

# Environmental Quality Improvement Act\*

## 42 U.S.C. §§4371-4375

### Purpose

The statute sets forth a **national policy** for the enhancement of environmental quality. The **primary responsibility** for implementing this policy rests with **state and local governments**, supported and encouraged by the federal government. [EQIA §202]

### Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ)

The statute establishes the **Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ)** within the Executive Office of the President to provide **professional and administrative staff** to support the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). [EQIA §§203(a), (d)(1)]

The OEQ assists in various **administrative and in-**

**formational functions** concerning environmental quality. [EQIA §203(d)(2)-(7)]

The Chairman of the CEQ shall be the **Director** of the OEQ and the President shall appoint a **Deputy Director**. [EQIA §203(a)] The Director may employ officers and employees to carry out the functions of the Office. [EQIA §203(c)]

The statute authorizes the Director to **contract** with public and private organizations in carrying out the Director's functions. [EQIA §203(e)]

### Environmental Quality Reports

**Environmental Quality Reports** required by NEPA will be referred to each congressional **standing committee** having jurisdiction over any part of the reports' subject matter. [EQIA §204]