

**NPL Characteristics  
Data Collection Form**  
(Version 3.0, December 2001)

Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Region: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

This form should be completed for all sites being proposed for addition to the NPL and included as part of the complete HRS package submitted to EPA Headquarters.

**Office of Emergency and Remedial Response  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

# NPL Characteristics Data Collection Form

## General Instructions

The NPL Characteristics Data Collection Form is designed to standardize the site information collected for input into the Superfund NPL Assessment Program (SNAP) Database. This database serves as a repository for general information about NPL sites and is used to respond to queries about NPL sites from a variety of sources including the general public, the press, other government agencies, and members of Congress. The primary source materials for completing this form are Regional site file documents (e.g., Preliminary Assessment (PA) and Site Investigation (SI) reports), along with the site's Hazard Ranking System scoring package. Although much of the information needed to complete the form is expected to be available in the HRS scoring package, other sources in a site file may need to be consulted for some questions. If definitive data are not available in the site file to answer a question, estimates based on best professional judgment and other sources of information are acceptable.

As you complete the NPL Characteristics Data Collection Form, keep the following points in mind.

- < Please complete the form in ink, and print legibly, or complete using a word processor such as WordPerfect 6.1 or a later version of WordPerfect. If you are completing the form electronically, you should be able to check the boxes in this form by left-clicking your mouse in the boxes. If you get an error message stating "Macro checkbox.wcm not found", you can run the WordPerfect Setup to install all the macros. Select a custom install, then look for Macros as one of the components under WordPerfect.
- < Use the most current information available (e.g., SI-level information has priority over PA-level information).
- < Try to use the listed response options when answering a question, and use "unknown" and "other" responses *only* when absolutely necessary. If, however, the available response options for a question are not adequate to accurately describe the site, use the "other" response and provide a brief explanation in the space provided.
- < Use the margins to explain responses that do not match listed response options or to provide clarifying information. If you need additional room to clarify responses, use the space provided in Appendix D.
- < Some questions may go beyond the scope of the HRS scoring package (e.g., may relate to pathways not scored). Answer these questions with the best information available, making reasonable "educated guesses" if necessary.
- < "Current," as used in this form, should be interpreted as the general time period of HRS scoring package preparation.
- < "Principal contamination," as used in this form, should be interpreted as the contamination that is primarily responsible for a site's proposal to the NPL.

Please respond to *all* questions with the answer that you believe best represents the site conditions, given the information available at the time of HRS scoring package preparation.

1. Basic Identifying Information

1.1 SITE NAME (as shown on HRS Documentation Record): \_\_\_\_\_

SITE ALIASES (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

1.2 CERCLIS ID NUMBER (12 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any other sites associated with this site? Please list their CERCLIS ID numbers:

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1.3 SITE ID from CERCLIS3/WasteLAN (7 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

1.4 CERCLIS SITE SPILL ID (4 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

1.5 NAME OF PERSON(S) COMPLETING FORM: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION (agency/company): \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

1.6 DATE FORM WAS COMPLETED (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

1.7 SITE LOCATION.

Address or General Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code of Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Congressional District(s): \_\_\_\_\_ EPA Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Congressional District Representatives: \_\_\_\_\_

1.8 SITE COORDINATES. Coordinates in degrees, minutes, seconds, and tenths of seconds and decimal degree formats: If known, please provide site boundary polygon data in Appendix A.

E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
				North Latitude					West Longitude

If tenths of seconds are unknown, use "0" as a default value. If necessary, refer to Appendix E of EPA's 1991 PA guidance document for directions on how to determine coordinates.

Description of Site Reference Point for Coordinates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description Category. Describe the category of feature referenced by the site coordinates.

9 Administrative building

9 Air monitoring station

- 9 Air release
  - 9 Stack
  - 9 Vent
- 9 Atmosphere emissions treatment unit
- 9 Center of facility
- 9 Facility centroid
- 9 Lagoon or settling pond
- 9 Liquid waste treatment unit
- 9 Loading area centroid
- 9 Loading facility
- 9 Northeast corner of land parcel
- 9 Northwest corner of land parcel
- 9 Plant entrance
  - 9 General
  - 9 Personnel
  - 9 Freight
- 9 Process unit
- 9 Process unit area centroid
- 9 Solid waste treatment/disposal unit
- 9 Solid waste storage area
- 9 Southeast corner of land parcel
- 9 Southwest corner of land parcel
- 9 Storage tank
- 9 Water monitoring station
- 9 Water release pipe
- 9 Well
- 9 Well protection area
- 9 Within limits of groundwater plume
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown

**Method of Collection.** Describe the method used to determine the site coordinates.

- 9 Address matching
  - 9 Block face
  - 9 Digitized
  - 9 House number
  - 9 Nearest intersection
  - 9 Primary name
  - 9 Street centerline
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Census
  - 9 Block - 1990 - centroid
  - 9 Block/group - 1990 - centroid

- 9 Block tract - 1990 - centroid
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Classical surveying techniques
- 9 Global Positioning System (GPS)
  - 9 Carrier phase kinematic relative positioning technique
  - 9 Carrier phase static relative positioning technique
  - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) differential (DGPS)
  - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) precise positioning service
  - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA off
  - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA on
- 9 Interpolation
  - 9 Map
  - 9 Photo
  - 9 Satellite
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Loran C
- 9 Public land survey
  - 9 Footing
  - 9 Quartering
- 9 Zip code centroid
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown

