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BOOKS RECEIVED

1) *Impacts of Hazardous Technology. The Psycho-Social Effects of Restarting TMI-1*, by John Sorensen, Jon Soderstrom, Emily Copenhaver, Sam Carnes and Robert Bolin. State University of New York Press, Albany, New York, 1987. Pp. 233. $44.50 (hardcover); $16.95 (paperback).

This book presents an examination and analysis of a transactional view of human-environment relations; specifically the psycho-social impacts of hazardous nuclear technology, and more generally, the perceived risks and emotional responses of the exposed population to all potentially hazardous, technologically-based exposures. The study is based upon the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's 1985 decision to restart the Three Mile Island reactor, which set a precedent for establishing the breadth of impacts to be considered in decision making and environmental policy. The authors expand their discussion from the nuclear scenario to questions about hazardous technology. Interactions between humans and both the natural and man-made environments "are largely dictated by knowledge, information, and cognitive images . . . mediated by situational factors . . . complex interactions among biological, personality, sociocultural, environmental, and technological factors." As such, this book may be useful for professionals involved with land use policy decisions, personal injury and property damage litigation, and corporate planning for mitigation of impacts and environmental management.

2) *Energy, Food, Environment: Realities, Myths, Options,* by Vaclav Smil. Oxford University Press, New York, New York, 1987. Pp. 361. $72.00 (hardcover, paperback edition forthcoming).

A global approach to food and energy supplies, consumption, shortfalls, inefficiencies of production and distribution, population growth, malnutrition and waste is presented in this overview of humankind's interdependent food and energy needs. Specific legal issues of local concern are not the focus here. Rather, there is comprehensive background discussion comparing western civilization's excessive consumption and waste of energy and calories with the global needs of most of the world's population. The author concentrates upon three basic ecological cycles: carbon, nitrogen, and sulphur. Local, regional and international cooperative efforts are recommended to maximize the benefits of fuel utilization (carbon compounds), crop management (nitrogenous fertilizers), and acid rain control (sulphuric emissions), among others. The last chapter summarizes the contrasting opinions of the Global 2000 Report to the President (Jimmy Carter, 1980) and The Resourceful Earth (edited by Herman Kahn). There is an extensive bibliography and recommended reading list.

3) *Learning about Risk. Consumer and Worker Responses to Hazard Information,* by W. Kip Viscusi and Wesley A. Magat. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1987. Pp. 197. $29.50 (hardcover).

The research results reported in this book regarding the labeling of hazardous chemicals in the work place rely upon field studies of consumer and worker economic behavior, and are based upon empirical evidence from statistical testing and experimental design. Economists, marketing researchers, industrial psychologists, and labeling practitioners in government and industry are the intended audience. For attorneys other than those engaged in regulatory rulemaking for toxics, the discussion is relevant to personal injury litigation in negligence and products liability actions concerning toxic substance labeling and exposure. The authors' premise is that information policies affect economic behavior by altering the user's understanding of risks. The worker-user will engage in more precautionary behavior, or demand a greater salary for

his exposure to a perceived risk, or will quit the job if the perceived risk is too high. The consumer-user will trade off cost for safety, and will be willing to pay more for a product which eliminates or decreases the risk of harm. Individuals have difficulty in appropriately analyzing the statistical risks of low-probabability events, and consistently overreact to low-level health risks. In addition, the authors state that informational labels are superior to mere warning labels in causing user's behavior to change to enhance safety.

4) *International Handbook on Land Use Planning,* edited by Nicholas N. Patricios. Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut, 1986. Pp. 679. $95.00 (hardcover).

Basic information on land use planning, following a standard format, has been contributed by China, Japan, India, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Tunisia, France, England and Wales, German Federal Republic, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Sweden, U.S.S.R., Canada, U.S.A., Mexico, Bolivia, Argentina, and Australia. The first chapter is an overview of the global problems highlighting the similarities and differences among the individual nations. Chapters on individual countries present information on historical development, the institutional and land ownership system, and the major land use planning techniques utilized. Topics include: urban population growth and sprawl, town and village planning, regulatory agencies and centralized systems, agricultural land ownership and use, housing policies, land expropriation for public use, development of public recreational lands, socialistic collective ownership of lands, new towns, and decentralization. Each chapter includes notes and a bibliography. This perspective on land use as practiced in other countries offers valuable information on land use strategies which may be of use in our future planning for rational policies.