10 cluding stormwater runoff from cultivated crops,  
11 pastures, rangelands, orchards, aquaculture facili-  
12 ties, and forest lands), nor shall the Administrator,  
13 directly or indirectly, require any State to require  
14 such a permit.

15 “(4) SILVICULTURE OPERATIONS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
17 shall not require a permit under this section for  
18 discharges from silviculture operations, nor  
19 shall the Administrator, directly or indirectly,  
20 require any State to require such a permit.

21 “(B) SILVICULTURE OPERATIONS DE-  
22 FINED.—In this section the term ‘silviculture  
23 operation’ means the theory and practice of  
24 controlling the establishment, composition, con-  
25 stitution, and growth of forests. Such term in-  
26 cludes nursery operations, reforestation, cul-

1 tural treatment, thinning, prescribed burning,  
2 harvest operations, site preparation, road con-  
3 struction and maintenance, surface drainage,  
4 and pest and fire control.”.

5 **SEC. 3. POINT SOURCE DEFINED.**

6 Section 502 (14) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-  
7 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(14)) is amended by striking the  
8 second sentence and inserting the following: “This term  
9 does not include agricultural stormwater discharges, re-  
10 turn flows from irrigated agriculture, and discharges of  
11 stormwater runoff from silvicultural operations described  
12 in section 402(l).”.

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