**Accuracy Value.** Describe the accuracy value as a range (+/-) of the latitude and longitude in meters.

Accuracy: +/- \_\_\_\_\_ Meters

**Vertical Measure.** Provide the vertical component of measured point. If no vertical component, leave blank.

**Horizontal Datum.** Describe the reference datum of the latitude and longitude.

- 9 NAD27
- 9 NAD83
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown

**Source Scale.** Describe the scale of the source used to determine the site coordinates.

- 9 1:10,000
- 9 1:12,000
- 9 1:15,840
- 9 1:20,000
- 9 1:24,000
- 9 1:25,000
- 9 1:50,000
- 9 1:62,500
- 9 1:63,360
- 9 1:100,000
- 9 1:125,000
- 9 1:250,000

- 9 1:500,000
- 9 None
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown

1.9 **NAME OF WATERSHED.** Watershed in which the site is located, from Surf Your Watershed at <http://www.epa.gov/surf2/locate/>: \_\_\_\_\_  
USGS Hydrologic Cataloging Code (8 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

1.10 **BASIS FOR NPL LISTING.** What is the reason for listing on the NPL?

- 9 HRS Score \$ 28.50
- 9 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Health Advisory
- 9 State Priority

1.11 **RCRA STATUS.** What is the current RCRA status of the site? (Check all that apply.)

- 9 RCRA hazardous waste handler not subject to RCRA Subtitle C corrective action
  - 9 Large quantity hazardous waste generator: Facility that generates over 1,000 kilograms (kg) of hazardous waste, or over 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month
  - 9 Small quantity hazardous waste generator: Facility that generated between 100 kg and 1,000 kg of hazardous waste per month
  - 9 Transporter: Entity that moves hazardous waste from the generator off-site to a facility that can recycle, treat, store, or dispose of the waste
  - 9 Protective filer: Facility that has filed a RCRA Part A permit application for treatment, storage, or disposal of Subtitle C hazardous wastes as a precautionary measure only
- 9 Facility subject to RCRA Subtitle C that meets listing policy
  - 9 Inability to finance: Facility is owned by persons who have demonstrated an inability to finance a cleanup as evidenced by their invocation of the bankruptcy laws
  - 9 Unwillingness/loss of authorization to operate: Facility that has lost authorization to operate or for which there are indications that the owner/operator will be unwilling to undertake corrective action; includes loss of interim status (LOIS) facilities
  - 9 Unwillingness/case-by-case determination: Facility that has a clear history of unwillingness as determined on a case-by-case basis
  - 9 Converter: Facility that at one time was treating or storing RCRA Subtitle C hazardous waste but has since converted to generator-only status or any other hazardous waste activity for which interim status is not required
  - 9 Non-filer or late filer: Facility that was treating, storing, or disposing of Subtitle C hazardous waste after November 19, 1980, and did not file Part A of a permit application by the date prescribed in 40 CFR 270.10 and has little or no history of RCRA compliance
  - 9 Pre-HSWA permittee: Facility that received a RCRA Subtitle C operating permit for the treatment, storage, or disposal of Subtitle C hazardous waste that was issued prior to the enactment of HSWA, and whose owner/operator will not voluntarily consent to the reissuance of their permit to include corrective action requirements
- 9 RCRA corrective action facility
- 9 Not applicable (e.g., non-generator or very small quantity generator)

1.12 **SITE PERMITS.** Which of the following permits apply to the site? (Check all that apply.)

- 9 Air
- 9 Dredge and fill

- Marine
- NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System)
- POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)
- Radioactive
- RCRA
- RCRA interim status
- SMCRA (Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act)
- Underground injection

1.13 **ATSDR HEALTH ADVISORY.** Has an ATSDR Health Advisory been issued?

- Yes  No If yes, what was the date of issue? \_\_\_\_\_ mm/dd/yyyy

**ATSDR HEALTH ASSESSMENT.** Has an ATSDR Health Assessment been conducted?

- Yes  No If yes, what was the date of the assessment? \_\_\_\_\_ mm/dd/yyyy

1.14 **SITE STATUS.** Is the site a Federal Facility or a General site?

- Federal
- General

1.15 **HOW INITIALLY IDENTIFIED.** How was the site initially identified to EPA? If this information is not available in the HRS scoring package, check the PA narrative or other parts of the site file. (Check one.)

- Anonymous
- CERCLA notification
- Citizen complaint (including PA petition)
- Incidental (e.g., identified while discovering/investigating another NPL site)
- RCRA notification
- State/local program
- Other Federal program (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown

1.16 **SITE WITH UNKNOWN SOURCE(S).** Does the site consist exclusively of contaminated ground water or contaminated surface water sediments with *no identifiable primary source(s)*? (Check one.)

- Yes, ground water plume(s)
- Yes, surface water sediments
- No

## 2. General Site Description

2.1 **DEMOGRAPHIC SETTING.** Characterize the area in which the site is located. (Check one.)

- Large city: within boundaries of a city with a population  $\geq$  100,000  
 Rural: outside of city and suburban areas  
 Small city/town: within boundaries of a city/town with a population  $\geq$  10,000 and  $<$  100,000  
 Suburban: within immediate suburbs of a city

2.2 **BORDER SITES.** Is the site within 60 miles of Mexican or Canadian borders?

