



*INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM*

RECORD OF DECISION FOR  
FINAL REMEDIAL ACTION  
NAKNEK RIVER STORAGE SITES,  
LANDFILL NO. 5, AND ZONE 4 GROUNDWATER  
KING SALMON AIRPORT, ALASKA

APRIL 1999

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
611th Air Support Group  
611th Civil Engineer Squadron  
21885 Second Street  
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-4420

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FOR  
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KING SALMON AIRPORT  
KING SALMON, ALASKA

DECLARATION,  
DECISION SUMMARY,  
AND  
RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY

TECHNICAL DOCUMENT TO SUPPORT  
INSTALLATION RESTORATION DECISION

DECLARATION

**SITE NAME AND LOCATION**

Installation Restoration Program Site  
Site SS012, Naknek River Storage  
Site LF008, Landfill No. 5 – a capped landfill  
Site OT030, Groundwater Zone 4  
King Salmon, Alaska

**STATEMENT OF BASIS**

This decision is based on information contained in the Administrative Record, including but not limited to the results of Installation Restoration Program (IPP) Records Search, a Limited Field Investigation, and a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study conducted at King Salmon, AK, with reports dated 1994 and 1995, respectively.

This Decision Document (DD) presents the selected remedial actions for the above listed sites. This DD has been developed in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP), 10 United States Code (USC) 2701, consistent with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 USC 9601 and Executive Order 12580 (52 Federal Register 2923), and to the extent practicable with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 300.

**ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE(S)**

Based on the current conditions at IRP sites SS012, LF008, and OT030, it has been determined that actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances including fuels, fuel constituents, and solvents from these sites, if not addressed by implementing the response actions selected in this DD, could present an imminent or substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment. Specific hazardous substances include diesel-range organics (DRO) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including gasoline-range organics (GRO), benzene, toluene, and trichloroethylene (TCE).

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTED REMEDY**

For IRP Sites SS012, LF008, and OT030, the selected remedies were chosen from many alternatives as the best methods for addressing contaminated soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water. The remedies address the risk to health or the environment caused by hypothetical exposure of a future resident to contaminated surface soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water. The selected remedies address this risk by reducing DRO and VOC contamination to below the cleanup levels established for the Sites.

### Remedial Action Goals for Zone 4

| Media                        | Contaminants of Concern | Maximum Concentration (1992 to present) | Maximum Concentration (1997 or 1998 Sampling) | Screening Concentrations              |   |      |             | Cleanup Levels     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|------|-------------|--------------------|
|                              |                         |   |   | Ecological Risk-Based RG <sup>a</sup> | Human Health Risk-Based RG <sup>b</sup> | RG   | ARARs Basis |                    |
| A-Aquifer Groundwater (µg/L) | Benzene                 | 480                                     | 97.3  | NC                                    | NC                                      | 5    | ADWS        | 5                  |
|                              | Toluene                 | 1,830                                   | 1,830   | NC                                    | NC                                      | 1000 | ADWS        | 1,000              |
|                              | TCE                     | 79                                      | 9.8   | NC                                    | NC                                      | 5    | ADWS        | 5                  |
|                              | GRO                     | 7,700                                   | 7,700   | NC                                    | NC                                      | NONE | N/A         | 1,300 <sup>f</sup> |
|                              | DRO                     | 61,000                                  | 13,500  | NC                                    | NC                                      | NONE | N/A         | 1,500 <sup>f</sup> |
| Surface Water (µg/L)         | TAH (BTEX) <sup>c</sup> | 245 <sup>e</sup>                        | 5.1   | NC                                    | NC                                      | 10   | AWQS        | 10                 |
|                              | TAqH (BTEX+PAH)         | 245 <sup>e</sup>                        | 5.1   | NC                                    | NC                                      | 15   | AWQS        | 15                 |
|                              | DRO                     | 1,500,000 <sup>e</sup>                  | 770   | NC                                    | NC                                      | NONE | N/A         | 1,500 <sup>f</sup> |
| Soil mg/kg                   | Benzo(a)anthracene      | 22                                      | 0.32  | 3.52                                  | 22                                      | NONE | N/A         | 3.5                |
|                              | Benzo(a)pyrene          | 14                                      | 0.44  | 2.24                                  | 1.8                                     | NONE | N/A         | 1.8                |
|                              | Benzo(b)fluoranthene    | 16                                      | 0.47  | 2.56                                  | 16                                      | NONE | N/A         | 2.6                |
|                              | Benzo(k)fluoranthene    | 14                                      | 0.47  | 2.24                                  | 17.5                                    | NONE | N/A         | 2.24               |
|                              | Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene  | 8                                       | 0.089   | NC                                    | 4                                       | NONE | N/A         | 4                  |
|                              | DRO mg/kg               | 58,000 <sup>e</sup>                     | 13,800  | NC                                    | NC                                      | NONE | N/A         | 2,500 <sup>f</sup> |

