Environmental Regulation to Sustainability: Contributions to Build a Theoretical Reference on the Limits of Traditional Models

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Abstract

Under the argument that environmental regulation should accompany changes in how society perceives its relationship with the environment, this paper presents some limits of the current regulation model, based on a selected literature review. Through a proposed taxonomy of these limits, some hurdles to sustainable development attaining are presented, concluding that the transition depends not only, and perhaps not even mainly, on technology, but on profound social changes.

Keywords: environmental regulation; sustainability; environmental public policy