

ERSKINE BOWLES & THE ENVIRONMENT

Erskine Bowles served in the Clinton Administration for 5 years. From October 1994 to December 1995 he served as Deputy Chief of Staff to President Clinton and in December 1996, he took over as chief of staff where he served for two years. During this time he was instrumental in many of the Clinton Administration's environmental accomplishments.

ENVIRONMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS

Bowles Worked For Cleaner Air. As a former top official in the White House, Bowles fought hard to increase funding to protect our waterways and to support research investments that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and oil consumption. He also worked to promote increased energy efficiency and clean energy technology. <http://www.bowles2004.com/main/environment.php/>

Bowles Opposes Clear Skies Initiative. Bowles adamantly opposes the Bush Administration's Clear Skies Initiative. This "clear lies" plan would endanger public health by allowing more nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, and mercury into our atmosphere than the strict enforcement of current law. Under the President's cap and trade plan, the Tennessee Valley Authority and Midwestern coal burning plants could choose NOT to clean up the plants that are polluting our mountains, turning tourists away and creating respiratory problems for our children and seniors [\[http://www.bowles2004.com/main/environment.php/\]](http://www.bowles2004.com/main/environment.php/)

While Bowles Was Whitehouse Chief of Staff, The Administration Opposed Drilling In The Arctic. During Bowles tenure, the White House strongly opposed efforts to drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and the President vetoed legislation that would have opened the Refuge to new exploration. [The Clinton-Gore Administration A Record of Progress, The Clinton Presidency: Protecting Our Environment and Public Health]

Bowles, Clinton Administration Oversaw Record Penalties for Polluters. Record civil and criminal penalties were assessed against polluters by the EPA under the Clinton Administration, which Bowles served in as chief of staff. [The Clinton-Gore Administration A Record of Progress, The Clinton Presidency: Protecting Our Environment and Public Health]

- **FY 1992:** In FY 1992, the EPA referred 107 criminal cases to the Department of Justice, 150 defendants were charged and a total of 1,135 months of criminal sentences were handed down. Combined civil and criminal penalties totaled \$141.4 million. [The Clinton-Gore Administration A Record of Progress, The Clinton Presidency: Protecting Our Environment and Public Health]
- **FY 1999:** In FY 1999, the EPA referred 241 criminal cases to the Justice Department, 322 defendants were charged and 2,500 total months of sentences were handed down. In addition, \$228.3 million worth of civil penalties were assessed in FY 1999, the highest amount ever. [The Clinton-Gore Administration A Record of Progress, The Clinton Presidency: Protecting Our Environment and Public Health]

While At The White House Bowles Fought For And Won Funds To Help NC Fight Pfiesteria. While Erskine Bowles was at the Whitehouse he helped secure a \$365,000 grant to North Carolina to help deal with the outbreak of Pfiesteria in the Neuse River. Bowles also worked to speed up the release of \$221 million in U.S. Agriculture Department funds to help the state's farmers pay for field buffers and other measures to keep pollutants out of waterways. [[Washington Post](#), 8/16/98]