

Thirty years ago today, Congress enacted the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Clean-up and Liability Act (a/k/a CERCLA or Superfund). CERCLA's primary thrust is to create liability for cleanup of leaking waste disposal sites. The statute was Congress's response to a number of high profile incidents, including the Love Canal debacle, that increased public awareness of the issue of hazardous waste. CERCLA imposes liability on generators of waste as well as past and present owners and operators of hazardous waste site.