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THE CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN

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Courts, Coercion and Collaboration
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Boulder, Colorado
OUTLINE OF STATEMENT OF SYLVIA V. BACA ON THE CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN

June 10, 1999

I. Introduction
   A. Brief background on Clean Water Act
   B. The good news
   C. The bad news

II. The Vice President’s Call to Action
   A. The major goals of Clean Water Action Plan
      1. enhanced protection from public health threats posed by water pollution
      2. more effective control of polluted runoff
      3. promotion of water quality protection on a watershed basis
   B. The guiding principles the Vice President provided
      1. promoting coordination and reduce duplication among federal, state, and local agencies and tribal governments wherever possible
      2. maximizing the participation of community groups and the public, placing particular emphasis on ensuring community and public access to information about water quality issues
      3. emphasizing innovative approaches to pollution control, including incentives, market-based mechanisms, and cooperative partnerships with landowners and other private parties

III. The Clean Water Action Plan
   A. The development process used to prepare the Clean Water Action Plan
   B. The outreach activities used in preparing the Action Plan

IV. The Need for Consensus
   A. Establishing the consensus
   B. Examples
V. Has the Action Plan Made a Difference?
   A. Action Plan is a guide, not a decision
   B. Action Plan has brought many interests together
   C. Examples
   D. The need for patience with collaborative approaches

VI. Key Thoughts in Closing
   A. Public participation and collaboration are essential in every step of the Action Plan
   B. The Action Plan is not a decision but the beginning of a process
   C. The Action Plan is making a difference