<sup>a</sup>Ecological risk-based RG was calculated only for surface soil. Surface water is regulated by AWQC and ADWS. Subsurface soil is not an exposure pathway.

<sup>b</sup>Concentrations based on 10<sup>-5</sup> risk

<sup>c</sup>TAH are defined as the sum of BTEX compounds

<sup>d</sup>TAqH are defined as the sum of TAH plus PAHs, as detected by EPA Method 610. The list of PAHs includes: naphthalene, acenaphthylene, acenaphthene, fluorene, phenanthrene, anthracene, fluoranthene, pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, and benzo(g,h,i)perylene.

<sup>e</sup>Sample containing these analytical results were collected from the most highly impacted area within the Upper Naknek petroleum hydrocarbon seep, as determined visually. The next highest DRO detection in site soil was 13,800 mg/kg along the pipeline corridor at the eastern edge of Zone 4. The next highest DRO detection in site surface water was 2,700 µg/L in a sample downgradient of Lower Naknek seep. No other surface water samples have exceeded TAH or TAqH standards.

<sup>f</sup>Basis for the GRO and DRO cleanup levels is 18AAC75 method two. The soil DRO cleanup level is based on the "ten times" rule, which allows the migration to groundwater soil cleanup level (250 mg/kg) to be multiplied by ten in instances where the groundwater will not be used as a drinking water source. This ROD establishes that institutional controls will be used to ensure that groundwater is not used, therefore the 10 times rule is applicable.

**Definitions:**

ADWS - Alaska Drinking Water Standards      RG - Remediation goal/AWQS - Alaska Water Quality Standards

BTEX - Sum of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene isomers

DRO - Diesel-range organics

NC - Not calculated. Either not a primary risk contributing chemical for this pathway or the chemical was not detected

N/A - The basis for the ARAR is not applicable when no ARAR exists.

TAqH - Total aqueous hydrocarbons (BTEX + PAH)      TAH - Total aromatic hydrocarbons (BTEX)

PAH - Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons      TCE - Trichloroethene

**The selected remedies Site SS012 and OT030 are:**

**GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER**

- Groundwater and surface water will be monitored annually to evaluate reduction of the contaminant concentrations by intrinsic remediation. Once contaminant levels in a sampling location are below cleanup levels, the location will be sampled two more times. If no additional contamination is detected above cleanup levels, the monitoring will be discontinued. The cleanup level for both benzene and TCE in groundwater is 5

micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), the cleanup level for toluene is 1,000  $\mu\text{g/L}$ , the cleanup level for DRO is 1,500  $\mu\text{g/L}$ , and the cleanup level for GRO is 1,300  $\mu\text{g/L}$ .

- Groundwater use restrictions are necessary to prevent installation of groundwater supply wells within designated plumes within Zone 4. Upon acceptance of this DD, an order will be issued by the Commander, 611<sup>th</sup> Air Support Group, prohibiting the construction of wells for any purposes other than groundwater monitoring within Zone 4 until three consecutive monitoring events indicate that cleanup levels have been achieved.
- Recoverable quantities of free product found to be migrating along the top of the groundwater table toward a surface water seep will be intercepted before discharge to the wetlands. Existing product recovery systems will be operated and maintained to remove the free product until no free product is detected by the monitoring program. The free product will be collected and removed using a passive system such as absorbent booms. Recovered product will be utilized for energy recovery or otherwise disposed of consistent with State and Federal regulations.

## SOIL

- Soil with DRO contamination above the cleanup level of 2,500 milligrams per kilogram ( $\text{mg/kg}$ ) will be left in-situ (in-place). Groundwater, surface water, and sediments will be monitored annually to evaluate reduction of the contaminant concentrations in soil by intrinsic remediation. Annual monitoring will be discontinued if contaminant levels are below cleanup levels during three consecutive monitoring results. In-situ bioventing of contaminated soils will be implemented after year five if monitoring data indicate that intrinsic remediation will not achieve cleanup levels in site soil and groundwater.
- The landfill cap has already been contoured and vegetated. The cap will be inspected in the spring and fall of each year for evidence of erosion. Existing monitoring wells are downgradient from the landfill. The primary purpose of these wells is documentation of intrinsic remediation process. The wells will also provide a secondary function of monitoring for landfill leachate.
- The institutional control program implemented by the USAF to prohibit the construction of wells for purposes other than groundwater monitoring in Zone 4 will also include the prohibition of soil excavations within Zone 4.
- In situ bioventing may be implemented in areas where significant concentrations of petroleum are present. Bioventing would be started only if the monitoring data indicate that RAOs are not likely to be reached within 25 years. Five years of monitoring data will be collected before evaluating the need for bioventing.

## DECLARATION AND STATUTORY DETERMINATIONS

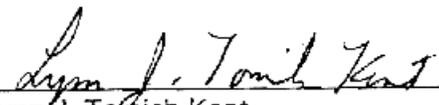
The selected remedies are protective of human health and the environment, comply with federal and state requirements that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate and are cost-effective. These remedies utilize permanent solutions and alternative treatment technologies to the maximum extent practicable, and satisfy the statutory preference for remedies that employ treatment that reduces toxicity, mobility, or volume as a principal element for soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater.

Because contaminants will be remaining on-site above health-based levels, a review will be conducted within five years after commencement of remedial action.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Heinen, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, 611<sup>th</sup> Air Support Group  
United States Air Force

16 Jun 99  
Date

The State of Alaska concurs with this Decision Document

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn J. Tornich Kent  
Contaminated Sites Program Manager  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