- Yes  No

2.3 **TRIBAL SITES.** Is the site on or near (i.e., within a four-mile radial distance, or for surface water within 15 "in-water" miles) Tribal Lands?

Near designated Tribal Lands

Name of Tribe(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Distance from (in miles): \_\_\_\_\_

On designated Tribal Lands

Name of Tribe(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Not on or near Tribal Lands

2.4 **OTHER NPL SITES.** Are there other NPL sites within one mile of the site?

- Yes  No

If yes, what sites? \_\_\_\_\_

2.5 **LAND USE.** What is the current land use(s) within one mile of the site? (Check all that apply.)

- Agricultural  
 Airport  
 Church  
 Commercial  
 DOE (Department of Energy)  
 Desert  
 Forest/fields/wetlands/other undeveloped  
 Highway  
 Hospital  
 Indian lands  
 Industrial  
 Major excavation  
 Military  
 Mining  
 Oil wells  
 POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)  
 Parks/recreation  
 Pipeline  
 Prison



- 9 Railroad
- 9 Residential
- 9 Sawmill
- 9 School/university/day care
- 9 Sink holes
- 9 Water works
- 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown

If **readily available information** indicates that projected future land use(s) within one mile of the site may **differ** from the current use(s) checked above (e.g., building a mobile home park adjacent to a former landfill), write them in the blank that follows. Use the response options listed above if possible.

2.6 **AREA.** What is the approximate area of contamination (i.e., total area that includes all sources of contamination and other areas where contamination has come to be located, plus the area between the sources)? If the site property is large with only a small contaminated portion, only the area of the contaminated portion should be estimated. If the approximate area of contamination cannot be estimated, use the area within the property boundary. (Check one.)

- 9 # 5 acres
- 9 > 5 and # 20 acres
- 9 > 20 and # 100 acres
- 9 > 100 acres
- 9 Unknown

2.7 **OWNER AND OPERATOR.** Who are the current owner(s) and operator(s) of the site, and who were the owner(s) and operator(s) at the time of principal contamination? If the owner and operator are the same, then check the same box under "Owner(s)" and "Operator(s)." If the current owner and/or operator and the owner and/or operator at time of principal contamination are the same, then check the same box under "CURRENT" and "AT TIME OF CONTAMINATION." For ground water plume and surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the owner and operator at the time of contamination should be "Unknown." (Check all that apply, including at least one in each column; "NA" indicates that a response is not applicable.)

CURRENT			AT TIME OF CONTAMINATION	
Owner(s)	Operator(s)		Owner(s)	Operator(s)
9	9	Bankruptcy/receivership	NA	NA
9	9	County/city	9	9
9	9	Federal	9	9
9	NA	Government Owned Contractor Operated (GOCO)	9	NA
9	9	Indian lands	9	9
NA	9	None - currently inactive or abandoned	NA	NA
NA	9	None - spill or other one-time event	NA	9
9	9	Private - individual	9	9
9	9	Private - industrial/commercial	9	9
9	9	Private- small business	9	9
9	9	State	9	9

9	NA	Other (specify)	_____	NA	NA
NA	9	Other (specify)	_____	NA	NA
NA	NA	Other (specify)	_____	9	NA
NA	NA	Other (specify)	_____	NA	9
NA	NA	Unknown		9	9

2.8 **SPILL/OTHER ONE-TIME EVENT.** Is the site the result of a one-time spill (e.g., truck, rail car, or barge accident) or other one-time event (e.g., one-time illegal dumping), with no other ongoing waste management or waste generation activities on-site? (Check one.)

- 9 Yes, specify year of spill/other one-time event \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 No

2.9 **YEARS OF OPERATION.** What are the beginning and ending years of operation at the site? "Operation" includes any activity occurring at the site (other than site remediation and related site investigation activity), and does *not* necessarily have to involve waste generation and/or management. Aggregated sites that have a combination of active and inactive/abandoned operations, and active sites that have had periods of inoperation during their existence, should be considered currently operating. For these sites, indicate the beginning year of their earliest operation. If sites such as these are no longer operating, indicate the beginning year of their earliest operation and the ending year of their latest operation. For ground water plume and surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the years of operation should be "Unknown." (Check one.)

- 9 Currently operating: from (beginning year) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Inactive or abandoned: from (beginning year) \_\_\_\_\_ to (ending year) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown (only if *no* historical information is available)

2.10 **YEARS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.** What are the beginning and ending years of waste management at the site? Applicable waste management activities include generation, treatment, and/or recycling of waste containing hazardous substances and/or receipt of such wastes from off-site sources. Aggregated sites that have a combination of active and inactive/abandoned waste management activities, and sites that are actively managing waste that have had periods without waste management activities during their existence, should be considered currently managing waste. For these sites, indicate the beginning year of their earliest waste management activity. If sites such as these are no longer managing waste, indicate the beginning year of their earliest activity and the ending year of their latest activity. All responses should be consistent with responses given for question 2.9. For ground water plume and surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be "Unknown." (Check one.)

