

Environment Business



Risk-Based Guidelines for Contaminated Sites in Alberta

The objective of this course is to introduce the concept of risk-based assessment to technologists, contaminated sites professionals and industry managers. The course will use a combination of presentations, examples and interactive exercises based on urban and upstream oil and gas site case studies to look at the three processes encompassing the Alberta Framework for the Management of Contaminated Sites, namely Tier 1, Tier 2 and Exposure control.

The intention of the course is to explain the applicability and limitations of the three management mechanisms within the context of specific site management objectives such as closure or risk management to those who do not regularly perform Tier 2 assessments. Using the Tier 1 and Tier 2 Guidance documentation as the course literature, participants will explore the rationale and implications of generic assumptions, “rules” and “triggers” in relation to data collection, remediation design and general site management. The course is particularly suited to those relying upon the results of Phase 2 ESAs, Tier 2 assessments or Risk Management Plans to; gather data, apply remediation strategies or make management decisions.

Course Outline

- The concept of risk and the process of environmental risk assessment within Alberta
- An introduction to Tier 1 Guidelines: Uses and limitations
- An introduction to Tier 2 Guidelines:
 - Pathway/receptor exclusion
 - Guideline Adjustment
 - Site Specific Risk Assessment
- Exposure Control: When and how to use it within the regulatory framework
- Overview of risk assessment tools and models.

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Ms. Burden has a Bachelors degree in Geology from the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College, London, UK, a Masters Degree in Hydrogeology from the University of Birmingham, UK and over fifteen years’ experience in environmental consultancy in the UK, Ireland and Canada. Her specialty is in risk-based assessment of land contamination. She is currently a Senior Consultant and Managing Technical Director for the Phase 2 Service line within the Liability Management and Remediation Group at WorleyParsons, Calgary.