S. 20

To assist the States and local governments in assessing and remediating brownfield sites and encouraging environmental cleanup programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

January 19, 1999

Mr. Lautenberg (for himself, Mr. Daschle, Mr. Baucus, Mr. Levin, Mr. Reid, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Torricelli, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Breaux, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Schumer, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Sarbanes, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Moynihan, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Lieberman, and Mr. Kennedy) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To assist the States and local governments in assessing and remediating brownfield sites and encouraging environmental cleanup programs, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Brownfields and Environmental Cleanup Act of 1999".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of
- 7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.

TITLE I—BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Inventory and assessment grant program.
- Sec. 103. Grants for revolving loan programs.
- Sec. 104. Research, development, demonstration, and training.
- Sec. 105. Financial assistance for training.
- Sec. 106. Expenditures from the Superfund.
- Sec. 107. Reports.
- Sec. 108. Limitations on use of funds.
- Sec. 109. Effect on other laws.
- Sec. 110. Regulations.
- Sec. 111. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS

Sec. 201. Limitations on liability for response costs for prospective purchasers.

TITLE III—INNOCENT LANDOWNERS

Sec. 301. Innocent landowners.

TITLE IV—CONTIGUOUS PROPERTIES

Sec. 401. Contiguous properties.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

- 2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—
- 3 (1) past uses of land in the United States for
- 4 industrial and commercial purposes have created
- 5 many sites throughout the United States that have
- 6 environmental contamination;
- 7 (2) such sites are often abandoned, idled, or
- 8 underused commercial or industrial facilities where
- 9 expansion or development is complicated by the pres-
- ence or potential presence of a contaminant;
- 11 (3) promoting the assessment, cleanup, and re-
- development of contaminated sites could lead to sig-
- 13 nificant environmental and economic benefits, par-

- ticularly in any case in which a cleanup can be completed quickly and during a period of time that meets short-term business needs;
 - (4) the private market demand for sites affected by environmental contamination frequently is reduced, for reasons that include uncertainties regarding contamination or potential cleanup costs, which can lead to construction on undeveloped sites and development on greenfields;
 - (5) the abandonment or underuse of brownfield sites threatens the environment, devalues the surrounding property, erodes local tax bases, prevents job growth, and limits economic opportunities for the people of the United States, particularly the unemployed and economically disadvantaged;
 - (6) cooperation among Federal agencies, departments and agencies of States and local governments, local community development organizations, and current owners and prospective purchasers of brownfield sites is important to encourage timely response actions and the redevelopment or other beneficial reuse of brownfield sites;
 - (7) there is a need to provide financial incentives and assistance to inventory and assess certain brownfield sites and facilitate the cleanup of the

1	sites so that the sites may be redeveloped for bene-
2	ficial uses; and
3	(8) there is a need for a program to—
4	(A) encourage cleanups of brownfield sites;
5	and
6	(B) facilitate the establishment and en-
7	hancement of programs by States and local gov-
8	ernments to foster cleanups of brownfield sites
9	through capitalization of loan programs.
10	(b) Purposes.—The purposes of this Act are to cre-
11	ate new business and employment opportunities through
12	the cleanup, economic redevelopment, and beneficial reuse
13	of brownfield sites, and to stimulate the assessment and
14	cleanup of brownfield sites by—
15	(1) encouraging States and local governments
16	to provide for the assessment and cleanup of
17	brownfield sites that may not be remediated under
18	other environmental laws;
19	(2) encouraging local governments and private
20	parties, including local community development or-
21	ganizations, to participate in programs, such as
22	State cleanup programs, that facilitate expedited re-
23	sponse actions that protect human health and the
24	environment in a way that furthers economic rede-
25	velopment at brownfield sites; and

1	(3) directing the Administrator of the Environ-
2	mental Protection Agency to establish programs that
3	provide financial assistance to—
4	(A) facilitate site assessments of certain
5	brownfield sites;
6	(B) encourage cleanup of appropriate
7	brownfield sites through capitalization of loan
8	programs; and
9	(C) encourage workforce development in
10	areas adversely affected by contaminated prop-
11	erties.
12	TITLE I—BROWNFIELD REMEDI-
13	ATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL
14	CLEANUP
14 15	CLEANUP SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.
15	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.
15 16	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title:
15 16 17	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title: (1) Administrator.—The term "Adminis-
15 16 17 18	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title: (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environ-
15 16 17 18	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title: (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
15 16 17 18 19 20	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title: (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. (2) Brownfield Site.—The term "brownfield"
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS. In this title: (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. (2) Brownfield site" means a facility that has or is suspected of
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	In this title: (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. (2) Brownfield site" means a facility that has or is suspected of having environmental contamination that—

- 1 (B) is relatively limited in scope or severity 2 and can be comprehensively assessed and read-3 ily analyzed.
 - (3) Contaminant.—The term "contaminant" includes any hazardous substance (as defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601)).
 - (4) DISPOSAL.—The term "disposal" has the meaning given the term in section 1004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903).
 - (5) Environment.—The term "environment" has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
 - (6) Environmental contamination.—The term "environmental contamination" means the existence at a facility of 1 or more contaminants that may pose a threat to human health or the environment.
 - (7) Facility.—The term "facility" has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).

