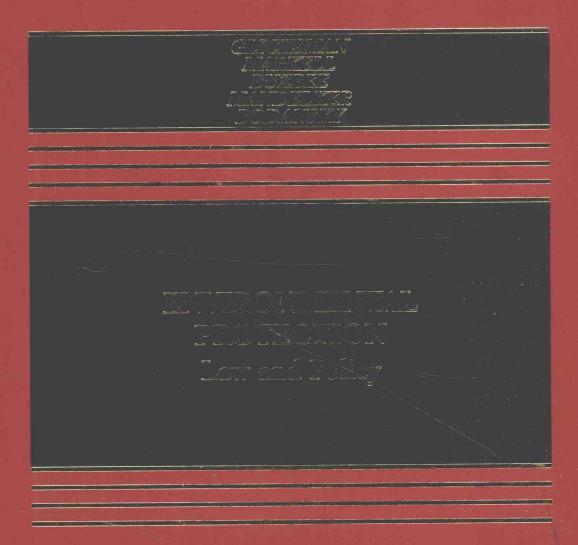
ASPEN CASEBOOK SERIES



Sixth Edition



ASPEN CASEBOOK SERIES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Law and Policy

Sixth Edition

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To Emily and Bertie

R.L.G.

To Mona, Rebecca, Jenny, and Rachel, and in honor of my parents, William Markell (1923-2009) and Elaine Markell

D.L.M.

To Lisa, Tian, and Seana, and to my parents, John and Ellen Buzbee

W.W.B.

To all my children and grandchildren D.R.M.

To Anne, Maria, and Sarah, and to my parents, David and Beverly Bodansky

D.M.B.

PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION

Environmental law continues to be characterized by political ferment and corresponding legal change. Although many central cases and statutory frameworks remain stable, environmental law demands attention to statutory and regulatory amendments, changes in agency policy, and the issuance of important new cases. Regular revision of environmental law casebooks is therefore indispensable to ensure that students are exposed to the current state of the law and its implementation. The sixth edition of this casebook has been thoroughly updated to reflect recent and proposed changes in environmental law.

Environmental law often develops in response to dramatic events, but it is also shaped by longer-range phenomena. During the four years since publication of the fifth edition, environmental law and policy have been most affected by a stunning event—the April 2010 explosion in the Macondo well at the Deepwater Horizon mobile offshore drilling unit owned by Transocean Ltd. and leased to a BP affiliate, which led to the spill of millions of barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico—and a longer-range phenomenon, global climate change. We have analyzed throughout this edition the manner in which the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and climate change have affected environmental law and policy and are likely to do so in the future.

The Deepwater Horizon oil spill raised issues relating to virtually every corner of environmental law, including common law liability, judicial review and aspects of administrative law, environmental assessment, endangered species protection, water pollution, and remediation and liability for oil spills. We treat these issues at appropriate places throughout the book. In addition, we have reconceived our treatment of environmental remediation by adding a new section to Chapter 9 that compares the tools for responding to spills of chemicals and oil under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. This section of Chapter 9 includes for the first time coverage of both the remediation and liability schemes under the Oil Pollution Act.

Global climate change has dominated both the media coverage and the policymaking arena of environmental law during the last four years. Climate change issues are addressed by the media virtually every day. The debate over whether and how to address climate change in Congress and the states has been furious and contentious. Like the Deepwater Horizon spill, climate change issues affect virtually every aspect of environmental law; consequently, references to climate change appear in most of the book's chapters. In previous editions, we covered climate change most extensively in a section of the chapter on air pollution. We decided that the importance of global climate change warranted coverage in its own chapter, so the sixth edition includes a new chapter (12) on climate change that

