Summary

Liability for losses to the environment

The purpose of my thesis is to analyze the liability for losses to the environment. I set out as the main objective of this paper to acquaint the reader with problems of responsibility for losses to the environment, including the interpretation of existing legislation in force, compared with the previous legislation and notice how to improve the existing legislation. One of my goals is to propose possible solutions for the future as well.

Environment and its individual components in the presence of natural laws do not respect national borders. History has shown that the problem with the environment of a country is often a problem across the region, often continent. Effective protection of environment should prevent negative consequences of human activities and or, at least, remedy the danger already suffered.

The thesis is composed of nine chapters, each of them dealing with different aspects of liability. Chapter One is introductory and informs about the contents of the whole paper. Chapter Two explains the general interpretation of liability and responsibility. Chapter Three analyzes International Environmental Law. Chapter Four describes Environmental Law of the European Communities. Chapter Five is concerned with the liability for damage to the environment of the European Union and the Czech Republic. The following chapter endeavours the institute of biodiversity damage. Chapter Seven is devoted to a separate act that has been issued in order to transpose the Directive 2004/35/EC. In Chapter Eight I try to point out the financing options available for liability insurance in the European financial market. Conclusions are drawn in Chapter Nine. I suggest that the new act should embody some specified rules since protection of environment is going to be one of the highest priorities of all governments in the future.

In this thesis, more legal methods have been used. I often based on legal norms, so I used descriptive and logical method of analysis and synthesis. In interpreting the concept of ecological damage, I used the method of abstraction. To compare the currently valid laws to

the already invalid ones, the comparative method was used. Legislation used in this thesis is updated to 30 June 2009.