The Clean Water Action Plan

Sylvia V. Baca

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholar.law.colorado.edu/strategies-in-western-water-law-and-policy

Part of the Business Organizations Law Commons, Environmental Law Commons, Environmental Policy Commons, Indian and Aboriginal Law Commons, Natural Resources and Conservation Commons, Natural Resources Law Commons, Natural Resources Management and Policy Commons, State and Local Government Law Commons, Water Law Commons, and the Water Resource Management Commons

Citation Information

Reproduced with permission of the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (formerly the Natural Resources Law Center) at the University of Colorado Law School.

Reproduced with permission of the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (formerly the Natural Resources Law Center) at the University of Colorado Law School.
THE CLEAN WATER ACTION PLAN

Sylvia V. Baca
Acting Assistant Secretary,
Land and Minerals Management
United States Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Strategies in Western Water Law and Policy:
Courts, Coercion and Collaboration
June 8–11, 1999

NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CENTER
University of Colorado
School of Law
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