



How Public Policy, Regulation, and Incentives Propel Environmental Progress

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Public Policy: Framework for Environmental Improvements

- Modern Environmental Policy began in 1960s and into the 1970s.
 - 1969 National Environmental Policy Act.
 - 1970 Clean Air Act Amendments.
 - 1972 Clean Water Act.
 - 1976 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.
 - 1980 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).



Public Policy: The Push and Pull in environmental laws.

- Factors within environmental laws drive environmental improvements.
- The push: Regulations.
 - Permits for air emissions and water discharges.
 - Requirements to clean up contamination.
- The pull: Incentives
 - Grants.
 - Pollution prevention.



Regulation: The Push

- Water Regulations
 - NPDES Permits
 - Safe Drinking Water Act Capacity Development
- Air Regulations
 - Permits
 - Compliance
- Land
 - Remediation Programs.



Regulation: Continued Challenges

■ **NAAQS. 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard Lake and Porter Counties.**

- The Northbrook monitor in Illinois' portion of the area recorded a potential re-violation in June 2020.
- Multiple days impacted by wildfires that may be classified as “exceptional events”, meaning the area will continue to be in attainment of the 2008 ozone standard.
- If that occurs, U.S. EPA could redesignate the area to attainment.



Regulation: Continued Challenges

- **Coal Combustion Residuals.**

- Indiana has 78 surface impoundments 18 locations, making us one of the states with the highest number in the nation
- IDEM Reviews all closure plans.
 - Closure plans currently under review at 36 units
 - Closure plans approved for 28 total units
 - Each facility has unique, site specific issues
- Options:
 - Closure in Place. Here facilities control, minimize, or eliminate the infiltration of contaminants into waters that are released.
 - Closure by Removal. Remove residuals, decontaminate, meet groundwater standards.
 - The options all require groundwater monitoring.



Regulatory Push and Environmental Outcomes

- The Environment is cleaner than at any time since the inception of environmental laws.
 - Water:
 - PCBs levels fish have dramatically decreased throughout the State of Indiana
 - Reduction in bioaccumulative pesticides such as DDT, Chlorodane, and Dieldrin in fish.
 - Dredging of the Grand Calumet River and the introduction of new habitat has led to the reintroduction of fish in the river.
 - Recovery of the White River after the White River Fish Kill.
 - Establishment of tighter permit limits for chemicals such as mercury.
 - Dramatic Reduction of Raw Sewage from Combined Sewer Communities.



Regulatory Push and Environmental Outcomes

- The Environment is cleaner than at any time since the inception of environmental laws.
 - Air:
 - Sulfur Dioxide levels down 93% since 1980
 - Lead down 93% since 1977
 - Carbon Monoxide down 79% since 1980
 - Nitrogen Oxides down 60% since 1980
 - PM-2.5 down 60% since 1980
 - Ozone down 29% since 1980



Regulatory Push and Environmental Outcomes

- EPA Redesignated Several Areas in Indiana to Attainment of Clean Air Act Standards:
 - Indianapolis Area for Sulfur Dioxide.
 - Muncie Area for 2008 Lead Standard.
 - EPA approved IDEM's demonstration of attainment for parts of Daviess and Pike Counties for Sulfur Dioxide.
 - Morgan County for Sulfur Dioxide.



The Pull in Environmental Policy: Incentives

- Regulation has been enormously successful in promoting environmental improvements.
- Incentives provide further opportunity for improvements in areas not currently regulated or in response to specific problems.
- Examples:
 - \$520,000 Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant to IDEM.
 - 319 Grants for Watershed Improvements.
 - Pollution Prevention/Technical Assistance.



The Pull: VW Mitigation Settlement

- Indiana was awarded \$41 million.
- Indiana has had two rounds of funding
 - Indiana awarded over \$15 million to projects that will reduce NOx emissions.
 - Almost 200 diesel buses, truck, and other equipment have been work will be replaced with clean-diesel, propane, or electric power
- EPA recently announced a \$520,000 Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant to IDEM.



The Pull: VW Mitigation Settlement

- Next: Statewide Electric Vehicle Charging Network.
 - The Committee has issued a Request for Proposals
 - Funding for Direct Current Fast Charge and Level 2 charging stations.
 - 90% (\$5.5 m) for Fast Charging 10% (\$615,000) for Level 2 charging.
 - Applications will be due at the end of September.



The Push and Pull of Environmental Policy

- Advantages for both the Environment and the Economy
 - Improved environment makes Indiana more attractive place to live.
 - Efficient issuance of permits and continued compliance allows businesses to thrive.
 - The marriage of regulation and incentives encourage working together to continue improvements across a broad spectrum of activities.



Thank You

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