comprehensively addresses the legal and policy ferment surrounding the environmental challenges it presents. The House of Representatives enacted a bill in 2009 that would have taken steps to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and, to a much more limited degree, to assist in adaptation to climate change. The Senate failed to enact its own bill, likely dooming efforts to pass a comprehensive climate change bill for the foreseeable future. Since congressional debate in 2009 and 2010 framed the issues and regulatory design choices that policymakers will continue to face, including whether it makes sense to address climate change at all, we provide summaries and questions regarding the leading bills' choices and sources of controversy. Chapter 12 also provides new materials regarding climate change science and the anticipated environmental and social effects of a changing climate. We also provide readings concerning the political and economic obstacles that hinder legal responses to climate change, and the menu of policy options available to address climate change. In addition, we provide new materials on enacted climate laws and regulatory initiatives, including state climate initiatives, federalism debates over the state climate role, and climate-related actions under existing statutory and regulatory programs, including, most prominently, Environmental Protection Agency regulatory actions that have started the nation on the path to regulation of greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act. This new chapter closes by providing discussion and cases utilizing common law causes of action to combat climate change as well as a comprehensive but succinct survey of international law responses to the threats posed by climate change.

We have changed (and, we hope, enhanced) the book in other ways. The sixth edition includes more expansive and in-depth coverage in Chapter 11 of international environmental law questions. This expanded coverage reflects the growing importance of that field as well as the addition of a new co-author, described below, who is one of the leading experts on both international environmental law and climate change. We also have enriched our coverage of federalism issues in Chapter 2 by adding readings and materials on regulatory, judicial, and legislative actions that affect the allocation of policymaking authority between the federal government and the states. This additional coverage allows instructors interested in focusing more heavily on federalism questions to do so. As indicated above, the material on climate change in Chapter 12 also include a section on federalism. Both federalism and international environmental law issues continue to crop up throughout the text.

We have, of course, updated the materials throughout the book, adding new principal cases and other primary documents, revising note materials, creating new problems, and making an effort to enhance clarity through devices such as visual aids. The materials on climate change, in particular, include many new diagrams to assist understanding of climate change challenges and legal responses. The new principal cases include important Supreme Court decisions issued since the publication of the last edition under the Endangered Species Act (National Association of Home Builders), the Clean Air Act (Duke Energy and Massachusetts v. EPA), the Clean Water Act (Coeur Alaska), CERCLA (Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Ry. and Atlantic Research), and the dormant Commerce Clause (United Haulers). Important circuit court decisions also appear as new principal cases in the chapters on air pollution and environmental contamination remediation, among others. We have made a special effort to tighten the textual and note materials to enhance student accessibility and instructor teachability. Among other things, we have broken

off some of those materials into self-contained "Notes on" segments that instructors can choose to cover or omit, depending on the emphasis they wish to provide. We will continue to track recent developments and make our analyses available to casebook users both in the annual professors' updates made available by the publisher every summer and at the casebook's website, http://docs.law.gwu.edu/

facweb/rglicks/index.htm, which is periodically updated.

Given the dynamic nature of environmental law, it is crucial to bring new perspectives to bear on the subject. Beginning with the third edition, a series of new co-authors, each with extensive experience in the field and a host of valuable insights, have been added to participate in the composition of the book. Given the increasing importance of international environmental law and the emphasis on climate change law and policy since the publication of the fifth edition, we decided it was time to add a co-author with expertise in these areas to help with the sixth edition. We therefore welcome as the newest co-author Professor Daniel Bodansky of the Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Professor Bodansky is a prominent authority on global climate change whose teaching and research has focused on international environmental law, public international law, and sustainability. He has served as the climate change coordinator and attorneyadvisor at the U.S. Department of State, and has consulted for the United Nations in the areas of climate change and tobacco control. Since 2001 Professor Bodansky has been a consultant and senior advisor for the Pew Center on Global Climate Change. Professor Bodansky has reconceived and expanded the book's chapter on international law and written the new materials in Chapter 12 on the international law aspects of global climate change.

We encourage users of this casebook to forward their thoughts on and suggestions for improvements on any future editions to any of us. Our e-mail

addresses are available at the casebook's website.