- 1 (8) GRANT.—The term "grant" includes a co-2 operative agreement.
- (9) GROUND WATER.—The term "ground
 water" has the meaning given the term in section
 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response,
 Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C.
 9601).
 - (10) Indian tribe.—The term "Indian tribe" has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
 - (11) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term "local government" has the meaning given the term "unit of general local government" in the first sentence of section 102(a)(1) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302(a)(1)), except that the term includes an Indian tribe.
 - (12) NATURAL RESOURCES.—The term "natural resources" has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
- 23 (13) OWNER.—The term "owner" has the 24 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Com-

- prehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
- 3 (14) Person.—The term "person" has the 4 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Com-5 prehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, 6 and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
 - (15) PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER.—The term "prospective purchaser" means a prospective purchaser of a brownfield site.
 - (16) Release.—The term "release" has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
 - (17) RESPONSE ACTION.—The term "response action" has the meaning given the term "response" in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).

(18) Site assessment.—

(A) In General.—The term "site assessment" means an investigation that determines the nature and extent of a release or potential release of a hazardous substance at a brownfield site and meets the requirements of subparagraph (B).

1	(B) Investigation.—For the purposes of
2	this paragraph, an investigation that meets the
3	requirements of this subparagraph—
4	(i) shall include—
5	(I) an onsite evaluation; and
6	(II) sufficient testing, sampling,
7	and other field-data-gathering activi-
8	ties to accurately determine whether
9	the brownfield site is contaminated
10	and the threats to human health and
11	the environment posed by the release
12	of contaminants at the brownfield
13	site; and
14	(ii) may include—
15	(I) review of such information re-
16	garding the brownfield site and pre-
17	vious uses as is available at the time
18	of the review; and
19	(II) an offsite evaluation, if ap-
20	propriate.
21	(19) State.—The term "State" has the mean-
22	ing given the term in section 101 of the Comprehen-
23	sive Environmental Response, Compensation, and
24	Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).

1	SEC. 102. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM.
2	(a) In General.—The Administrator shall establish
3	a program to award grants to States or local governments
4	to inventory brownfield sites and to conduct site assess-
5	ments of brownfield sites.
6	(b) Scope of Program.—
7	(1) Grant awards.—To carry out subsection
8	(a), the Administrator may, on approval of an appli-
9	cation, provide financial assistance to a State or
10	local government.
11	(2) Grant application.—An application for a
12	grant under this section shall include, to the extent
13	practicable, each of the following:
14	(A) An identification of the brownfield
15	sites for which assistance is sought and a de-
16	scription of the effect of the brownfield sites on
17	the community, including a description of the
18	nature and extent of any known or suspected
19	environmental contamination within the areas.
20	(B) A description of the need of the appli-
21	cant for financial assistance to inventory
22	brownfield sites and conduct site assessments.
23	(C) A demonstration of the potential of the
24	grant assistance to stimulate economic develop-
25	ment, including the extent to which the assist-

ance will stimulate the availability of other

1	funds for site assessment, site identification, or
2	environmental remediation and subsequent re-
3	development of the areas in which eligible
4	brownfield sites are situated.
5	(D) A description of the local commitment
6	as of the date of the application, which shall in-
7	clude a community involvement plan that dem-
8	onstrates meaningful community involvement.
9	(E) A plan that shows how the site assess-
10	ment, site identification, or environmental re-
11	mediation and subsequent development will be
12	implemented, including—
13	(i) an environmental plan that ensures
14	the use of sound environmental procedures;
15	(ii) an explanation of the appropriate
16	government authority and support for the
17	project as in existence on the date of the
18	application;
19	(iii) proposed funding mechanisms for
20	any additional work; and
21	(iv) a proposed land ownership plan.
22	(F) A statement on the long-term benefits
23	and the sustainability of the proposed project
24	that includes—

1	(i) the ability of the project to be rep-
2	licated nationally and measures of success
3	of the project; and
4	(ii) to the extent known, the potential
5	of the plan for each area in which an eligi-
6	ble brownfield site is situated to stimulate
7	economic development of the area on com-
8	pletion of the environmental remediation.
9	(G) Such other factors as the Adminis-
10	trator considers relevant to carry out this title.
11	(3) Approval of application.—
12	(A) IN GENERAL.—In making a decision
13	whether to approve an application under para-
14	graph (1), the Administrator shall—
15	(i) consider the need of the State or
16	local government for financial assistance to
17	carry out this section;
18	(ii) consider the ability of the appli-
19	cant to carry out an inventory and site as-
20	sessment under this section;
21	(iii) ensure a fair distribution of grant
22	funds between urban and nonurban areas;
23	and

- 1 (iv) consider such other factors as the 2 Administrator considers relevant to carry 3 out this section.
 - (B) Grant conditions.—As a condition of awarding a grant under this section, the Administrator may, on the basis of the criteria considered under subparagraph (A), attach such conditions to the grant as the Administrator determines appropriate.
 - (4) Grant amount.—The amount of a grant awarded to any State or local government under subsection (a) for inventory and site assessment of 1 or more brownfield sites shall not exceed \$200,000.
 - (5) WAIVER.—The Administrator may waive an amount limitation under this paragraph based on the anticipated level of contamination, size, status of ownership, number of brownfield sites, or any other factor relating to the facility that the Administrator considers appropriate, taking into consideration the impact of the increase on the Administrator's ability to provide grants at other facilities.
 - (6) TERMINATION OF GRANTS.—If the Administrator determines that a State or local government that receives a grant under this subsection is in vio-

1	lation of a condition of a grant referred to in para-
2	graph (3)(B), the Administrator may terminate the
3	grant made to the State or local government and re-
4	quire full or partial repayment of the grant.
5	SEC. 103. GRANTS FOR REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAMS.
6	(a) In General.—
7	(1) Establishment.—The Administrator shall
8	establish a program to award grants to be used by
9	State or local governments to capitalize revolving
10	loan funds for the cleanup of brownfield sites.
11	(2) Loans.—The loans may be provided by the
12	State or local government to finance cleanups of
13	brownfield sites by the State or local government, or
14	by an owner or a prospective purchaser of a
15	brownfield site (including a local government) at
16	which a cleanup is being conducted or is proposed to
17	be conducted.
18	(b) Scope of Program.—
19	(1) In general.—
20	(A) Grants.—In carrying out subsection
21	(a), the Administrator may award a grant to a
22	State or local government that submits an ap-
23	plication to the Administrator that is approved
24	by the Administrator.