- 9 Currently managing waste: from (beginning year) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 No longer managing waste: from (beginning year) \_\_\_\_\_ to (ending year) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Unknown (only if *no* historical information is available)

### 3. Site Type

3.1 **PRIMARY SITE ACTIVITY TYPE.** Which of the following best describes the primary activity at the site? The primary site activity type is defined as the main operation that is taking place, or has taken place, at the site and was a major contributor of the hazardous substance releases that caused the site to be considered for the NPL. The primary site activity types are defined in Appendix B. There are five major categories for primary site activity type and each of these categories has many sub-categories. Please select only one category (e.g., Mining) and only one sub-category within the category (e.g., Metals). For ground water plume sites with no identified source, the response should be "Other, Ground water plume." For surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be "Other, Surface water sediment site." If the site has a secondary site activity type, please list it in the space provided below. (Select one type.)

- 9 Manufacturing/processing/maintenance
  - 9 Chemicals and allied products
  - 9 Coal gasification
  - 9 Coke production
  - 9 Electronic/electrical equipment
  - 9 Electric power generation and distribution
  - 9 Fabrics/textiles
  - 9 Lumber and wood products/pulp and paper
  - 9 Lumber and wood products/wood preserving/treatment
  - 9 Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied industries
  - 9 Oil and gas refining
  - 9 Ordnance production
  - 9 Plastics and rubber products
  - 9 Primary metals/mineral processing
  - 9 Radioactive products
  - 9 Tanneries
  - 9 Trucks/ships/trains/aircraft and related components
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Mining
  - 9 Coal
  - 9 Metals
  - 9 Non-metal minerals
  - 9 Oil and gas
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Recycling
  - 9 Automobiles/tires
  - 9 Batteries/scrap metal/secondary lead smelting/precious metal recovery
  - 9 Chemicals/chemical wastes (e.g., solvent recovery)
  - 9 Drums/tanks
  - 9 Waste/used oil
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Waste management
  - 9 Co-disposal landfill (municipal and industrial)
  - 9 Illegal disposal/open dump

- Industrial waste facility (non-generator)
- Industrial waste landfill
- Mine tailings disposal
- Municipal solid waste landfill
- Radioactive waste treatment, storage, disposal (non-generator)
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other
  - Agricultural (e.g., grain elevator)
  - Contaminated sediment site (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
  - Ground water plume (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
  - Military
  - Product storage/distribution facility
  - Research, development, and testing facility
  - Retail/commercial
  - Spill or other one-time event
  - Spraying or spreading substances for dust control
  - Transportation (e.g., railroad yard, airport, barge docking site)
  - Treatment works/septic tanks/other sewage treatment
  - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If the site has one or more *secondary* site activity type(s), please indicate the activity type in the space below. Use the responses above with the addition of "Residential" as a selection.

3.2 **SITE ACTIVITIES.** Which of the following best describes current activities/operations/conditions at the site (i.e., on-site activities)? Also, identify all former activities that are at least partly responsible for the principal contamination at the site. Check ALL responses that apply, including at least one in each column; if a main category is checked, at least one sub-category also must be checked (e.g., if "Federal facility" is checked, a sub-category such as "DOE" also must be checked). For ground water plume sites with no identified source, the response should be "Ground water plume." For surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be "Surface water sediment site."

<b>Current</b>	<b>Former</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal facility (must also indicate Federal in question 2.7)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOD
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordnance production/storage
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Testing and maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOI (e.g., Bureau of Land Management)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	USDA (e.g., Forest Service)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ground water plume (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laundries/dry cleaners

9	9	Manufacturing/processing
9	9	Chemicals and allied products
9	9	Chemicals
9	9	Pesticides/herbicides
9	9	Other (specify) _____
9	9	Electric power generation and distribution
9	9	Electronic/electrical equipment
9	9	Electroplating
9	9	Lumber and wood products
9	9	Pulp and paper
9	9	Wood preserving/treatment
9	9	Other (specify) _____
9	9	Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied industries
9	9	Ore processing
9	9	Petroleum refining
9	9	Plastic and rubber products
9	9	Primary metals/mineral processing
9	9	Other (specify) _____
9	9	Mining
9	9	Coal
9	9	Metals
9	9	Non-metal minerals
9	9	Oil and gas
9	9	Subsurface
9	9	Surface
9	9	Other (specify) _____
9	N/A	None/currently inactive or abandoned
9	9	Product storage/distribution as <i>principal</i> activity
9	9	Residential
9	9	Retail/commercial
9	9	Road oiling
N/A	9	Spill or other one-time event, with no other activities (must also indicate spill in question 2.8)
9	9	Surface water sediment site (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
9	9	Transportation (e.g., railroad yard, airport, barge docking site)
9	9	Waste management
9	9	Illegal/open dump
9	9	Municipal solid waste landfill
9	9	Other industrial waste facility, including landfill (non-generator)
9	9	Publicly owned treatment works/septic tanks/other sewage treatment
9	9	RCRA Subtitle C TSDF (non-generator)
9	9	Radioactive waste treatment, storage, disposal (non-generator)
9	9	Recycling
9	9	Automobiles/scrap metal/tires

- Batteries
- Chemicals/chemical wastes (e.g., solvent recovery)
- Drums
- Used/waste oil
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown

3.3 **WASTE TREATMENT, STORAGE, AND DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES.** What treatment, storage, and/or disposal activities occur/occurred at the site? For ground water plume and surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be “Unknown.” (Check all that apply.)

