



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 28, 2006

H.R. 5810

**A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response,
Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to authorize
funding for brownfields revitalization activities and
state response programs, and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
on July 19, 2006*

SUMMARY

H.R. 5810 would authorize the appropriation of \$250 million a year over the 2007-2012 period to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for brownfields revitalization grants and programs. (Brownfields are properties where the presence, or potential presence, of a hazardous substance complicates the expansion or redevelopment of the property.) Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that carrying out these programs would cost \$13 million in 2007 and \$626 million over the 2007-2011 period (additional amounts would be spent after 2011). Enacting H.R. 5810 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 5810 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); the bill would benefit state, local, and tribal governments, and any costs would be incurred voluntarily.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 5810 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for Brownfields Programs						
Budget Authority ^a	162	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	120	153	137	80	24	0
Proposed Changes						
Brownfields Cleanup Grants						
Authorization Level	0	200	200	200	200	200
Estimated Outlays	0	10	40	100	160	190
State and Tribal Cleanup Programs						
Authorization Level	0	50	50	50	50	50
Estimated Outlays	0	3	10	25	40	48
Total Changes						
Authorization Level	0	250	250	250	250	250
Estimated Outlays	0	13	50	125	200	238
Spending Under H.R. 5810						
Estimated Authorization Level	162	250	250	250	250	250
Estimated Outlays	120	166	187	205	224	238

a. The 2006 level is the amount appropriated for that year for all EPA brownfields programs.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for EPA's brownfields programs.

H.R. 5810 would authorize the appropriation of \$250 million annually over the 2007-2012 period for EPA's brownfields restoration activities. The bill would maintain the current authorization level of \$200 million for brownfields cleanup grants and \$50 million for state and tribal voluntary cleanup programs, but would remove the requirement that 25 percent of appropriated funds be directed to petroleum-contaminated sites. In addition, H.R. 5810 would require EPA to submit reports to the Congress every four years detailing the management of the brownfields programs and the allocation of funding. Assuming

appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$13 million in 2007 and \$626 million over the 2007-2011 period (additional amounts would be spent after 2011).

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 5810 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. State, local, and tribal governments that participate in programs to remediate brownfield sites would benefit from grant funds reauthorized in the bill. Any costs incurred to participate in those grant programs would be voluntary.

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