

# **Guideline for the Management of Contaminated Sites, Version 2 - Definitions**

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## ***Atlantic RBCA***

Risk-Based Corrective Action using a process originating with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) but modified and endorsed by the Environment Departments of the Atlantic Provinces.

## ***Audit***

A review of all or any part of the activities related to a contaminated site by the DELG or its agents and may include a review of existing records or calculations and assumptions.

## ***Closure Report***

A final report prepared by the Site Professional and provided to the DELG following successful implementation of the Remedial Action Plan including all required monitoring which substantiates the statements in the Record of Site Condition.

## ***Commercial Site Activities***

A site, property or location associated with the presence of, or predominant use by, commercial human receptors similar to those indicated as such in the "*Atlantic RBCA User Guidance – Version 2'*". This terminology may not be consistent with applicable zoning requirements and as such, the Responsible Party should review these requirements.

## ***Contaminated Site (or Site)***

A property or collection of properties where the concentration of specified chemicals in air, soil, or groundwater exceed levels considered acceptable by the Department of Environment and Local Government (DELG). The contaminated site may consist of a property or properties where the contamination originated (Source Property) and other properties which have been

chemically altered by the source property (Third Party properties).

## ***Emergency Action***

Initial response activities to protect the environment and/or human health from the immediate or future impacts related to the release of the contaminant(s) of concern into the environment.

## ***Engineered Controls***

Modifications to a site or facility (which are part of the Remedial Action Plan) to reduce or eliminate the potential for exposure to chemical substances.

## ***Inspector***

An inspector designated pursuant to Section 23 of the *Clean Environment Act*.

## ***Limited Remedial Action***

"The remediation of soil impacts at a site under the direction of a Site Professional, or DELG personnel in exceptional circumstances. The DELG shall determine, during completion of a site inspection questionnaire, if it is appropriate to attempt to use limited remedial action measures at a site."

## ***Management Process***

The series of steps (as detailed in Section 3.0 of the "*Guideline for the Management of Contaminated Sites – Version 2'*") to assess and remediate a contaminated site, integrating the responsibilities of the Responsible Party, the Minister (DELG) and the Site Professional.

## ***Monitoring***

The scientific assessment of air, soil and groundwater conditions at a contaminated

site at specific points in time and may also include assessment of processes and equipment used as well as significant occurrences related to the Remedial Action Plan.

### ***Peer Review***

A technical review of a Remedial Action Plan by an independent Site Professional. A peer review is completed at the expense of the Responsible Party and is separate from a DELG audit.

### ***Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)***

A systematic process to review all available information relating to the site. The objective of a Phase I ESA is to assess whether current and/or past practices on the site may have resulted in environmental contamination or unsafe conditions. A Phase I ESA does not involve the intrusive investigative procedures of sampling, analyzing and measuring.

### ***Phase II ESA***

A more extensive evaluation, including intrusive investigation, to confirm and delineate, or demonstrate, the absence of contamination in the various media on a site identified through the Phase I procedure. This information will indicate whether more detailed testing is required in specific areas and will provide the inputs required to develop appropriate site cleanup criteria. It is not essential that a Phase I ESA be completed prior to conducting a Phase II ESA. In some instances, sufficient information exists regarding potential contamination to proceed directly to a Phase II ESA.

### ***Phase III ESA***

A complete evaluation (including further intrusive investigation if necessary), sufficient to fully characterize the extent and degree of contamination. The data collected should be sufficiently representative of the site condition to provide further assessment

of site specific remedial objectives using a risk assessment approach, to investigate the feasibility of various cleanup options and to input to the development of the various components of the Remedial Action Plan.

### ***Receptor***

The person or organism, including plants, subjected to chemical exposure.

### ***Record of Site Condition (RSC)***

A document prepared by the Site Professional and provided to the DELG in a prescribed format confirming that the Management Process has been followed and the remedial objectives for the site have been met.

### ***Remedial Action Plan (RAP)***

A report which provides the rationale for the selected remedial criteria and includes risk assessment and management documentation, identifies remedial options and objectives with a conceptual remediation plan, identifies the feasibility of the remedial options, including a monitoring plan and if required, a plan for managing engineered or institutional controls.

### ***Remediation***

The improvement of a contaminated site to prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to the environment and human health.

### ***Residential Site Activities***

A site, property or location associated with the presence of, or predominant use by, residential human receptors similar to those indicated as such in the "Atlantic RBCA User Guidance – Version 2". This terminology may not be consistent with applicable zoning requirements and as such, the Responsible Party should review these requirements.

### ***Responsible Party***

In most cases, the Responsible Party is a person whose conduct or failure to act has caused or contributed to the contamination of property and who, in the opinion of the Minister, is responsible for remediation of a contaminated site. However, in some cases, the persons among whom the Minister may choose to remediate the site are specifically listed in an Act or regulation and may include, for example, the owners or the person having the charge of a storage tank system.

### ***Risk Assessment***

The scientific examination of the nature and magnitude of risk to define the effects on humans and/or ecological receptors due to exposure to contaminants.

### ***Risk-Based Screening Level (RBSL) Criteria***

Environmental criteria developed with the intention of being protective of human and/or ecological receptors, which are exposed to various contaminants in various scenarios (residential, commercial, industrial). Under the Atlantic RBCA process, these constitute the RBSL Tables located in the "Atlantic RBCA User Guidance – Version 2".

### ***Risk Management***

The implementation of a strategy or measures to control or reduce the level of risk estimated by a risk assessment.

### ***Site Assessment***

The process of obtaining, compiling, analyzing and drawing conclusions from all appropriate environmental information related to a contaminated site with respect to potential impacts or risks to define the type and extent of the contamination, the soil and groundwater characteristics and man-made structures which affect how the contaminant will move, and the receptors in the area (human and ecological) which may

be affected. The type of work may include soil vapor analysis, geophysical testing, test pitting, borehole and monitoring well construction, and air, soil and water analysis at varying levels of complexity. Work may be done in successive stages, as additional information is required for subsequent steps (see Phase I, II, and III ESA).

### ***Site Professional***

A person whose qualifications meet or exceed the general requirements described by the DELG.

### ***Site-Specific Target Level Criteria***

Risk-based remedial criteria, which are derived using site-specific conditions and accepted risk assessment/management procedures.

### ***Source Property***

The property at which the contaminant(s) of concern was released into the environment.

### ***Third Party***

The owner, occupier or tenant of a property which is adjacent to, or which could possibly be affected by, the contamination of a source property.

### ***Watershed Protected Area***

An area of land along the watercourses of municipal watersheds, in which standards or restrictions are placed on land-use and water-use activities that occur within that area.

### ***Wellfield Protected Area***

The surface and subsurface Protected Area surrounding any water well or wellfield that supplies a public water system.