- Discharge to sewer/surface water (intentional permitted or illegal discharge; *not* secondary runoff)
- Drain/leach field
- Drum/container storage (intentional storage in specified areas)
- Explosives disposal/detonation
- Illegal dumping (unpermitted dumping by site owner/operator in undesignated disposal area)
- Incineration/other combustion activity (including burn pits)
- Industrial landfill
- Land application/treatment
- Leaking containers
- Municipal landfill (must also indicate municipal solid waste landfill in question 3.2)
- None/spill or other one-time event (must also indicate spill in question 2.8)
- Outfall, surface water
- Recycling (must also indicate recycling in question 3.2)
- Sand/gravel pit
- Sinkhole
- Surface impoundment (primarily liquid)
- Tank - above ground
- Tank - below ground
- Thermal treatment
- Unauthorized dumping by a party other than the site owner/operator
- Underground injection well
- Waste pile (primarily solid, covered or uncovered)
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown

3.4 **SOURCE TYPES.** What HRS source types exist/existed at the site? For ground water plume sites with no identified source, the response should be “Ground water plume.” For surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be “Surface water sediment site.” (Check all that apply.)

- Active fire area
- Burn pit
- Container or tank
- Contaminated soil (excluding land treatment)

- 
- 9 Drum
  - 9 Ground water plume (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
  - 9 Landfarm/land treatment
  - 9 Landfill
  - 9 Piles
    - 9 Chemical waste pile
    - 9 Scrap metal or junk pile
    - 9 Tailings pile
    - 9 Trash pile
    - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 Surface impoundment
  - 9 Surface impoundment (buried/backfilled)
  - 9 Surface water sediment site (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
  - 9 Tank - above ground
  - 9 Tank - below ground
  - 9 Unallocated source
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Waste Description

- 4.1 **ON-SITE/OFF-SITE GENERATION.** Is an on-site or off-site generator responsible for the waste disposed or deposited on-site that resulted in the principal contamination? For consistency, recycling facilities should be considered on-site generators. (Check one.)
- On-site generator(s) only
  - Off-site generator(s) only
  - Both on-site and off-site generators
- 4.2 **ENTITY THAT GENERATED THE WASTE.** What is the source(s) of the waste disposed or deposited on-site that resulted in the principal contamination (*not* necessarily the entity that generated the original product)? Note that this question is different from question 3.2 regarding site activities, although the response options are similar. This question targets those entities that generated the waste present on-site, not the site activities themselves, regardless of whether those entities are located on- or off-site. However, if the waste is/was generated entirely on-site, then the response(s) to this question should match the response(s) to question 3.2. For ground water plume sites with no identified source, the response should be "Ground water plume." For surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be "Surface water sediment site." (Check all that apply.)
- Agricultural
  - Construction/demolition
  - Federal facility
    - DOD
      - Ordnance production/storage
      - Testing and maintenance
    - DOE
    - DOI
    - USDA
    - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ground water plume (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
  - Laboratory/hospital
  - Laundries/dry cleaners
  - Manufacturing
    - Chemicals and allied products
      - Chemicals
      - Pesticides/herbicides
      - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
    - Electric power generation and distribution
    - Electronic/electrical equipment
    - Electroplating
    - Lumber and wood products
      - Pulp and paper
      - Wood preserving/treatment
      - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
    - Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied products
    - Ore processing
    - Petroleum refining
    - Plastic and rubber products



- Primary metals/mineral processing
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Mining
  - Coal
  - Metals
  - Non-metal minerals
  - Oil and Gas
  - Subsurface
  - Surface
  - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Product storage/distribution facility
- Recycling
  - Automobile junkyard/scrap metal/tires
  - Batteries
  - Chemicals/chemical wastes (e.g., solvent recovery)
  - Drums
  - Used/waste oil
  - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Residential
- Retail/commercial
- Road oiling
- Site remediation (e.g., wastes from site cleanups)
- Surface water sediment site (with no identified source, must also answer yes to question 1.16)
- Transportation (e.g., railroad yard, airport, barge docking site)
- Waste management (e.g., leachate or ash from waste treatment processes)
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown

4.3 **PHYSICAL STATE OF WASTE.** What is the physical state(s) of the hazardous substance-containing waste(s) deposited or detected on-site? (Check all that apply.)

- Gas
- Liquid
- Sludge
- Solid
- Unknown

4.4 **GENERAL WASTE TYPES.** What are the waste types deposited or detected on-site? Indicate all the waste types present on-site under "Overall." If three or fewer waste types are known to comprise the majority (i.e., over 50%) of the waste volume on-site, indicate their types under "Predominant." Otherwise, leave the "Predominant" column blank. (Check all that apply.)

Overall	Predominant	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chlorinated solvents
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contaminated soil/sediment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Explosives
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fly and bottom ash

- |                          |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fuels/propellants             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Medical/biological wastes     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Metals                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mining wastes                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-metal inorganic chemicals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Oily wastes                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Organic chemicals             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | POTW sludge                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Paints/pigments               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pesticides/herbicides         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Radioactive wastes            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Still and tank bottoms        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Strong acids/bases            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) _____         |

4.5 **SPECIFIC WASTE CONSTITUENTS.** Which of the following waste constituents have been deposited or detected on-site? (Check all that apply, and make sure the response is consistent with the response to question 4.4.)

