

The Regulatory Environment for Science

February 1986

NTIS order #PB86-182003

**THE REGULATORY
ENVIRONMENT
FOR SCIENCE**

A TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

FEBRUARY 1986



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Technology Assessment
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20500

Recommended Citation:

U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *The Regulatory Environment for Science*
—A Technical Memorandum, OTA-TM-SET-34 (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing
Office, February 1986).

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 86-600503

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402

Foreword

The vitality of American science is a principal component of our country's economic and intellectual success. Congress, among other institutions, bears responsibility for nurturing creativity and exploration in science while providing appropriate safeguards. Various direct and indirect forces, however, are continually altering the agenda for scientific endeavor, its methods and practices, and the dissemination of results. It is therefore essential that Congress, in providing direction and funding for science at the Federal level, understands these forces and how they are changing.

This technical memorandum, requested by the Task Force on Science Policy of the House Committee on Science and Technology, provides a "snapshot" of factors affecting science in the 1980s, and focuses on emerging issues that will require consideration by Congress.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John H. Gibbons". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'J' and 'G'.

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