Robert L. Glicksman David L. Markell William W. Buzbee Daniel R. Mandelker Daniel Bodansky

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XXXV

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SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Contents		xi	
Preface to the Sixth Edition		xxxi	
	Acknowledgments		
I.	Environmental Law's Foundations	1	
II.	Environmental Federalism	83	
III.	The Administrative Law of Environmental Protection	143	
IV.	The National Environmental Policy Act	231	
V.	Biodiversity Conservation	333	
VI.	Protecting the Air Resource	389	
VII.	Protecting the Water Resource	545	
VIII.	Controlling Toxic Substances and Hazardous Wastes	681	
IX.	Environmental Contamination Liability and Remediation	855	
X.	Enforcement of Environmental Law	953	
XI.	International Environmental Law	1033	
XII.	Climate Change Law and Policy Choices	1109	
Table	of Acronyme	1227	
Table of Acronyms Table of Cases		1235	
Index		1255	

CONTENTS

		xxxi xxxv
	CHAPTER I. ENVIRONMENTAL LAW'S FOUNDATIONS	1
A. B. C.	Problem 1-1 Environmental Law's Roots and Rationales Environmentalism's Rejection of Exploitation Expectations Economic Perspectives on Environmental Harms and Policy Choice Problem 1-2 1. Introduction: Why We Pollute Hardin, The Tragedy of the Commons Notes on the Tragedy and Environmental Policy 2. The Economics Model of Environmental Problems: Key Concepts a. Key Terms b. Coase's Insights and the "Polluter Pays" Principle c. Nonuse Values and Incommensurability: Are Some Values Extrinsic or Not Capable of Measurement? d. Ethics or Economics? e. Cost-Benefit Analysis and Economic Perspectives The Environmental Lessons of Ecology Rachel Carson, Silent Spring Note Bosselman & Tarlock, The Influence of Ecological Science on American Law: An Introduction	1 1 3 4 4 5 5 8 11 11 13 15 16 16 17 18 19
E.	The Ethical Lessons of Ecology Notes and Questions Common Law, Nonstatutory, and Constitutional Remedies for Environmental Harms 1. Negligence Claims 2. Public and Private Nuisance Claims a. Public Nuisance Claims Georgia v. Tennessee Copper Co. Notes and Questions	24 25 28 28 29 29 31 32

xii Contents

		b. Private Nuisance Claims	33
		Walsh v. Town of Stonington Water Pollution Control	21
		Authority	34 36
		Note and Question	37
		Petsey v. Cushman Notes and Questions	39
	3.	Trespass Claims	41
	4.	Strict Liability Claims	41
	1.	Branch v. Western Petroleum, Inc.	42
		Notes and Questions	46
	5.	The Public Trust Doctrine	47
		National Audubon Society v. Superior Court of	
		Alpine County	49
		Note and Questions	50
	6.	Constitutionally Rooted Environmental Claims	51
	7.	Environmental Justice Theories	53
G.	Co	mmon Law and Other Theories during the Statutory	
		vironmental Era	54
		International Paper Co. v. Ouellette	55
		Notes	60
		A Note Regarding Hurdles to Common Law Success	60
H.	Th	e Historical Arc of Environmental Law	62
	1.	Reconceiving Wilderness and Natural Resource Values	62
	2.	The Conservation and Preservation Movements	63
	3.	The Political Emergence of the Modern Environmental Era	66
	4.	A Brief Chronology of the Development of Modern	
		Environmental Laws and Political Trends	68
I.		vironmental Policy and Regulatory Design Choice	76
	1.	Environmental Law Goals, Triggers, and Strategies	77
		a. Goals	78
		b. Triggers	78
	-	c. Regulatory Designs and Strategies	79
	2.	Implementation and Enforcement Design Choice	81
	C	HAPTER II. ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERALISM	83
		Problem 2-1	84
A.	Rat	ionales for Federal Environmental Regulation	85
	1.	Interstate Externalities	85
	2.	Economies of Scale	86
	3.	The Race to the Bottom	86
	4.	Centralization versus Decentralization	88
	5.	Political, Economic, and Historical Rationales for Federal	
		(or State) Regulation	90
	6.	Using Competing Federalism Rationales	91

