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## **The Benefits of Superfund: Developing a Framework**

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### **Abstract:**

This paper develops a methodological framework for a comprehensive economic analysis of the benefits of the Superfund program. We begin with an explanation of the conditions that led to the widespread creation and improper disposal of hazardous wastes and the need for federal action (Superfund) to mitigate this problem. It also includes a detailed explanation of Superfund program activities and the array of benefits provided. We present a summary of the most prominent peer-reviewed literature relating to Superfund and its benefits, and discuss how these analyses have failed to capture the full benefits of Superfund. Finally, we describe a methodological approach to comprehensively analyze the benefits of the Superfund program.