1	(B) USE OF GRANT.—The grant shall be
2	used by the State or local government to cap-
3	italize a revolving loan fund to be used for
4	cleanup of 1 or more brownfield sites.
5	(C) Grant application.—An application
6	for a grant under this section shall be in such
7	form as the Administrator determines appro-
8	priate. At a minimum, the application shall in-
9	clude the following:
10	(i) Evidence that the grant applicant
11	has the financial controls and resources to
12	administer a revolving loan fund in accord-
13	ance with this title.
14	(ii) Provisions that—
15	(I) ensure that the grant appli-
16	cant has the ability to monitor the use
17	of funds provided to loan recipients
18	under this title;
19	(II) ensure that any cleanup con-
20	ducted by the applicant is protective
21	of human health and the environment;
22	and
23	(III) ensure that any cleanup
24	funded under this Act will comply

1	with all applicable Federal and State
2	laws that apply to the cleanup.
3	(iii) Identification of the criteria to be
4	used by the State or local government in
5	providing for loans under the program.
6	The criteria shall include the financial
7	standing of the applicants for the loans,
8	the use to which the loans will be put, the
9	provisions to be used to ensure repayment
10	of the loan funds, and the following:
11	(I) A complete description of the
12	financial standing of the applicant
13	that includes a description of the as-
14	sets, cash flow, and liabilities of the
15	applicant.
16	(II) A written statement that at-
17	tests that the cleanup of the site
18	would not occur without access to the
19	revolving loan fund.
20	(III) The proposed method, and
21	anticipated period of time required, to
22	clean up the environmental contami-
23	nation at the brownfield site.

1	(IV) An estimate of the proposed
2	total cost of the cleanup to be con-
3	ducted at the brownfield site.
4	(V) An analysis that dem-
5	onstrates the potential of the
6	brownfield site for stimulating eco-
7	nomic development or other beneficial
8	use on completion of the cleanup of
9	the brownfield site.
10	(2) Grant approval.—In determining wheth-
11	er to award a grant under this section, the Adminis-
12	trator shall consider—
13	(A) the need of the State or local govern-
14	ment for financial assistance to clean up
15	brownfield sites that are the subject of the ap-
16	plication, taking into consideration the financial
17	resources available to the State or local govern-
18	ment;
19	(B) the ability of the State or local govern-
20	ment to ensure that the applicants repay the
21	loans in a timely manner;
22	(C) the extent to which the cleanup of the
23	brownfield site or sites would reduce health and
24	environmental risks caused by the release of

1	contaminants at, or from, the brownfield site or
2	sites;
3	(D) the demonstrable potential of the
4	brownfield site or sites for stimulating economic
5	development on completion of the cleanup;
6	(E) the demonstrated ability of the State
7	or local government to administer such a loan
8	program;
9	(F) the demonstrated experience of the
10	State or local government regarding brownfield
11	sites and the reuse of contaminated land, in-
12	cluding whether the government has received
13	any grant under the Comprehensive Environ-
14	mental Response, Compensation, and Liability
15	Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) to assess
16	brownfield sites, except that applicants who
17	have not previously received such a grant may
18	be considered for awards under this section;
19	(G) the efficiency of having the loan ad-
20	ministered by the level of government rep-
21	resented by the applicant entity;
22	(H) the experience of administering any
23	loan programs by the entity, including the loan

repayment rates;

- 1 (I) the demonstrations made regarding the 2 ability of the State or local government to en-3 sure a fair distribution of grant funds among 4 brownfield sites within the jurisdiction of the 5 State or local government; and
 - (J) such other factors as the Administrator considers relevant to carry out this section.
 - (3) Grant amount.—The amount of a grant made to a State or local applicant under this section shall not exceed \$500,000.
 - (4) Waiver.—The Administrator may waive an amount limitation under this paragraph based on the anticipated level of contamination, size, status of ownership, number of brownfield sites, or any other factor relating to the facility that the Administrator considers appropriate, taking into consideration the impact of the increase on the Administrator's ability to provide grants at other facilities.
 - (5) REVOLVING LOAN FUND APPROVAL.—Each application for a grant to capitalize a revolving loan fund under this section shall, as a condition of approval by the Administrator, include a written statement by the State or local government that cleanups to be funded under the loan program of the State or local government shall be conducted under the

- 1 auspices of, and in compliance with, the State vol-
- 2 untary cleanup program or State Superfund pro-
- gram or Federal authority.
- 4 (c) Grant Agreements.—Each grant under this
- 5 section for a revolving loan fund shall be made pursuant
- 6 to a grant agreement. At a minimum, the grant agreement
- 7 shall include provisions that ensure the following:
- 8 (1) Compliance with law.—The grant recipi-
- 9 ent will include in all loan agreements a requirement
- that the loan recipient shall comply with all Federal
- and State laws applicable to the cleanup and shall
- ensure that the cleanup is protective of human
- health and the environment.
- 14 (2) Repayment.—The State or local govern-
- ment will require repayment of the loan consistent
- with this title.
- 17 (3) Use of funds.—The State or local govern-
- ment will use the funds solely for purposes of estab-
- lishing and capitalizing a loan program in accord-
- ance with this title and of cleaning up the environ-
- 21 mental contamination at the brownfield site or sites.
- 22 (4) Repayment of funds.—The State or local
- 23 government will require in each loan agreement, and
- take necessary steps to ensure, that the loan recipi-
- ent will use the loan funds solely for the purposes

