## 7) Clean Air Act Spin-offs

The Clean Air Act amendments will pressure a number of industries, with the automotive industry near the top of this list. For example, some 22 cities have to reach levels of 30 percent of their fleet vehicles being "clean" (no emissions) by the Year 2000. This will heighten a trend toward clean fuels such as hydrogen and electricity.

In another development relating to the CAA, continuous emissions monitors can be called for by the EPA for certain industrial facilities. It is expected that this form of instantaneous monitoring will become the industry standard for all facilities enforced under the Clean Air Act.

## 8) Assessing Health Risks

Currently the federal government has no structure in place to assess the costs versus the health risks associated with cleanups. Given the massive costs to be incurred and the government's debt burden, it is inevitable that this issue will become a greater priority. As such, the EPA's Science Advisory Board recommended in late-1990 that the EPA's program priorities be better aligned with health and environmental risks.

With regard to the Superfund, for example, a combination of three factors will result in an increased attention being paid to cost/benefit analyses, to setting health priorities, and to researching more affordable solutions. First, many private businesses have been hit with high costs for cleanup. Second, the federal government is resisting a continued sinking of billions of additional dollars into an activity with such minimal results. Third, government imposed deadlines are passing unfulfilled.

## 9) Bioremediation

The field of bioremediation advanced considerably through successful work on the Exxon Valdez oil spill. The EPA's Administrator, William Reilly, has also touted the merits of bioremediation. One estimate suggests that bioremediation could save up to 65 percent of the \$250 billion estimated pricetag of cleaning up organic contaminants over the next fifteen years. On one Superfund project in Texas, the EPA concluded that \$50 million spent on bioremediation would clean up the industrial waste better than \$120 million spent on incineration, while also "shaving a few years off the schedule and leaving no incineration ash to cope with". One study estimates that the current U.S. bioremediation annual market of \$20-50 million will increase to \$200 million by 1996.