

CHAPTER NO. 849

SENATE BILL NO. 2850

By Cohen

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2712

By Odom

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 4 and Title 69, Chapter 3, relative to forestry activities under the "Water Quality Control Act of 1977".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 69, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

____. (a) The Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Agriculture shall devise a form to be used to notify the departments of a situation in which a person alleges that pollution has resulted or will result from a forestry operation that may have violated the Water Quality Control Act.

(b) This form, together with instructions and information concerning the preferred method and locations for filing such notices, shall be prominently displayed and maintained in a downloadable form on the Internet websites maintained by each department. The form and instructions shall be simple and informative and shall avoid the use of technical terms. Any toll-free number available to accept public inquiries or complaints concerning pollution from silvicultural activity shall also be displayed.

(c) The departments shall continue to accept notifications and requests for investigation of silvicultural activities by telephone, in writing, and when feasible by electronic mail. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any notice or requests for investigation of a silvicultural activity must be on the form that is prepared pursuant to this section or that any notice to a department or any complaint must meet any technical requirement.

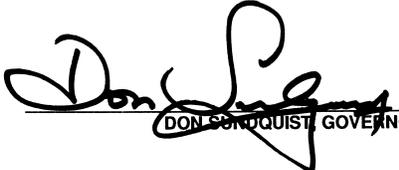
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law for the purpose of rule promulgation and September 1, 2000, for all other purposes, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 22, 2000


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 30th day of May 2000


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR