

WATER PROJECTS ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION ACT
K.S.A. 82a-325 through 82a-327
1997

K.S.A. 82a-325. Water projects environmental coordination act; purpose. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the water projects environmental coordination act.

(b) In order to protect the environment while facilitating the use, enjoyment, health and welfare of the people of the state of Kansas, it is necessary that the environmental effect of any water development project be considered before such water development project is approved or permitted. (**History:** L. 1987, ch. 400, § 1; July 1.)

K.S.A. 82a-326. Water projects environmental coordination act; definitions. When used in this act:

(a) "Water development project" means any project or plan which may be allowed or permitted pursuant to K.S.A. 24-126, 24-1213, 82a-301 et seq., and amendments thereto, or the multipurpose small lakes program act, and amendments thereto;

(b) "environmental review agencies" means the:

- (1) Kansas department of wildlife and parks;
- (2) Kansas forest service;
- (3) state biological survey;
- (4) Kansas department of health and environment;
- (5) state historical society;
- (6) state conservation commission; and
- (7) state corporation commission. (**History:** L. 1987, ch. 400, § 2; L. 1989, ch. 118, § 192; L. 1991, ch. 290, § 10; L. 1997, ch. 49, § 5; July 1.)

K.S.A. 82a-327. Same; review of proposed project; considerations. (a) Prior to approval or issuance of a permit for a proposed water development project, the permitting agency shall obtain a review of the proposed project for environmental effects by the appropriate state environmental review agencies, and shall consider their comments in determining whether to approve or issue a permit for such project. The permitting agency may condition the approval of or permit for the project in a manner to address the environmental concerns of the environmental review agencies.

(b) In reviewing a proposed water development project, the environmental review agency shall consider:

- (1) The beneficial and adverse environmental effects of a proposed project on water quality, fish and wildlife, forest and natural vegetation, historic, cultural, recreational, aesthetic, agricultural and other natural resources;
- (2) the means and methods to reduce adverse environmental effects of a proposed project; and
- (3) alternatives to a proposed project with significant adverse environmental effects.

(c) Each environmental review agency shall send its written comments on the proposed project within 30 days of receipt of the proposal from the permitting agency.

(d) Nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting a permitting agency from approving or issuing a permit if an environmental review agency determines adverse environmental effects will result if the project is approved or permitted. Nothing in this act shall be construed as preempting or duplicating any existing environmental review process otherwise provided or authorized by law. (**History:** L. 1987, ch. 400, § 3; July 1.)