



Ecological and Environmental Code of the People's Republic of China (Part 2 Pollution Prevention and Control)

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Ecological and Environmental Code of the People's Republic of China

(Adopted at the Fourth Session of the Fourteenth National People's Congress on March 12, 2026)

Contents of Part 2 in the Code

Part 2 Pollution Prevention and Control

Section 1 General Rules

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Chapter 2 Pollutant Discharge Permitting Management

Section 2 Atmospheric Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 3 General Provisions

Chapter 4 Atmospheric Pollution Prevention and Control Measures

Subchapter 1 Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution from Coal and Other Energies

Subchapter 2 Prevention and Control of Industrial Atmospheric Pollution

Subchapter 3 Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution from Motor Vehicles and Vessels, etc.

Subchapter 4 Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution from Dust

Subchapter 5 Prevention and Control of Agricultural and Other Atmospheric Pollution

Chapter 5 Joint Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution in Key Regions

Chapter 6 Response to Heavy Pollution Weather

Section 3 Water Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 7 General Provisions

Chapter 8 Water Pollution Prevention and Control Measures

Subchapter 1 Industrial Water Pollution Prevention and Control

Subchapter 2 Urban Water Pollution Prevention and Control

Subchapter 3 Agricultural and Rural Water Pollution Prevention and Control

Subchapter 4 Water Pollution Prevention and Control of Vessels

Chapter 9 Protection of Drinking Water Sources and Other Special Water Bodies

Chapter 10 Water Pollution Prevention and Control in Key River Basins

Section 4 Marine Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 11 General Provisions

Chapter 12 Marine Pollution Prevention and Control of Land-based Pollutants

Chapter 13 Marine Pollution Prevention and Control of Construction Projects

Chapter 14 Marine Pollution Prevention and Control of Waste Dumping

Chapter 15 Marine Pollution Prevention and Control of Vessels

Section 5 Soil Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 16 General Provisions

Chapter 17 Soil Pollution Prevention

Chapter 18 Soil Pollution Risk Control and Remediation

Subchapter 1 General Requirements

Subchapter 2 Risk Control and Remediation of Soil Pollution in Agricultural Land

Subchapter 3 Risk Control and Remediation of Soil Pollution in Construction Land

Section 6 Solid Waste Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 19 General Provisions

Chapter 20 Industrial Solid Waste Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 21 Household Waste Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 22 Prevention and Control of Pollution from Construction Waste, Agricultural Solid Waste and Others

Chapter 23 Hazardous Waste Pollution Prevention and Control

Section 7 Noise Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 24 General Provisions

Chapter 25 Industrial Noise Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 26 Construction Noise Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 27 Transportation Noise Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 28 Neighborhood Noise Pollution Prevention and Control

Section 8 Radioactive Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 29 General Provisions

Chapter 30 Radioactive Pollution Prevention and Control of Nuclear Facilities

Chapter 31 Radioactive Pollution Prevention and Control of Nuclear Technology Utilization

Chapter 32 Radioactive Pollution Prevention and Control of Uranium (Thorium) Mining and Associated Radioactive Minerals Development and Utilization

Chapter 33 Radioactive Waste Pollution Prevention and Control

Section 9 Chemical Substance Pollution Risk Control, Electromagnetic Radiation and Light Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 34 Chemical Substance Pollution Risk Control

Chapter 35 Electromagnetic Radiation Pollution Prevention and Control

Chapter 36 Light Pollution Prevention and Control

Part 2 Pollution Prevention and Control

Section 1 General Rules

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Article 148 This Part applies to the prevention and control of environmental pollution.

Article 149 Pollution prevention and control shall adhere to the policies of precise pollution control, scientific pollution control, and lawful pollution control, and adhere to overall planning, source prevention and control, classified management, and social co-governance, strengthen the synergistic control of multiple pollutants and regional synergistic governance, strengthen whole-process supervision and management, realize the synergistic effect of pollution reduction and carbon reduction, improve ecological and environmental quality, and protect public health.

Article 150 Entities and individuals discharging pollutants shall take effective measures to prevent and control atmospheric pollution, water pollution, marine pollution, soil pollution, solid waste pollution, noise pollution, radioactive pollution, as well as environmental pollution such as chemical substance pollution, electromagnetic radiation pollution, and light pollution generated in production, life and other activities.

Article 151 The discharge of pollutants shall comply with pollutant discharge standards, total emission control indicators for key pollutants, pollutant discharge permitting management, and the requirements of relevant laws, regulations, and rules.

Article 152 Enterprises and public institutions discharging pollutants shall establish a responsibility system for pollution prevention and control, clarifying the responsibilities of the unit heads and relevant personnel.

Article 153 The ecology and environment department under the State Council formulates national pollutant discharge standards.

The people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government may formulate local pollutant discharge standards for items not specified in the national pollutant discharge standards; for items already specified in the national pollutant discharge standards, they may formulate local pollutant discharge standards that are stricter than the national pollutant discharge standards. Local pollutant discharge standards shall be reported to the ecology and environment department under the State Council for the record.

Article 154 The formulation of pollutant discharge standards shall be based on ecological and environmental quality standards and economic and technical conditions, reflect the characteristics of pollutant discharge and acceptable ecological and environmental risks, and scientifically and reasonably determine the requirements for pollutant discharge control.

Article 155 The State implements a total emission control system for key pollutants.

Ecological and Environmental Code of the People's Republic of China (Part 2)

The total emission control indicators for key pollutants shall be formulated by the ecology and environment department under the State Council in consultation with the development and reform department under the State Council after soliciting opinions from relevant departments and the people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government, and reported to the State Council for approval and implementation. The people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government shall allocate and implement the total emission control indicators issued by the State Council, and control or reduce the total emissions of key pollutants in their respective administrative regions.

The specific measures for determining and allocating the total emission control indicators shall be formulated by the ecology and environment department under the State Council in conjunction with relevant departments.

Article 156 The people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government may, according to the ecological and environmental quality conditions and the needs of pollution prevention and control work in their respective administrative regions, implement total emission control on key pollutants other than those determined by the State.

Article 157 Enterprises and public institutions shall comply with the total emission control indicators for key pollutants allocated and assigned to their respective units.

Article 158 For regions that exceed the total emission control indicators for key pollutants or fail to achieve the ecological and environmental quality targets, the ecology and environment departments of the people's governments at or above the provincial level shall suspend the review and approval of Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) and Environmental Impact Registration Forms for new construction projects that increase the total emissions of key pollutants in those regions.

Article 159 The ecology and environment departments of the people's governments at or above the provincial level, in conjunction with relevant departments, shall conduct regulatory interviews with the principal persons in charge of local people's governments at or above the county level and their relevant departments in regions where environmental pollution problems are prominent, prevention and control efforts are ineffective, or public complaints are intense. Such interviews shall require the parties to take effective measures to carry out timely rectification. The status of the interviews and the subsequent rectifications shall be disclosed to the public.

Article 160 The ecology and environment department under the State Council shall organize and implement statistical investigations of emission sources in accordance with the law, and establish a sound system for statistical accounting methodologies and data quality control. The State regularly organizes and implements national censuses of pollution sources.

Article 161 The ecology and environment department under the State Council shall, in conjunction with



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