Unit 22

Clean Air Act of 1970
History of Air Quality Regulation

- Smoke from steam boilers
  - 1880’s & 90’s - Chicago, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh & NYC
- First comprehensive law
  - Oregon - 1952
Federal Law

- Air Pollution Control Act of 1955
  - Research & investigation
- Motor Vehicle Control Act of 1960 - Research
Federal Law

- **Clean Air Act of 1963**
  - Investigation by Surgeon General-advisory
  - Research & tech. Assistance to state & local governments
  - Development of air quality criteria by Secretary of HEW
  - Abatement actions - only one
Federal Law

- Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act of 1965
  - Standards authorized
  - Economic & tech. practicalities considered
1967 Air Quality Act

- Comprehensive
- Atmospheric regions - HEW
- Air quality regions - jurisdictional boundaries & other factors
- Ambient air quality standards to be adopted by states
- State implementation plans
- Preemption of stricter state standards
Federal Law

- **Clean Air Act of 1970**
  - **Federal/state division**
    - **States**
      - monitoring
      - controlling
      - preventing
    - **Federal**
      - standard setting
      - research
      - financial & tech. asst. to states
National Ambient Air Quality Standards

- **Primary standards**
  - Protect human health
- **Secondary standards**
  - Protect public welfare
National Ambient Air Quality Standards

- Carbon monoxide
- Sulfur dioxide
- Particulate matter
- Nitrogen dioxide
- Ozone
- Lead
National Ambient Air Quality Standards

- 247 air quality regions
- Five year review for standards
- State implementation plans (SIPs)
- Nonattainment areas
  - deadlines
  - reg. Of small & med. Businesses
  - oxygenated fuels
National Ambient Air Quality Standards

- Permit program (1990 amendments)
- Modeled after CWA
- No significant deterioration (NSD)
New Source Performance Standards

- EPA must prove standard attainable
National Emissions Standards

- 1990 air toxins program
  - hazardous air pollutants
  - 189 listed
1990 Clean Air Act Amendments

- Acid rain control
  - Allowances for sulfur dioxide emissions
  - Trading program
- Enforcement
  - Tightening of source permit requirements
  - Stronger criminal enforcement
NOx SIP Call

- Litigation
- [http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/](http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/)
- [http://daq.state.nc.us/](http://daq.state.nc.us/)
Issues not covered in the CAA

- Global warming
  - [http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ol/ncdc.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ol/ncdc.html)
- Ozone layer depletion
  - CFC phase-out
- 1986 Radon Gas and Indoor Air Quality Act