1	stated in paragraph (3), and will require the return
2	of any excess funds immediately on a determination
3	by the appropriate State or local official that the
4	cleanup has been completed.
5	(5) Nontransferability.—The funds will not
6	be transferable, unless the Administrator agrees to
7	the transfer in writing.
8	(6) Liens.—
9	(A) Definitions.—In this paragraph, the
10	terms "security interest" and "purchaser" have
11	the meanings given the terms in section
12	6323(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
13	(B) Liens.—A lien in favor of the grant
14	recipient shall arise on the contaminated prop-
15	erty subject to a loan under this section.
16	(C) COVERAGE.—The lien shall cover all
17	real property included in the legal description of
18	the property at the time the loan agreement
19	provided for in this section is signed, and all
20	rights to the property, and shall continue until
21	the terms and conditions of the loan agreement
22	have been fully satisfied.
23	(D) TIMING.—The lien shall—
24	(i) arise at the time a security interest

is appropriately recorded in the real prop-

1	erty records of the appropriate office of the
2	State, county, or other governmental sub-
3	division, as designated by State law, in
4	which the real property subject to the lien
5	is located; and

- (ii) be subject to the rights of any purchaser, holder of a security interest, or judgment lien creditor whose interest is or has been perfected under applicable State law before the notice has been filed in the appropriate office of the State, county, or other governmental subdivision, as designated by State law, in which the real property subject to the lien is located.
- (7) OTHER CONDITIONS.—The State or local government will comply with such other terms and conditions as the Administrator determines are necessary to protect the financial interests of the United States and to protect human health and the environment.

(d) Audits.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency shall audit a portion of the grants awarded under this section to

1	ensure that all funds are used for the purposes set
2	forth in this section.
3	(2) Future grants.—The result of the audit
4	shall be taken into account in awarding any future
5	grants to the State or local government.
6	SEC. 104. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION,
7	AND TRAINING.
8	Section 311 of the Comprehensive Environmental Re-
9	sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42
10	U.S.C. 9660) is amended by striking subsection (c) and
11	inserting the following:
12	"(c) Hazardous Substance Research, Develop-
13	MENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND TRAINING.—
14	"(1) In General.—The Administrator may
15	conduct and, through grants, cooperative agree-
16	ments, contracts, and the provision of technical as-
17	sistance, may support, research, development, dem-
18	onstration, and training relating to the detection, as-
19	sessment, remediation, and evaluation of the effects
20	on and risks to human health and the environment
21	from hazardous substances.
22	"(2) Eligibility.—The Administrator may
23	award grants and cooperative agreements, or con-
24	tracts or provide technical assistance under this sub-

section to a State, Indian tribe, consortium of In-

1	dian tribes, interstate agency, political subdivision of
2	a State, educational institution, or other agency or
3	organization for the development and implementa-
4	tion of training, technology transfer, and informa-
5	tion dissemination programs to strengthen environ-
6	mental response activities, including enforcement, at
7	the Federal, State, tribal and local levels.
8	"(3) Requirements.—The Administrator may
9	establish such requirements for grants and coopera-
10	tive agreements under this subsection as the Admin-
11	istrator considers to be appropriate.".
12	SEC. 105. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRAINING.
13	Section 117 of the Comprehensive Environmental Re-
14	sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42
15	U.S.C. 9617) is amended by adding at the end the follow-
16	ing:
17	"(f) Financial Assistance for Training.—
18	"(1) In general.—The Administrator shall
19	carry out a program to provide financial assistance
20	for brownfield training programs.
21	"(2) Purposes.—Assistance provided under
22	this section may be used for—
23	"(A) expansion of environmental training
24	and curriculum development at colleges located
25	near brownfield sites;

1	"(B) establishment of environmental edu-
2	cation and training centers or other community-
3	based job training organizations; and
4	"(C) such other related activities as the
5	Administrator considers to be appropriate.
6	"(3) Form of Assistance.—The Adminis-
7	trator may provide grants and such other forms of
8	assistance under this section as the Administrator
9	considers to be appropriate.".
10	SEC. 106. EXPENDITURES FROM THE SUPERFUND.
11	Amounts in the Hazardous Substance Superfund es-
12	tablished by section 9507 of the Internal Revenue Code
13	of 1986 shall be made available consistent with, and for
14	the purposes of carrying out, the programs established
15	under sections 102, 103, 104, and 105.
16	SEC. 107. REPORTS.
17	(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the
18	date of enactment of this Act, and not later than January
19	31 of each of the 3 calendar years thereafter, the Adminis-
20	trator shall prepare and submit a report describing the
21	results of each program established under this title to—
22	(1) the Committee on Environment and Public
23	Works of the Senate; and
24	(2) the Committee on Commerce of the House
25	of Representatives.

