

Glossary of terms, acronyms, and abbreviations

Remediation PFAS Guidance

Additive risk	Combined risk from exposure to multiple chemicals by a single pathway and route of exposure
Aggregate risk	Combined risk from exposure to a single chemical by multiple pathways and routes of exposure
AOC	Area of Concern
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
Biota	The flora and fauna of a region
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CoC	Contaminant(s) of Concern
Conduit	Natural or built system through which contamination is transported
Contaminant	substance that is either present in an environment where it does not belong or is present at levels that might cause harmful (adverse) health effects
Cumulative risk	Combined risk from exposure to multiple chemicals by multiple pathways and routes of exposure
CCA	Cross Cutting Area
CRP	Cooperative Responsible Party
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DNAPL	Dense non-aqueous phase liquid
DQO	Data Quality Objectives
EJ	Environmental Justice
EPA/USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
ESS	Environmental Sequence Stratigraphy
Excess lifetime cancer risk	An estimate of the probability that a person may develop cancer over their lifetime as the result of exposure to a carcinogen
Exposure area	Geographically defined point or area where an exposure is expected
Exposure point concentration	Representative contaminant concentration that is calculated for an exposure unit/area
FFS	Focused Feasibility Study
Hazard index	The sum of noncancer hazard quotients used when evaluating multiple chemical exposures
Hazard quotient	Ratio calculated to evaluate the potential for noncancer health hazards to occur from exposure to a contaminant with available noncancer toxicity values
Hazardous substance	Any element, compound, mixture, or substance that causes harm to public health, welfare, or the environment. Hazardous substances include several categories which are defined in MERLA, CERCLA, and RCRA statutes.
HRSC	High Resolution Site Characterization

Institutional Controls	Land use restrictions, activity use limitations, and land use controls imposed on properties to protect cleanup work and avoid exposure to any remaining contamination
ITRC	Interstate Technology Regulatory Council
LCS	Life Cycle Stage
LNAPL	Light non-aqueous phase liquid
MDH	Minnesota Department of Health
MERLA	Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act
Mitigation	Reduction and/or elimination of identified human health risk due to exposure to contaminants above health-based criteria
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
NPL	National Priorities List
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PFAS	Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances
PLP	Permanent List of Priorities
POET	Point of Entry Treatment
POUT	Point of Use Treatment
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
Receptor	Any humans or biota which are, or may be expected to be, or have been, exposed to or affected by any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.
Release	The Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act (MERLA) Section 115B.02, subd. 15 defines a release as any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment which occurred at a point in time, or which continues to occur. Release is also defined in CERCLA section 101(22).
Remediation	(1) Removal of pollution or contaminants from impacted environmental media for the protection of human health and the environment (2) MPCA Program title
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RBV	Risk-based values: an estimate of a contaminant concentration, taking into account default or site-specific exposure assumptions, that is unlikely to result in an appreciable risk of adverse health effects during a specific exposure duration, usually a lifetime.
RP	Responsible Person, defined in rule Sect. 115B.03
SAP	Sampling and Analysis Plan
Site	(1) Full geographic extent of contamination CERCLA/MERLA (Superfund) (2) Property boundary as identified by the legal description (Brownfields)
Site Assessment	MPCA program that evaluates a site originating from a referral or notification of a release or potential release into the environment.
Source	An area of observed release
Superfund	Program that works with responsible parties under MERLA at the state-level and under CERCLA at national level
VP	Voluntary Party
VIC	Voluntary Investigation & Cleanup; MPCA program that works with non-responsible parties under MERLA

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