3/25/99  
Date

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KING SALMON, ALASKA***

**DECISION SUMMARY  
AND  
RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY**

Prepared by  
United States Air Force  
611th Civil Engineer Squadron  
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**April 1999**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....                                     | iv  |
| UNITS OF MEASUREMENT .....  | v   |
| DEFINITIONS .....   | vi  |
| 1 INTRODUCTION.....   | 1-1 |
| 2 SITE NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION.....                         | 2-1 |
| 2.1 Site Name.....  | 2-1 |
| 2.2 Site Location.....  | 2-1 |
| 2.3 Site Description .....  | 2-1 |
| 2.4 Topography .....  | 2-2 |
| 2.5 Land Use .....  | 2-2 |
| 2.6 Natural Resources .....   | 2-2 |
| 2.7 Terrestrial Resources.....                                      | 2-2 |
| 2.8 Aquatic Resources .....   | 2-3 |
| 2.9 Endangered Species.....   | 2-3 |
| 2.10 Location and Distance to Nearby Human Populations .....        | 2-3 |
| 2.11 General Surface Water, Groundwater Resources, and Geology..... | 2-3 |
| 2.11.1 Naknek River.....  | 2-3 |
| 2.11.2 Surface Water Runoff.....                                    | 2-3 |
| 2.11.3 Geology and Hydrogeology.....                                | 2-3 |
| 3 SITE HISTORY .....  | 3-1 |
| 3.1 KSA Background.....   | 3-1 |
| 3.2 Naknek River Site History .....                                 | 3-2 |
| 3.2.1 Naknek River Storage Sites .....                              | 3-2 |
| 3.2.2 Landfill No. 5 (LF008).....                                   | 3-5 |
| 3.3 Regulatory Status.....  | 3-5 |
| 4 REMEDIAL ACTION OBJECTIVES AND CLEANUP STANDARDS .....            | 4-1 |
| 4.1 Remedial Action Objectives .....                                | 4-1 |
| 4.2 Cleanup Levels .....  | 4-1 |
| 4.3 Cleanup Levels Conclusions.....                                 | 4-4 |
| 5 NATURE AND EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION .....                          | 5-1 |
| 5.1 Soil and Sediment .....   | 5-1 |
| 5.2 Groundwater.....  | 5-2 |
| 5.2.1 A-Aquifer .....   | 5-2 |
| 5.2.2 B-Aquifer .....   | 5-3 |
| 5.2.3 Conceptual Cross Section.....                                 | 5-3 |
| 5.3 Surface Water .....   | 5-4 |
| 6 COMMUNITY RELATIONS .....   | 6-1 |
| 7 SUMMARY OF SITE RISKS .....                                       | 7-1 |
| 7.1 Human Health Risk Assessment Results .....                      | 7-2 |
| 7.2 Ecological Risk Assessment Results .....                        | 7-3 |
| 7.3 Uncertainty in the Risk Assessment .....                        | 7-3 |
| 8 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES .....                                 | 8-1 |

|        |   |      |
|--------|---|------|
| 9      | COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES .....                          | 9-1  |
| 9.1    | Protection of Human Health and the Environment .....                | 9-2  |
| 9.2    | Compliance with ARARs .....   | 9-3  |
| 9.3    | Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence.....                         | 9-3  |
| 9.4    | Reduction in Toxicity, Mobility, and Volume Through Treatment ..... | 9-4  |
| 9.5    | Short-Term Effectiveness.....                                       | 9-5  |
| 9.6    | Implementability .....  | 9-5  |
| 9.7    | Cost.....   | 9-6  |
| 9.8    | State Acceptance .....  | 9-7  |
| 9.9    | Community Acceptance .....  | 9-7  |
| 10     | THE SELECTED REMEDY.....  | 10-1 |
| 10.1   | Groundwater Remedy Key Components .....                             | 10-1 |
| 10.2   | Soil and Wetlands Remedy Key Components .....                       | 10-1 |
| 11     | STATUTORY DETERMINATIONS .....                                      | 11-1 |
| 11.1   | Protective of Human Health and the Environment.....                 | 11-1 |
| 11.2   | Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs).....    | 11-2 |
| 11.2.1 | Chemical-Specific ARARs.....  | 11-2 |
| 11.2.2 | Location-Specific ARARs .....                                       | 11-2 |
| 11.2.3 | Action-Specific ARARs.....  | 11-2 |
| 12     | DOCUMENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES .....                          | 12-1 |
| 12.1   | Costs .....   | 12-1 |
| 12.2   | Contaminants of Concern .....                                       | 12-1 |
| 12.3   | Remedial Alternatives .....   | 12-1 |
| 12.4   | Responsiveness Summary .....  | 12-1 |
| 13     | REFERENCES.....   | 13-1 |

**APPENDICES**

- Appendix A - Responsiveness Summary
- Appendix B- Administrative Record Index
- Appendix C- List of Trustees Notified