1	(b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report shall, with
2	respect to each of the programs established under this
3	title, include a description of—
4	(1) the number of applications received by the
5	Administrator during the preceding calendar year;
6	(2) the number of applications approved by the
7	Administrator during the preceding calendar year;
8	and
9	(3) the allocation of assistance under sections
10	102 and 103 among the States and local govern-
11	ments.
12	SEC. 108. LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.
13	(a) Excluded Facilities.—A grant for site inven-
14	tory and assessment under section 102 or to capitalize a
15	revolving loan fund under section 103 may not be used
16	for any activity involving—
17	(1) a facility that is the subject of a planned or
18	an ongoing response action under the Comprehensive
19	Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liabil-
20	ity Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), except for
21	a facility for which a preliminary assessment, site in-
22	vestigation, or removal action has been completed
23	and with respect to which the Administrator has de-
24	cided not to take further response action, including
25	cost recovery action;

- 1 (2) a facility included, or proposed for inclu-2 sion, on the National Priorities List maintained by 3 the Administrator under the Comprehensive Envi-4 ronmental Response, Compensation, and Liability 5 Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);
 - (3) a facility with respect to which a record of decision, other than a no-action record of decision, has been issued by the President under section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604) with respect to the facility;
 - (4) a facility that is subject to corrective action under section 3004(u) or 3008(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6924(u), 6928(h)) to which a corrective action permit or order has been issued or modified to require the implementation of corrective measures;
 - (5) any land disposal unit with respect to which a closure notification under subtitle C of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.) has been submitted and closure requirements have been specified in a closure plan or permit;
 - (6) a facility at which there has been a release of a polychlorinated biphenyl and that is subject to

1	the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601
2	et seq.);
3	(7) a facility with respect to which an adminis-
4	trative or judical order or a consent decree requiring
5	cleanup has been issued or entered into by the Presi-
6	dent and is in effect under—
7	(A) the Comprehensive Environmental Re-
8	sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of
9	1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);
10	(B) the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42
11	U.S.C. 6901 et seq.);
12	(C) the Federal Water Pollution Control
13	Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);
14	(D) the Toxic Substances Control Act (15
15	U.S.C. 2601 et seq.); or
16	(E) the Safe Drinking Water Act (42
17	U.S.C. 300f et seq.);
18	(8) a facility at which assistance for response
19	activities may be obtained under subtitle I of the
20	Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6991 et seq.)
21	from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust
22	Fund established by section 9508 of the Internal
23	Revenue Code of 1986; and
24	(9) a facility owned or operated by a depart-
25	ment, agency, or instrumentality of the United

- 1 States, except for land held in trust by the United
- 2 States for an Indian tribe.
- 3 (b) Fines and Cost-Sharing.—A grant made
- 4 under this title may not be used to pay any fine or penalty
- 5 owed to a State or the Federal Government, or to meet
- 6 any Federal cost-sharing requirement.

7 (c) Other Limitations.—

- 8 (1) In general.—Funds made available to a
- 9 State or local government under the grant programs
- established under sections 102 and 103 shall be used
- only to inventory and assess brownfield sites as au-
- thorized by this title and for capitalizing a revolving
- loan fund as authorized by this title, respectively.
- 14 (2) Responsibility for Cleanup action.—
- Funds made available under this title may not be
- used to relieve a local government or State of the
- 17 commitment or responsibilities of the local govern-
- ment or State under State law to assist or carry out
- 19 cleanup actions at brownfield sites.

20 SEC. 109. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

- Nothing in this title affects the liability or response
- 22 authorities for environmental contamination under any
- 23 other law (including any regulation), including—

Comprehensive Environmental Re-1 the 2 sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42) 3 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.); 4 (2) the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 5 6901 et seq.); 6 (3) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 7 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); 8 (4) the Toxic Substances Control Act (15) 9 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.); and 10 (5) the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 11 300f et seq.). 12 SEC. 110. REGULATIONS. 13 (a) In General.—The Administrator may issue 14 such regulations as are necessary to carry out this title. 15 (b) Procedures and Standards.—The regulations shall include such procedures and standards as the Admin-16 istrator considers necessary, including procedures and 17 18 standards for evaluating an application for a grant or loan 19 submitted under this title. 20 SEC. 111. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. 21 (a) This Act.— 22 (1) Inventory and assessment program.— 23 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out 24 section 102 \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years 25 1999 through 2003.

1	(2) Grants for revolving loan pro-
2	GRAMS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to
3	carry out section 103 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal
4	years 1999 through 2003.
5	(3) Availability of funds.—The amounts
6	appropriated under this subsection shall remain
7	available until expended.
8	(b) CERCLA.—Section 111 of the Comprehensive
9	Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
10	of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9611) is amended by adding at the
11	end the following:
12	"(q) Brownfields.—
13	"(1) Assistance for hazardous substance
14	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND
15	TRAINING.—There is authorized to be appropriated
16	to carry out section 311(c) \$9,000,000 for each of
17	fiscal years 1999 through 2003.
18	"(2) Assistance for workforce train-
19	ING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to
20	carry out section 117(f) \$5,000,000 for each of fis-
21	cal years 1999 through 2003.
22	"(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The amounts
23	appropriated under this subsection shall remain
24	available until expended.".

