

CLEAN WATER ACT

If you were to describe the changes to the Clean Water Act in a sentence or two to someone who isn't in industry, what might you say?

ON THE MARK

“CWA jurisdictional authority was over 'waters of the U.S.' which were defined as 'navigable waterways' and adjacent and/or connecting tributaries and jurisdictional wetlands. Now, 'waters of the U.S.' will be called 'jurisdictional or regulated waters' and include navigable waters, adjacent tributaries, wetlands as well as all waters that have a 'significant nexus' to waters downstream in a watershed where the significant nexus may mean impacting flow, sediment load, pollution, etc., to downstream waters.”

“If the body of water on your land drains into another body of water downstream, then your property is affected by the Clean Water Act. You have to monitor what enters the body of water so that it doesn't get contaminated.”

“It better defines what is a waterway.”

“All water is considered protected through this act even a pond.”

“Any ditch, creek, stream or other waterway shall be protected from any and all contaminated runoff.”

“You need to contain your water at your site period.”

“Basically, I would say that you need to be aware of where your wastewater is being discharged to, and that you really are STILL responsible for it downstream. So be careful what you put into it.”

“It better defines which bodies of water the rule protects without a lengthy analysis to determine protection.”

“The rule ensures that waters protected under the Clean Water Act are more precisely defined, more predictably determined, and easier for businesses and industry to understand.”

“Consider every ditch a waterway.”

“Any body of water including ditches could be under the clean act. You must make sure that the water is not contaminated in any way.”

“It more clearly defines what is regulated.”

“Provides a clearer definition of Waters of the US (WOTUS) and how to determine where they begin.”

“The rule better defines what are protected waters. Is to make it easier to understand.”

“Waters of the United States' (WOTUS) define what emissions or potential emissions are regulated. The changes to the regulation have greatly increased the bodies that fit that definition, to include any body 'with a continuous surface connection' to navigable waterways - making any dry gulch that fills with water during a rainstorm a WOTUS.”

NOT QUITE

“Anything that impacts water is subject to regulation.”

“It now requires you to prove that you are in stricter compliance.”

“In order to keep the waterways clean, you can put nothing in the water.”



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