## TABLES AND FIGURES

### Tables

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Table 4.2-1 Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) for Zone 4 .....                            | 4-4  |
| Table 5.2-1: Benzene Groundwater Detections ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) .....                     | 5-2  |
| Table 5.2-2 DRO Groundwater Detections ( $\text{mg/L}$ ) .....                            | 5-2  |
| Table 5.2-3 TCE Groundwater Detections ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) .....                          | 5-3  |
| Table 9.7-1 Criteria Score Summaries.....   | 9-7  |
| Table 11.2-1 Location-Specific ARARs Considered, King Salmon Airport, King Salmon, Alaska | 11-2 |
| Table 11.2-2 Action-Specific ARARs King Salmon Airport, King Salmon, Alaska.....          | 11-3 |

### Figures

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Figure 2-1 Site Location Map .....  | 2-5 |
| Figure 2-2 King Salmon Site Location and Zone Map .....   | 2-6 |
| Figure 5-1 Areal Extent of Soil Contamination at the Naknek River Storage Sites .....                       | 5-5 |
| Figure 5-2 Aerial Extent of A-Aquifer Contamination at the Naknek River Storage Sites (1997 & 1998) .....   | 5-6 |
| Figure 5-3 Cross-Section view of Soil and Groundwater Contamination at the Naknek River Storage Sites ..... | 5-7 |

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 611 CES | 611th Civil Engineer Squadron  |
| AAC     | Alaska Air Command   |
| ADEC    | Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation                              |
| AFB     | Air Force Base   |
| ARARs   | Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements                          |
| AST     | Aboveground Storage Tank   |
| bgs     | Below Ground Surface   |
| BTEX    | Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylenes                                  |
| CERCLA  | Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 |
| COPCs   | Contaminants of Potential Concern  |
| CRP     | Community Relations Plan   |
| DRO     | Diesel-Range Organics  |
| DWS     | Drinking Water Standards   |
| ES      | Engineering Science (Parson)   |
| FAA     | Federal Aviation Administration  |
| FS      | Feasibility Study  |
| HDPE    | High-Density Polyethylene  |
| HI      | Hazard Index   |
| HVOC    | Halogenated Volatile Organic Compound  |
| IRP     | Installation Restoration Program   |
| KSA     | King Salmon Airport  |
| LFI     | Limited Field Investigation  |
| MCL     | Maximum Contaminant Level  |
| MEK     | Methyl Ethyl Ketone  |
| MRL     | Method Reporting Limit   |
| NCP     | National Contingency Plan  |
| OSHA    | Occupational Safety and Health Act   |
| PCB     | Polychlorinated biphenyl   |
| POL     | Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants   |
| PRG     | Preliminary Remediation Goals  |
| RAO     | Remedial Action Objectives   |

### **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS (Continued)**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| RAB   | Restoration Advisory Board                     |
| RCRA  | Resource Conservation and Recovery Act         |
| RI/FS | Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study       |
| RME   | Reasonable Maximum Exposure                    |
| ROD   | Record of Decision                             |
| RPM   | Remedial Program Manager                       |
| SAIC  | Science Applications International Corporation |
| SARA  | Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act   |
| SVOCs | Semivolatile Organic Compounds                 |
| TCE   | Trichloroethylene                              |
| TSCA  | Toxic Substances Control Act                   |
| USAF  | United States Air Force                        |
| USEPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency           |
| UST   | Underground Storage Tank                       |
| VOC   | Volatile Organic Compounds                     |
| WRBC  | Water Risk Based Concentration                 |

### **UNITS OF MEASURE**

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| mg/Kg | Milligrams Analyte per Kilogram of Sample |
| µg/Kg | Micrograms Analyte per Kilogram of Sample |
| µg/L  | Micrograms Analyte per Liter of Sample    |
| mg/L  | Milligrams Analyte per Liter of Sample    |

## DEFINITIONS

**611 CES:** The civil engineering squadron based at Elmendorf Air Force base responsible for managing and implementing the environmental restoration program at King Salmon Airport. The 611 CES is part of the Pacific Air Command (PAC).