TITLE II—PROSPECTIVE 1 **PURCHASERS** 2 3 SEC. 201. LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY FOR RESPONSE 4 COSTS FOR PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS. 5 (a) Limitations on Liability.—Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, 6 and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607) is amended 7 by adding at the end the following: 9 "(o) Limitations on Liability for Prospective 10 Purchasers.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) through 11 (4) of subsection (a), to the extent the liability of a person, 12 with respect to a release or the threat of a release from 13 a facility, is based solely on subsection (a)(1), the person shall not be liable under this Act (except to the extent necessary to enforce a lien under subsection (p)) if the 16 person— 17 "(1) is a bona fide prospective purchaser of the 18 facility; and 19 "(2) does not impede the performance of any 20 response action or natural resource restoration at a 21 facility.". 22 (b) Prospective Purchaser and WINDFALL Lien.—Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (as

1	amended by subsection (a)) is amended by inserting after
2	subsection (o) the following:
3	"(p) Prospective Purchaser and Windfall
4	Lien.—
5	"(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which the
6	United States has incurred unrecovered response
7	costs at a facility for which an owner of the facility
8	is not liable by reason of subsection (o), and the con-
9	ditions described in paragraph (3) are met, the
10	United States shall have a lien on the facility, or
11	may obtain, from the appropriate responsible party
12	or parties, a lien on other property or other assur-
13	ances of payment satisfactory to the Administrator,
14	for the unrecovered costs.
15	"(2) Amount; duration.—The lien—
16	"(A) shall be for an amount not to exceed
17	the increase in fair market value of the prop-
18	erty attributable to the response action at the
19	time of a subsequent sale or other disposition
20	of the property;
21	"(B) shall arise at the time costs are first
22	incurred by the United States with respect to a
23	response action at the facility

1	"(C) shall be subject to the requirements
2	for notice and validity specified in subsection
3	(1)(3); and
4	"(D) shall continue until the earlier of sat-
5	isfaction of the lien or recovery of all response
6	costs incurred at the facility.
7	"(3) Conditions.—The conditions referred to
8	in paragraph (1) are the following:
9	"(A) RESPONSE ACTION.—A response ac-
10	tion for which the United States has incurred
11	unrecovered costs is carried out at the facility.
12	"(B) FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The response
13	action increases the fair market value of the fa-
14	cility above the fair market value of the facility
15	that existed on the date that is 180 days before
16	the response action was commenced.".
17	(e) Definition of Bona Fide Prospective Pur-
18	CHASER.—
19	(1) In General.—Section 101 of the Com-
20	prehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,
21	and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601) is
22	amended by adding at the end the following:
23	"(39) Bona fide prospective purchaser.—
24	The term 'bona fide prospective purchaser' means a
25	person who acquires ownership of a facility after the

1	date of enactment of the Brownfields and Environ-
2	mental Cleanup Act of 1999, or a tenant of such a
3	person, who can establish each of the following by a
4	preponderance of the evidence:
5	"(A) DISPOSAL PRIOR TO ACQUISITION.—
6	All active disposal of hazardous substances at
7	the facility occurred before the person acquired
8	the facility.
9	"(B) Inquiry.—
10	"(i) In general.—The person made
11	all appropriate inquiry into the previous
12	ownership and uses of the facility in ac-
13	cordance with generally accepted good
14	commercial and customary standards and
15	practices.
16	"(ii) Standards.—The standards
17	and practices referred to in clause (ii) of
18	paragraph (35)(B) or those issued or des-
19	ignated by the Administrator under that
20	clause shall satisfy the requirements of this
21	subparagraph.
22	"(iii) Residential property.—In
23	the case of property in residential or other
24	similar use at the time of purchase by a
25	nongovernmental or noncommercial entity,

1	a site inspection and title search that re-
2	veal no basis for further investigation shall
3	satisfy the requirements of this subpara-
4	graph.
5	"(C) Notices.—The person provided all
6	legally required notices with respect to the dis-
7	covery or release of any hazardous substances
8	at the facility.
9	"(D) Care.—The person exercised appro-
10	priate care with respect to hazardous sub-
11	stances found at the facility by taking reason-
12	able steps to—
13	"(i) stop ongoing releases;
14	"(ii) prevent threatened future re-
15	leases of hazardous substances; and
16	"(iii) prevent or limit human, environ-
17	mental, or natural resource exposure to
18	hazardous substances previously released
19	into the environment.
20	"(E) Cooperation, assistance, and ac-
21	cess.—The person—
22	"(i) provides full cooperation, assist-
23	ance, and access to the persons that are
24	authorized to conduct the response and
25	restoration actions at the facility, including

1	the cooperation and access necessary for
2	the assessment of contamination, installa-
3	tion, preservation of integrity, operation,
4	and maintenance of any complete or par-
5	tial response action at the facility;
6	"(ii) has fully complied and is in full
7	compliance with any land use or activity
8	restrictions on the property established or
9	relied on in connection with a response ac-
10	tion at the facility, including informing any
11	other party that the person allows to oc-
12	cupy or use the property of the restrictions
13	and taking prompt action to correct any
14	noncompliance by the party;
15	"(iii) is in compliance with all infor-
16	mation requests, administrative subpoenas,
17	and discovery requests issued by the Presi-
18	dent in connection with the facility; and
19	"(iv) has provided full cooperation
20	and assistance to the President in identify-
21	ing and locating potentially responsible
22	parties or other persons that previously
23	owned, operated, or otherwise controlled

activities at the vessel or facility.

"(F) Relationship.—The person is not 1 2 liable or affiliated with any other person that is 3 potentially liable, for response costs at the facil-4 ity, through any direct or indirect familial rela-5 tionship, or any contractual, corporate, or fi-6 nancial relationship other than that created by 7 the instruments by which title to the facility is 8 conveyed or financed.". 9 (2) Regulatory authority.— 10 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of 11 the Environmental Protection Agency may— 12 (i) issue such regulations as the Ad-13 ministrator considers necessary to carry 14 out the amendment made by this sub-15 section; and 16 (ii) assign any duties or powers im-17 posed on or assigned to the Administrator 18 by the amendment made by this sub-19 section. 20 (B) AUTHORITY TO CLARIFY AND IMPLE-21 MENT.—The authority under subparagraph (A) 22 includes authority to clarify or interpret all 23 terms, including the terms used in this sub-

section, and to implement any provision of the

amendment made by this subsection.

