

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3625

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt agricultural stormwater discharges and silviculture operations from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2000

Mr. DICKEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt agricultural stormwater discharges and silviculture operations from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Timber and Agri-
5 culture Environmental Fairness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION**
2 **SYSTEM.**

3 Section 402(l) of the Federal Water Pollution Control
4 Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(l)) is amended by adding at the end
5 the following:

6 “(3) AGRICULTURAL STORMWATER DIS-
7 CHARGES.—The Administrator shall not require a
8 permit under this section for discharges composed
9 entirely of agricultural stormwater discharges (in-
10 cluding stormwater runoff from cultivated crops,
11 pastures, rangelands, orchards, aquaculture facili-
12 ties, and forest lands), nor shall the Administrator,
13 directly or indirectly, require any State to require
14 such a permit.

15 “(4) SILVICULTURE OPERATIONS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
17 shall not require a permit under this section for
18 discharges from silviculture operations, nor
19 shall the Administrator, directly or indirectly,
20 require any State to require such a permit.

21 “(B) SILVICULTURE OPERATIONS DE-
22 FINED.—In this section the term ‘silviculture
23 operation’ means the theory and practice of
24 controlling the establishment, composition, con-
25 stitution, and growth of forests. Such term in-
26 cludes nursery operations, reforestation, cul-

1 tural treatment, thinning, prescribed burning,
2 harvest operations, site preparation, road con-
3 struction and maintenance, surface drainage,
4 and pest and fire control.”.

5 **SEC. 3. POINT SOURCE DEFINED.**

6 Section 502 (14) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
7 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(14)) is amended by striking the
8 second sentence and inserting the following: “This term
9 does not include agricultural stormwater discharges, re-
10 turn flows from irrigated agriculture, and discharges of
11 stormwater runoff from silvicultural operations described
12 in section 402(l).”.

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