ES 6 Environmental Law
Midterm Study Guide

1. What are Articles I-III of the Constitution and why is it important to understand these Articles when studying environmental law? Examples.

2. What is the Commerce Clause and why is it important in environmental law? Examples.


4. Name and briefly describe some important federal agencies that enforce environmental regulations. Examples.

5. Describe federal administrative agency powers. How are these powers exercised? Examples.

6. Describe some limitations on federal agency powers. Provide examples.

7. What is NEPA? What are the three primary features of NEPA?

8. What is an EA? What is a FONSI?

9. What are threshold considerations that must be met for an EIS to be required? Examples.

10. Name some of the broad environmental topics that are addressed in an EIS (eg., traffic, air quality, etc.)

11. Briefly describe the EIS process.

12. What is CEQA? Describe the purpose of CEQA?

13. Describe the CEQA process (3 steps).

14. Describe two differences between CEQA and NEPA.

15. Briefly describe the how the Clean Air Act functions.

16. What are Criteria Pollutants? Name three Criteria Pollutants and their sources.


19. Describe the purpose of establishing non-attainment areas. Examples.
20. What are New Source Review and No Significant Deterioration under the CAA?

21. What is the Kyoto Protocol? Targets? Deadlines? Why did the U.S. not ratify?

22. What is AB 32? What are the major provisions of AB 32? Examples.

23. What were the basic facts and holdings in Massachusetts v. EPA?