Contents	xiii
Contents	76444

B.	The Question of Federal Commerce Power	92
	Gibbs v. Babbitt	92
0	Notes and Questions: Power and the Analytical Framework	101
C.	Federal Power and Interpretation: Commerce Concerns as a Tiebreaker	105
	Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v.	10)
	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	105
	Rapanos v. United States	106
	Note	100
D	Securing State Cooperation	109
D.	New York v. United States	109
	Notes and Questions	119
	A Note on State Sovereign Immunity	120
E.	The Power Allocation Choice: Savings Clauses, Delegated Programs,	120
	and Preemption	123
	1. Savings Clauses	123
	2. Delegated Programs	125
	Preempting Clauses and Regulatory Actions	126
	Engine Manufacturers Association v. South Coast Air	120
	Quality Management District	127
	Notes and Questions	130
	Bates v. Dow Agrosciences LLC	131
	Notes	135
	4. Preemption by Agency Declaration	138
	Notes and Questions	139
F.	Dormant Commerce Clause Limitations on State Regulation	141
	CHAPTER III. THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW OF	1.42
	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	143
Δ	Little Could fall the Entry Entry Line	144
Α.	Judicial Control of Administrative Environmental Decisionmaking	144
	1. Access to the Courts: Standing and Related Preclusion Doctrines	144
	Sierra Club v. Morton	145
	Notes and Questions	149
	Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife	151
	Notes and Questions	160
	Note on Standing to Sue in Other Nations	165
	Friends of the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Environmental	166
	Services (TOC), Inc.	166
	Notes and Questions	173
	Note on Prudential and Statutory Standing Requirements	176
	Problem 3-1 Note on Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies Primary	179
	Note on Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies, Primary	180
	Jurisdiction, and Ripeness Problem 3-2	183
	Note on Recovery of Attorneys' Fees	183
	Note on Necovery of Automeys Pees	100

	2.	Standards of Re-	view		185
		a. The Types	of Reviewable Administrativ	ve Action	185
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	d Questions		186
			riew of Statutory Interpretat	ion	188
			U.S.A., Inc. v. Natural Rese		
			il, Inc.	50,500	188
			d Questions		189
			the Scope and Impact of th	ne Chevron Deference	10,
		Doctri		ic Chevion Belefence	191
				tation	193
		,	riew of Statutory Implemen		
			to Preserve Overton Park, In	c. v. Volpe	193
			d Questions	No. of the latest section of the latest sect	197
			the Origins of Hard Look	Review	199
			Reviewability		201
			Southern Utah Wilderness	Alliance	202
			d Questions		208
В.	Co	ngressional Contr	ol of Administrative Enviro	nmental	
		cisionmaking			209
	1.	Control Throug	h the Appropriations Proces	SS	210
	2.		h Substantive Standards and		
		Requirements			211
C.	Ev		Administrative Environme	ental Decisionmaking	215
0.	Lin		Cost-Benefit Analysis	intai Decisioninaking	218
		Problem			223
D	Λ			alder a	223
D.	AVO		rough Informal Decisionm		445
			The Courts and the Ossif		22.
			onse to Professor Seidenfel	d	224
		Notes and	d Questions		225
	C	HAPTER IV.	THE NATIONAL EN	VIRONMENTAL	
		III II III IV.	POLICY ACT	VIICOIVIVIEIVII	231
			FOLICI ACT		401
A.	NE	PA's Role in Env	ironmental Management		231
		An Environmen			231
	4.0		d Questions		232
	2.		fs Decision: Judicial Enfor	oomont	235
	4.			cellielit	236
n	TTI.		Questions	D 12	
В.	I h		ast an Impact Statement Be	e Prepared?	237
		Problem	4-1		240
	1.	Is It Federal?			241
	2.	Is It a Federal A	ction?		243
	3.	Is It a Major Fee	deral Action Significantly A	affecting the	
		Environment?	a 1 May 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	21 T M	245
			lvocates v. United States Art	my Corbs of Engineers	245
			l Questions	in Joseph of Brigineon	253
		. Tota am	2 4 6 5 11 0 11 5		41)