

**BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION/REMEDIAL SECTION
GUIDANCE
SCOPE OF WORK FOR A QUALITATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT**

BER POLICY # BER-RS-039

DATE: 1993

Revised 1996

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PAGES: 2

Section Chief:



Date: 12/28/05

Bureau Manager:



Date: 12/30/05

REVISIONS

Reviser: Kurt Limesand

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Reviser: Rob Elder

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ORIGINATOR

Originator: Rick Bean

Date: 1993

12/23/05

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1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Discuss the goals and purpose of the qualitative risk assessment. Explain that a qualitative risk assessment was considered necessary to provide an awareness of the risks to human health and the environment posed by the site; but that a quantitative risk assessment was not considered necessary since the site will be remediated according to State and Federal clean-up criteria and levels established by the State.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Provide a brief discussion of the site area and operations/activities that have contributed to a potential risk from contamination to human health and the environment. Briefly describe the sources of information and data used in the qualitative risk assessment.

3.0 CONTAMINANT CHARACTERIZATION

Provide a table of the maximum concentrations for every contaminant detected in soil, sediment, surface water, ground water and/or indoor air at the site. Provide an evaluation of the frequency of detection of each contaminant. Provide a summary of the contaminants of concern in each specific media on current regulatory levels and background levels in the site area.

4.0 TOXICITY ASSESSMENT

Provide toxicity information in summary form for each contaminant of concern listed in the previous section. This information should be based on the latest available information from EPA and consistent with the RSK Manual. Discuss those contaminants classified as carcinogens (cancer causing) versus those that have toxic effects.

5.0 EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT

Identify all potentially exposed populations including ecological populations in the site area. Identify all potential exposure pathways in the site area. Describe the site area within a 1-mile radius in terms of land use and zoning. Describe the site area within a 4-mile radius in terms of ground water use.

6.0 QUALITATIVE RISK CHARACTERIZATION

Use professional judgment, data from the site, and state-of-the-art information concerning toxicity to characterize the potential risks posed by contamination at the site. Discuss why certain populations or groups of humans, animals, or plants might be more at risk than other populations. Discuss why certain exposure pathways may pose more of a risk than others. Highlight any uncertainties posed by current data or knowledge concerning toxicity during these discussions.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summarize the qualitative risk assessment and highlight the major risks posed to human health and the environment by contamination at the site (specify the contaminants of major concern).