- Asbestos
- Creosote
- Cyanides
- Dioxins (e.g., TCDD)
- Lead
- Mercury
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- None of the above
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4.6 **WASTE ACCESSIBILITY.** Is the waste on-site currently accessible to the public (e.g., is site access unrestricted so people can potentially come into direct contact with contaminated materials)? Items to be considered when judging accessibility include, for example, presence or absence of a complete cover over the waste area and a secure fence around the site. A site with natural access restrictions (e.g., steep terrain) also can be considered inaccessible. Do not count on-site workers as part of the public when answering this question. (Check one.)

- No
- Yes
- Unknown

## 5. Demographics

*For this section, do not directly use the population factor values calculated in the HRS and entered in HRS scoresheets. Use actual (i.e., unweighted, unadjusted) population figures, which should be available in the HRS supporting documentation.*

- 5.1 **NUMBER OF WORKERS ON-SITE.** What is the current number of workers present on-site (not including workers involved in response activities)? For ground water plume and surface water sediment sites with no identified source, the response should be "Unknown." (Check one.)

- 0
- > 0 and # 10
- > 10 and # 100
- > 100 and # 1,000
- > 1,000
- Unknown

- 5.2 **DISTANCE TO POPULATION.** What is the shortest distance from any source or area of contamination at the site to the nearest residential individual (include all persons occupying homes, apartments, businesses, or schools)? If contamination has migrated to the property of a nearby resident(s), then check the box next to "0 miles." If the source or contaminated area is not clearly identified, use distance from the site property boundary. (Check one.)

- 0 miles (i.e., on-site)
- > 0 and # 1/4 mile
- > 1/4 and # 1/2 mile
- > 1/2 and # 1 mile
- > 1 and # 4 miles
- > 4 miles

- 5.3 **POPULATION.** What is the total residential population within one mile and four miles of the site (include all persons occupying homes, apartments, businesses, or schools)? (Check one in each column.)

<b>Within 1 mile</b>	<b>Within 4 miles</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 0 and # 10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 10 and # 100
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 100 and # 1,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 1,000 and # 10,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 10,000 and # 100,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 100,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown

**6. Water Use**

*For the purposes of this section, "local" refers to ground water withdrawals within four miles and surface water withdrawals within 15 "in-water" miles (e.g., downstream miles for streams and rivers) of the site (i.e., within HRS target distance limits).*

- 6.1 **TOTAL DRINKING WATER POPULATION SERVED.** What is the total population served by local ground and surface water sources of drinking water? Use actual population numbers and not adjusted values taken directly from HRS scoresheets. For blended systems, use total population served instead of prorated values. Note that the total population served does not have to reside within the HRS target distance limits, only the drinking water supply withdrawal point(s) needs to be within the limits. (Check one in each column.)

Ground	Surface	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	# 10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 10 and # 100
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 100 and # 1,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 1,000 and # 10,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 10,000 and # 100,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	> 100,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable (no drinking water withdrawals within HRS target distance limits)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown

- 6.2 **TYPE OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM.** What type(s) of local drinking water supply system(s) is present? "Public" should be checked for any central water supply system, even if operated by a private entity. (Check all that apply.)

Ground	Surface	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private (e.g., individual wells)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public (serves over 25 people; e.g., municipal systems)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable (no drinking water withdrawals within HRS target distance limits)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown

- 6.3 **OTHER GROUND WATER USES.** What are the other uses of ground water withdrawn within four miles of the site? (Check all that apply.)

- Commercial uses (e.g., food preparation, aquiculture)
- Industrial process/cooling
- Irrigation
- Recreation (e.g., water supply for municipal swimming pool, infiltration into lakes used for recreation)
- Stock watering
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None
- Unknown

6.4 **DEPTH TO AQUIFER.** What is the approximate depth from the ground surface to the uppermost usable aquifer (i.e., an aquifer having sufficient yield and water quality to be usable as drinking water or for other beneficial uses) beneath the site? (Check one.)

- # 10 feet
- > 10 and # 25 feet
- > 25 and # 50 feet
- > 50 and # 100 feet
- > 100 feet
- Unknown

6.5 **OTHER SURFACE WATER USES.** What are the other uses of surface water withdrawn within 15 "in-water" miles of the site? (Check all that apply.)

- Commercial fishery, including aquaculture
- Industrial process/cooling
- Irrigation
- Not currently used, but designated by the state for potential drinking water use
- Other commercial uses
- Other recreation
- Recreational fishing
- Stock watering
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None
- Unknown

6.6 **TYPE OF SURFACE WATER ADJACENT TO/DRAINING SITE.** What are the type(s) of surface water adjacent to/drainage the site that could potentially be affected by overland runoff from the site (i.e., are within two miles of any source)? Indicate whether the water body is known or suspected of being contaminated by the site. "Yes" would indicate that the surface water body meets the HRS criteria for observed release. "Suspected" would indicate that there is some evidence of contamination that is attributable to the site, but the surface water body does not meet the HRS criteria for observed release. (Check all that apply.)

