## Part 1

NEPA is an acronym for National Environmental Policy Act. It became law on January 1, 1970. It mandates each federal agency to examine the various environmental impacts of their proposed actions before decision making (Ref-A1B2C3). NEPA covers various aspects such as decision-making on permits, adopting federal land management decisions, constructing highways, and various public-owned amenities. Based on NEPA guidelines, agencies seamlessly assess their envisioned actions' different environmental and socio-economic impacts. The agencies are also required to give room for public assessment and comments on the examinations. Under Title 1 of NEPA, the policy expects each federal government to apply all relevant approaches to creating and maintaining circumstances under which humankind and nature coexist productively and harmoniously. NEPA requires all federal agencies to embrace environmental considerations when planning and making decisions using the systematic interdisciplinary technique. Federal agencies must have exhaustive statements examining the environmental effects and alternatives to major federal decisions that affect the environment.

NEPA constitutes a special case since it is not just another environmental law. Modern environmental regulation has been in existence since 1970 to date. The majority of US regulations mainly emphasize legal compliance and are insignificant on the environmental performance (Ref-DJ49KL). These policies are mainly laws, programs, and regulations meant to fight environmental pollution regardless of the economic growth globally. NEPA is not just a mere law on environmental conservation. Still, it further establishes minimum guidelines to be followed by all federal agencies in streamlining their actions that affect human beings and the natural environment with the cardinal objective of minimizing environmental impacts. The operation of NEPA is overseen by the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ). NEPA does not enforce actions but makes prudent decisions following an extensive assessment of the possible environmental impacts. NEPA cannot be deemed similar to other environmental laws since it served as the main policy in the 60s and 70s. The act gave the citizenry the power to contribute to environmental decisions in all government agencies. Also, NEPA goes further to construct highways and various public-owned amenities in a country. Therefore, NEPA is different from the majority of environmental laws.

## Part 2

The environmental policies differ from one country to another. These laws have different parameters in the USA and Canada. Globally, there are well-laid policies and penalties about environmental conservation, and people are compelled to comply. In the US and Canada, environmental laws are effective based on federal, local, provincial, or state levels (Ref-AB12CD; Ref-EF34GH). In Canada, provincial and federal levels are responsible for regulating the environmental issues based on their areas of jurisdiction. For instance, in Canada, the provincial level regulates hazardous waste disposal and management, whereas the federal level controls the export and import

In the USA, environmental policies are controlled mainly by the federal or the states. However, in some instances, there is concurrent jurisdiction whose responsibility is shared between the various levels. In cases where state laws overpower the federal prerequisites, one must apply the state policies (Ref-A1B2C3). Additionally, provinces and states authorize local governments to regulate particular environmental matters in the USA. In the US, at the local level, one is highly likely to be subjected to at least one form of government such as school district, county, and municipal. Consequently, one is expected to refer to the environmental laws of the respective local government.

In Canada, the province level is responsible for all issues related to regional interest. The federal government level handles issues of national and general interest. In Canada, the federal, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments manage and reduce waste (Ref-A1B2C3). The province levels regulate emissions in the country, while the federal level controls air emission from motor vehicles. The province levels have been assigned the water use and quality control in regulating local water sources, while the federal levels control the seacoast and mass water exports. The municipal governments in Canada do not have jurisdiction to formulate environmental policies; however, the province level delegates to them the task or regulates the municipality's built environment. So, municipalities can create environmental policies pertinent to solid waste, fire protection, water supply, nuisances, and sewages. In cases whereby municipalities have formulated laws in Canada applicable to the local area, they are usually termed by-laws. On that note, some of the environmental by-laws in Canada on noise pollution, sewers, and solid waste collection.

The USA uses cooperative federalism whereby the federal government controls environment policies unless the states have their programs meeting threshold federal standards. In other words, the federal government directly enforces particular environmental laws when there are no relevant state laws (Ref-A1B2C3). However, the boundaries in jurisdiction between state and federal government are not well laid out as in the case of Canada. Most laws allow the states to make laws that meet the minimum requirements dictated by federal law in the USA. If the state law does not meet the requirements or lacks its permit, the federal government can enforce its act requirements directly. The state-level regulates the subjects that are not addressed by the federal laws. Each state has rolled out various solid waste production, transfer, storage, and disposal requirements in the US.

It is worth noting that the environmental laws in Canada and the US are significantly different, and one cannot apply the same compliance strategy in the two countries. For instance, in Canada, environmental issues are usually divided between the province and federal government. However, in the US, particular environmental issues are controlled mainly through federal or state levels, and in some cases, there occurs concurrent jurisdiction whose responsibility is shared among the various levels. In Canada and the US, the province controls local governments to regulate particular environmental matters related to the built environment.