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CLEAN WATER RULE DELAYED UNTIL 2020

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In the meantime, the Trump Administration is striving to develop a replacement rule.

On Jan. 31, the Trump Administration delayed the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule for an additional two years. The rule, developed under the Obama Administration to further define which waterways are under federal regulation, now will not be implemented until 2020.

In the meantime, the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are striving to develop a different rule to replace the Clean Water Rule before it goes into effect. According to ABC News, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has often cited WOTUS as an example of federal overreach in his opinion.

"The 2015 WOTUS rule developed by the Obama Administration will not be applicable for the next two years, while we work through the process of..."
providing long-term regulatory certainty across all 50 states about what waters are subject to federal regulation," said Pruitt in a press release.

Environmentalists, however, fear the replacement rule will be tailored to benefit industries with less regard for the protection of national waterways.

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