	<b>Contaminated?</b>			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspected	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Canal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage ditch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Intermittent stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Lake/reservoir	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Perennial stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Pond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> River (> 1,000 cfs annual average flow)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> No surface water within two miles				
<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				

## 7. Sensitive Environment and Reported Environmental Damage Information

- 7.1 **EXISTENCE OF SENSITIVE OR POTENTIALLY VULNERABLE ENVIRONMENT.** Is the site in or near (i.e., within a four-mile radial distance, or for surface water within 15 "in-water" miles) an HRS-designated sensitive environment(s) or other potentially vulnerable environment(s)? (Check all that apply.)
- 9 Yes, HRS-designated sensitive environment(s)
    - 9 Critical habitat for Federal designated endangered or threatened species
      - 9 Areas identified under the Coastal Zone Management Act
      - 9 Critical areas identified under the Clean Lakes Program
      - 9 Designated Federal wilderness area
      - 9 Marine sanctuary
      - 9 National lakeshore recreational area
      - 9 National monument
      - 9 National park
      - 9 National seashore recreational area
      - 9 Sensitive areas identified under National Estuary Program or Near Coastal Water Program
    - 9 Habitat known to be used by Federal designated or proposed endangered or threatened species
      - 9 Administratively proposed Federal wilderness area
      - 9 Coastal barrier (undeveloped)
      - 9 Federal land designated for protection of natural ecosystems
      - 9 Migratory pathways and feeding areas critical for maintenance of anadromous fish species within river reaches or areas in lakes or coastal tidal waters in which the fish spend extended periods of time
      - 9 National or State wildlife refuge
      - 9 National preserve
      - 9 National river reach designated as recreational
      - 9 Spawning areas critical for the maintenance of fish/shellfish species within river, lake, or coastal tidal waters
      - 9 Terrestrial areas utilized for breeding by large or dense aggregations of animals
      - 9 Unit of coastal barrier resources system
    - 9 Habitat known to be used by State designated endangered or threatened species
      - 9 Coastal barrier (partially developed)
      - 9 Federal designated scenic or wild river
      - 9 Habitat known to be used by species under review as to its Federal endangered or threatened status
    - 9 State designated areas for protection or maintenance of aquatic life
    - 9 State land designated for wildlife or game management
      - 9 Particular areas, relatively small in size, important to maintenance of unique biotic communities
      - 9 State designated natural areas
      - 9 State designated scenic or wild river
    - 9 Wetland
    - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Yes, other potentially vulnerable environment(s) (see Appendix C for definitions)
  - 9 100-year floodplain
  - 9 Karst terrain
  - 9 Seismic impact area
  - 9 Unstable terrain
  - 9 Vulnerable ground water (class I, as defined by EPA)
  - 9 Wellhead protection area
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 No
- 9 Unknown

7.2 **HUMAN HEALTH/BIOLOGICAL IMPACTS.** Have actual human health or biological impacts attributable to the site been shown to exist, been reported, or been observed? (Check all that apply.)

- 9 Yes
  - 9 Fauna (e.g., fish kills, wildlife impacts)
  - 9 Flora (e.g., stressed vegetation)
  - 9 Human health
    - 9 Air pathway
    - 9 Ground water pathway
    - 9 Soil exposure
      - 9 Resident population threat
      - 9 Nearby population threat
    - 9 Surface water pathway
      - 9 Drinking water threat
      - 9 Human food chain threat
      - 9 Environmental threat
- 9 No
- 9 Unknown

**8. Response Actions**

8.1 **TYPE OF RESPONSE ACTION.** What type(s) of response actions has already occurred at or near the site? (Check all that apply.)

- Action has been taken to reduce an immediate threat of fire or explosion
- Alternate water supply(ies) has been provided (on or off site)
- Drinking water well(s) has been closed (on or off site)
- Residents have been relocated
- Site access has been restricted in response to the contamination
- Waste has been physically removed from the site
- Waste has been treated/stabilized/contained on-site
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown
- None

8.2 **AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR RESPONSE ACTION.** Who performed (or contracted for) the response action(s)? (Check all that apply.)

- EPA under authority of CERCLA
- EPA under other authority (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Private party (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- State/local authority (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Federal agency (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Not applicable (check only if checked "None" in question 8.1)

**STOP HERE. Section 9 will be completed by a Headquarters QA reviewer.**

**REVIEW OF COMPLETED FORM.** When you have completed Sections 1 through 8 of the NPL Characteristics Data Collection Form, please check to *make sure* that:

- (1) All questions are answered; and
- (2) All questions have been answered such that the responses are internally consistent, especially those in Sections 2 and 3. For example, if the site is the result of a spill or other one-time event, the responses for questions 2.7, 2.8, 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 should be consistent, while if the site is inactive or abandoned, the responses for questions 2.7, 2.9, 2.10, and 3.2 should be consistent.



**9. Questions to be Completed by Headquarters QA Reviewer**

9.1 **NAME OF QA REVIEWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFILIATION** (agency/company): \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

9.2 **DATE QA COMPLETED FOR THIS FORM** (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

9.3 **NPL PROPOSED RULE NUMBER** (i.e., NPL “Update” number): \_\_\_\_\_

9.4 **COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Appendix A Site Boundary Polygon Data

1. **Site Boundary Coordinates.** Use this space to provide site boundary polygon coordinates (if known). Coordinates of the entire site should be provided in the form of polygons, starting with the northern-most coordinate and moving clockwise (in degrees, minutes, seconds, and tenths of seconds). If you need additional space to record site boundary coordinates, please copy this page and provide the data on those additional pages. If submitting electronic coordinates, follow requirements in the Partial Deletion Guidance.

