

GEOFFREY GARVER

Environmental consultant and lecturer in law in Montreal

From 2000 to 2007, he was a senior official at the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation as Director of the Submissions on Enforcement Matters Unit. The Unit handles assertions by North American citizens that one of the NAFTA countries – Mexico, the United States and Canada – is failing to effectively enforce its environmental law.

Previously, he spent nine years with the U.S. Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division as a trial attorney and then an Acting Assistant Chief, handling cases concerning land and natural resource management, water rights and environmental impact assessment. His major cases included suits dealing with Everglades water quality, winter use and bison management in Yellowstone National Park and water rights in Idaho and Oregon. He was also part of the U.S. team negotiating with Canada and Mexico toward an agreement on transboundary environmental impact assessment, and he helped develop federal agency guidelines for conducting environmental reviews of trade agreements.

From 1993 to 1995, he was special assistant and Senior Policy Counsel to the Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. While with USEPA, he directed the process for revising the USEPA's environmental auditing policy. Before joining the U.S. Justice Department in 1989, he was a judicial clerk for the Hon. Conrad Cyr in the U.S. District Court in Maine. He received his B.S. in chemical engineering from Cornell University in 1982 and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1987.