**ADEC:** The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, the regulatory agency for the King Salmon Airport sites.

**Attenuation:** Natural chemical, physical, or biological processes that reduce or eliminate contaminant concentrations. This method has been relied upon to treat soil, surface water, and groundwater.

**CERCLA:** Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, also known as Superfund.

**Ecological Risk Assessment:** A study of the risks to plants and animals that can be attributed to site contamination.

**EPA Region 10:** The states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho comprise EPA Region 10.

**Fuel Constituents:** Diesel, gasoline, and jet fuel. These fluids are composed of a number of chemicals. Some of the chemicals in the fuel will volatilize or degrade faster than other chemicals, leaving a solution that slightly differs from the original fuels.

**Human Health Risk Assessment:** A study of the risks to human health that can be attributed to site contamination. The study can be divided into cancer risks and non-cancer risks.

**Institutional Controls:** Physical or legal barriers such as fences and deed restrictions that limit access to contaminated areas. They can be applied in a variety of forms to groundwater, soil, and surface water.

**Intrinsic Remediation (Natural Attenuation):** A natural process where naturally occurring attenuation mechanisms, such as biodegradation, reduce the total mass of contaminant present.

**IRA (Interim Remedial Action) :** A remedial action taken prior to completion of a comprehensive evaluation of the site risks and final cleanup alternatives.

**Leachate:** Water that has dissolved or mobilized contamination from buried waste or soil.

**MCLs (Maximum Contaminant Levels):** Federal drinking water standards established by the EPA.

**Modifying criteria:** One of three criteria groups used to select a remediation remedy. State and community acceptance are modifying criteria that shall be considered in remedy selection.

**Monitoring:** Measurements of soil, surface water, and groundwater taken to determine the extent of contamination and the degree to which it is cleaned up.

**NCP (National Contingency Plan):** The regulations that provide the structure and procedures for responding to discharges of oil and hazardous substances as directed by CERCLA.

**PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls):** A group of related compounds typically used in transformers that are suspect carcinogens.

**PRG (Preliminary Remediation Goal):** The target contaminant concentration resulting from remediation activities.

**Primary balancing criteria:** One of three criteria groups used to select a remediation remedy. The five primary balancing criteria are long-term effectiveness and permanence; reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume through treatment; short-term effectiveness; implementability; and cost.

**Proposed Plan:** A document prepared to inform the public about alternatives that were considered for cleaning up a contaminated site and which alternative has been identified as the preferred alternative. The document encourages public comment on all alternatives.

**RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act):** The federal law governing the generation, transporting, and disposal of hazardous waste materials. It is administered by the USEPA.

**Remedial Action:** Actions taken to eliminate, reduce, or control the hazards posed by a site.

**RI/FS (Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study):** Two interrelated CERCLA studies. The RI is conducted to identify the types, amounts, and locations of contamination at a facility. It also evaluates possible risk to the public and environment from exposure to contamination. The FS identifies, screens, and evaluates different alternatives for cleaning up contamination.

**ROD (Record of Decision):** Documentation of the selected remedy for a site and the rationale for its selection.

**SARA:** The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act that amended CERCLA and established the Community Right to Know program. :

**Seeps:** Water flowing from the ground surface down a slope.

**Superfund:** The federal hazardous waste cleanup program administered by the USEPA. Its formal title is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

**Threshold criteria:** One of three criteria groups used to select a remediation remedy. Overall protection of human health and the environment, and compliance with ARARs (unless a specific ARAR is waived) are threshold requirements that each alternative must meet in order to be eligible for selection.

**Water Table:** The surface in an unconfined aquifer at which the pore water pressure is atmospheric. It reflects the groundwater level measured in shallow monitoring wells.

**Wetland:** An area that supports vegetation tolerant of saturated soils, has hydric soils, or is hydraulically connected to a surface water body.