24

TITLE III—INNOCENT 1 **LANDOWNERS** 2 3 SEC. 301. INNOCENT LANDOWNERS. (a) Knowledge of Inquiry Requirement.—Sec-4 tion 101(35) of the Comprehensive Environmental Re-5 sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42) 6 7 U.S.C. 9601(35)) is amended by striking subparagraph 8 (B) and inserting the following: 9 "(B) Knowledge of inquiry require-10 MENT.— 11 "(i) DEFINITION OFCONTAMINA-12 TION.—In this subparagraph, the term 13 'contamination' means an existing release, 14 a past release, or the threat of a release of 15 a hazardous substance. 16 "(ii) Requirement.— 17 "(I) INQUIRY.—To establish that 18 the defendant had no reason to know 19 (under subparagraph (A)(i)), the de-20 fendant must have made, at the time 21 of the acquisition, all appropriate in-22 quiry (as well as comply with clause 23 (vii)) into the previous ownership and

uses of the facility, consistent with

1	good commercial or customary prac-
2	tice in an effort to minimize liability.
3	"(II) Considerations.—For the
4	purpose of subclause (I) and until the
5	President issues or designates stand-
6	ards as provided in clause (iv), the
7	court shall take into account—
8	"(aa) any specialized knowl-
9	edge or experience on the part of
10	the defendant;
11	"(bb) the relationship of the
12	purchase price to the value of the
13	property if uncontaminated;
14	"(cc) commonly known or
15	reasonably ascertainable informa-
16	tion about the property;
17	"(dd) the obviousness of the
18	presence or likely presence of
19	contamination at the property;
20	and
21	"(ee) the ability to detect
22	the contamination by appropriate
23	investigation.
24	"(iii) Conduct of environmental
25	ASSESSMENT.—A person who has acquired

1	real property shall be considered to have
2	made all appropriate inquiry within the
3	meaning of clause (ii)(I) if—
4	"(I) the person establishes that,
5	within 180 days prior to the date of
6	acquisition, an environmental site as-
7	sessment of the real property was con-
8	ducted that meets the requirements of
9	clause (iv); and
10	"(II) the person complies with
11	clause (vii).
12	"(iv) Environmental site assess-
13	MENT.—
14	"(I) In general.—An environ-
15	mental site assessment meets the re-
16	quirements of this clause if the assess-
17	ment is conducted in accordance with
18	the standards set forth in the Amer-
19	ican Society for Testing and Materials
20	(ASTM) Standard E1527-94, titled
21	'Standard Practice for Environmental
22	Site Assessments: Phase I Environ-
23	mental Site Assessment Process' or
24	with any alternative standards issued
25	by regulation by the President or

1	issued or developed by other entities
2	and designated by regulation by the
3	President.
4	"(II) STUDY OF PRACTICES.—
5	Before issuing or designating alter-
6	native standards under subclause (I),
7	the President shall conduct a study of
8	commercial and industrial practices
9	concerning environmental site assess-
10	ments in the transfer of real property
11	in the United States.
12	"(v) Considerations in issuing
13	STANDARDS.—In issuing or designating
14	any standards under clause (iv), the Presi-
15	dent shall consider requirements governing
16	each of the following:
17	"(I) Conduct of an inquiry by an
18	environmental professional.
19	"(II) Interviews of each owner,
20	operator, and occupant of the prop-
21	erty to determine information regard-
22	ing the potential for contamination.
23	"(III) Review of historical
24	sources as necessary to determine
25	each previous use and occupancy of

1	the property since the property was
2	first developed. In this subclause, the
3	term 'historical sources' means any of
4	the following, if reasonably ascertain-
5	able: each recorded chain of title doc-
6	ument regarding the real property, in-
7	cluding each deed, easement, lease, re-
8	striction, and covenant, any aerial
9	photograph, fire insurance map, prop-
10	erty tax file, United States Geological
11	Survey 7.5 minutes topographic map,
12	local street directory, building depart-
13	ment record, and zoning/land use
14	record, and any other source that
15	identifies a past use or occupancy of
16	the property.
17	"(IV) Determination of the exist-
18	ence of any recorded environmental
19	cleanup lien against the real property
20	that has arisen under any Federal,
21	State, or local law.
22	"(V) Review of reasonably ascer-
23	tainable Federal, State, and local gov-
24	ernment records of any facility that is
25	likely to cause or contribute to con-

1	tamination at the real property, in-
2	cluding, as appropriate—
3	"(aa) any investigation re-
4	port for the facility;
5	"(bb) any record of activities
6	likely to cause or contribute to
7	contamination at the real prop-
8	erty, including any landfill or
9	other disposal location record,
10	underground storage tank record,
11	hazardous waste handler and
12	generator record, and spill re-
13	porting record; and
14	"(cc) any other reasonably
15	ascertainable Federal, State, and
16	local government environmental
17	record that could reflect an inci-
18	dent or activity that is likely to
19	cause or contribute to contamina-
20	tion at the real property.
21	"(VI) A visual site inspection of
22	the real property and each facility and
23	improvement on the real property and
24	a visual site inspection of each imme-
25	diately adjacent property, including an

1	investigation of any hazardous sub-
2	stance use, storage, treatment, or dis-
3	posal practice on the property.
4	"(VII) Any specialized knowledge
5	or experience on the part of the per-
6	son that acquired the property.
7	"(VIII) The relationship of the
8	purchase price to the value of the
9	property if uncontaminated.
10	"(IX) Commonly known or rea-
11	sonably ascertainable information
12	about the property.
13	"(X) The obviousness of the
14	presence or likely presence of contami-
15	nation at the property, and the ability
16	to detect the contamination by appro-
17	priate investigation.
18	"(vi) Reasonably ascertain-
19	ABLE.—A record shall be considered to be
20	reasonably ascertainable for purposes of
21	clause (v) if a copy or reasonable facsimile
22	of the record is publicly available by re-
23	quest (within reasonable time and cost con-
24	straints) and the record is practicably re-
25	viewable.

