



# Primer on PRG and DCC Calculators

## *What are the Preliminary Remediation Goal (PRG) and Dose Compliance Concentration (DCC) calculators?*

The PRG and DCC calculators were developed to help EPA staff and others who are assessing radiation at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund) sites. The PRG calculators are used to identify the amount of radiation that equals the  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-6}$  cancer risk range that EPA considers protective. The DCC calculators are used to determine the amount of radiation that equals a dose-based regulation that is measured in millirem per year.

## *How do the PRG and DCC calculators work?*

The calculators use a series of equations to estimate radiation concentrations that EPA considers protective. They include assumptions about how people live at the site and the site itself, including the weather. These assumptions can be adjusted to more accurately reflect the situation at your site.

## *What is an Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirement (ARAR)?*

An ARAR is an environmental law or regulation from the federal government or a state government that addresses conditions or a particular cleanup technology at a Superfund site.

All actions to clean up contamination at Superfund sites must be protective of human health and the environment and comply with ARARs, unless a waiver is justified. ARARs are often the deciding factor in establishing cleanup levels at CERCLA sites.

The DCC calculators may be used for developing cleanup levels if an ARAR is a dose-based millirem regulation.

## *What if I want more information?*

There are 1-page fact sheets describing each of the six PRG and DCC calculators. If you have questions about the PRG or DCC calculators, you can contact Stuart Walker of EPA by e-mail at [walker.stuart@epa.gov](mailto:walker.stuart@epa.gov) or by telephone at (703) 603-8748.