

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: AEI Publications
Sent: Fri 12/1/2017 3:04:25 PM
Subject: Waters of the US Rule and Clean Water Act fail to provide cost-effective improvements in water quality

Waters of the US Rule and Clean Water Act fail to provide cost-effective improvements in water quality

November 2017

Nathan P. Hendricks

Key points

- **The Clean Water Rule — commonly referred to as the Waters of the US (WOTUS) rule — defines the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act over all waters that have a “significant nexus” with navigable waters.**
- **The WOTUS rule creates regulatory uncertainty since much of the jurisdiction is left to case-by-case determination and is burdensome given the large fines imposed by the Clean Water Act.**
- **The WOTUS rule would have little impact on water quality because nonpoint emissions are largely exempt.**
- **Markets for water quality provide an opportunity for cost-effective improvements in water quality, but property rights for emissions must be clearly defined.**

[Read this publication online.](#)

[View a printable copy.](#)

Also of interest

Agricultural policy in disarray: Reforming the farm bill

Vincent H. Smith et al. | American Enterprise Institute | October 2017

Questions or comments? Contact Isabelle Staff at Isabelle.Staff@aei.org. To book an interview or for other media inquiries, contact MediaServices@aei.org (202.862.5829).

AEI cares about your inbox. Want to tailor your AEI subscriptions? [Click here](#) and get content that matters to you.

[View online](#) | [Ensure delivery](#) | [Subscribe](#)

American Enterprise Institute
1789 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036
P: [202.862.5800](tel:202.862.5800) | F: [202.862.7177](tel:202.862.7177) | www.aei.org

This message is for: jackson.ryan@epa.gov | You are subscribed to AEI's Energy & the Environment emails.
[Manage preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