1	"(vii) Appropriate inquiry.—A per-
2	son shall not be treated as having made all
3	appropriate inquiry under clause (ii)(I)
4	unless—
5	"(I) the person has maintained a
6	compilation of the information re-
7	viewed and gathered in the course of
8	any environmental site assessment;
9	"(II) the person exercised appro-
10	priate care with respect to hazardous
11	substances found at the facility by
12	taking reasonable steps to—
13	"(aa) stop ongoing releases
14	of hazardous substances;
15	"(bb) prevent threatened fu-
16	ture releases of hazardous sub-
17	stances; and
18	"(cc) prevent or limit
19	human, environmental, or natural
20	resource exposure to hazardous
21	substances previously released
22	into the environment;
23	"(III) the person provides full co-
24	operation, assistance, and facility ac-
25	cess to such persons as are authorized

1 to conduct response actions at the fa-2 cility, including the cooperation and 3 access necessary for the installation, integrity, operation, and maintenance of any complete or partial response 6 action at the facility; and 7 "(IV) the person has fully com-8 plied with and is in full compliance 9 with any land use or activity restric-10 tions on the property established or 11 relied on in connection with a re-12 sponse action at the facility, including 13 informing any other party that the 14 person allows to occupy or use the 15 property of such restrictions and tak-16 ing prompt action to correct any non-17 compliance by such parties. 18 "(viii) SITE INSPECTION AND TITLE 19 SEARCH.—In the case of property for resi-20 dential use or other similar use purchased 21 by a nongovernmental or noncommercial 22 entity, a site inspection and title search 23 that reveal no basis for further investiga-24 tion shall satisfy the requirements of

clause (ii).".

1	(b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—
2	(1) In General.—The Administrator of the
3	Environmental Protection Agency may—
4	(A) issue such regulations as the Adminis-
5	trator considers necessary to carry out the
6	amendment made by this section; and
7	(B) assign any duties or powers imposed
8	on or assigned to the Administrator by the
9	amendment made by this section.
10	(2) Authority to clarify and imple-
11	MENT.—The authority under paragraph (1) includes
12	authority to clarify or interpret all terms, including
13	the terms used in this section, and to implement any
14	provision of the amendment made by this section.
15	TITLE IV—CONTIGUOUS
16	PROPERTIES
17	SEC. 401. CONTIGUOUS PROPERTIES.
18	(a) In General.—Section 107 of the Comprehensive
19	Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
20	of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607) (as amended by section 201(b))
21	is amended by adding at the end the following:
22	"(q) Contiguous Properties.—
23	"(1) In general.—A person that owns or op-
24	erates real property that is contiguous to or other-
25	wise similarly situated with respect to real property

1	on or under which there has been a release or
2	threatened release of a hazardous substance and
3	that is or may be contaminated by the release shall
4	not be considered to be an owner or operator of a
5	vessel or facility under paragraph (1) or (2) of sub-
6	section (a) solely by reason of the contamination if—
7	"(A) the person did not cause, contribute,
8	or consent to the release or threatened release;
9	"(B) the person is not affiliated with any
10	other person that is liable or potentially liable
11	for any response costs at the facility;
12	"(C) the person exercised appropriate care
13	with respect to hazardous substances found at
14	the facility by taking reasonable steps to—
15	"(i) stop ongoing releases;
16	"(ii) prevent threatened future re-
17	leases of hazardous substances; and
18	"(iii) prevent or limit human, environ-
19	mental, or natural resource exposure to
20	hazardous substances previously released
21	into the environment;
22	"(D) the person provides full cooperation,
23	assistance, and access to the persons that are
24	authorized to conduct the response and restora-
25	tion actions at the facility, including the co-

1	operation and access necessary for the assess-
2	ment of contamination, or installation, preser-
3	vation of integrity, operation, and maintenance
4	of any complete or partial response action at
5	the facility; and
6	"(E) the person has fully complied and is
7	in full compliance with any land use or activity
8	restrictions on the property established or relied
9	on in connection with a response action at the
10	facility, including informing any other party
11	that the person allows to occupy or use the
12	property of the restrictions and taking prompt
13	action to correct any noncompliance by the
14	party.
15	"(2) Assurances.—The President may issue
16	an assurance that no enforcement action under this
17	Act will be initiated against a person described in
18	paragraph (1).".
19	(b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—
20	(1) In General.—The Administrator of the
21	Environmental Protection Agency may—
22	(A) issue such regulations as the Adminis-
23	trator considers necessary to carry out the
24	amendment made by this section; and

1	(B) assign any duties or powers imposed
2	on or assigned to the Administrator by the
3	amendment made by this section.
4	(2) AUTHORITY TO CLARIFY AND IMPLE-
5	MENT.—The authority under paragraph (1) includes

MENT.—The authority under paragraph (1) includes authority to clarify or interpret all terms, including the terms used in this section, and to implement any provision of the amendment made by this section.

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