1.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
2.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
3.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
4.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
5.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
6.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
7.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
8.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
9.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
10.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
11.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
12.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
13.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
14.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude
15.	E	'	.	"	North Latitude	E	'	.	"	West Longitude

*If tenths of seconds are unknown, use "0" as a default value. If necessary, refer to Appendix E of EPA's 1991 PA guidance document for directions on how to determine coordinates.*

2. **Description of Site Reference Area for Coordinates:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix A  
Site Boundary Polygon Data (cont.)**

3. **Method of Collection.** Describe the method used in collecting the data.
- 9 Address matching
    - 9 Block face
    - 9 Digitized
    - 9 House number
    - 9 Nearest intersection
    - 9 Primary name
    - 9 Street centerline
    - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 Census
    - 9 Block - 1990
    - 9 Block/group - 1990
    - 9 Block tract - 1990
    - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 Classical surveying techniques
  - 9 GPS
    - 9 Carrier phase kinematic relative positioning technique
    - 9 Carrier phase static relative positioning technique
    - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) differential (DGPS)
    - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) precise positioning service
    - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA off
    - 9 Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA on
  - 9 Interpolation
    - 9 Map
    - 9 Photo
    - 9 Satellite
    - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 Loran C
  - 9 Public land survey
    - 9 Quartering
    - 9 Footing
  - 9 Zip code
  - 9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 Unknown
4. **Accuracy Value and Unit.** Describe the accuracy value as a range (+/-) of the coordinates in meters.  
 Accuracy: +/- \_\_\_\_\_ Meters

**Appendix A**  
**Site Boundary Polygon Data (cont.)**

5. **Vertical Measure.** Provide the vertical component of measured coordinates. If no vertical component, leave blank.
- 

6. **Horizontal Datum.** Describe the reference datum of the coordinates.

- 9 NAD27  
9 NAD83  
9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Unknown

7. **Source Scale.** Describe the scale of the source used to determine the coordinates.

- 9 1:10,000  
9 1:12,000  
9 1:15,840  
9 1:20,000  
9 1:24,000  
9 1:25,000  
9 1:50,000  
9 1:62,500  
9 1:63,360  
9 1:100,000  
9 1:125,000  
9 1:250,000  
9 1:500,000  
9 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Unknown

**Appendix B**  
**Definitions of Primary Site Activity Types**  
**(To be Used in Responding to Question 3.1)**

**Manufacturing/processing/maintenance:** Activities resulting from the production of products from raw materials, the processing of materials, or the maintenance of a product.

**Chemicals and allied products:** Activities involving manufacturing, creating, or packaging of chemicals such as chloride, pharmaceutical chemicals, organic compounds, acids, pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, adhesives, glues, paints, or dyes, with the exclusion of primary metals. This includes chemicals that are manufactured to be used later for other purposes, such as creosote and coal tar.

**Coal gasification:** Activities related to the process of making natural gas from coal. Coal mining operations are not included in this subcategory.

**Coke production:** Activities involving the production of coke from coal.

**Electronic/electrical equipment:** Activities involving manufacturing or maintenance of electronic devices and electronic equipment such as computer components.

**Electric power generation and distribution:** Activities involving generation, distribution, or maintenance of electric power, including electric power plants, transmitter stations, or transformer stations.

**Fabric/textiles:** Activities associated with the processing and treating of fabrics or textiles.

**Lumber and wood products/pulp and paper:** Activities involving production of lumber, wood products, pulp, or paper. This does not include wood treating or preserving.

**Lumber and wood products/wood preserving/treatment:** Activities involving preserving and treating wood products. Common contaminants found at wood preserving sites include creosote, copper-chromate-arsenic (CCA), or pentachlorophenol (PCP).

**Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied industries:** Activities involving fabrication, finishing, coating, or plating of metals.

**Oil and gas refining:** Activities involving petroleum, oil, and gas refining and reformation.

**Ordnance production:** Activities related to manufacturing or maintenance of ammunition, artillery, explosives, or torpedoes.

**Plastics and rubber products:** Activities involving manufacturing of rubber products such as tires or plastics for a variety of uses.

**Primary metals/mineral processing:** Activities involving manufacturing and processing of raw materials exclusively through smelting of metals or processing of ores. This does not include mining operations but includes all mineral processing operations subsequent to mining. Recycling batteries and scrap metals, secondary smelting, and precious metal recovery are not included in this subcategory.

**Radioactive products:** Activities involving manufacturing, processing, refining, or milling of radioactive products such as radium, uranium, and vanadium.

**Tanneries:** Activities associated with the processing and treating of leather products.

**Trucks/ships/trains/aircraft and related components:** Activities related to manufacturing or maintenance of vehicles including trucks, ships, aircraft, and related components such as engines or drive train components.

**Other:** Activities that involve manufacturing, processing, or maintenance, but do not clearly fit into any of the above sub-categories.

**Unknown:** Activities that involve manufacturing, processing, or maintenance, but the specific activities are unknown.

## Appendix B Definitions of Primary Site Activity Types (cont.)

**Mining:** Operations involving surface and subsurface excavation for the purpose of extracting mineral substances. Do not use this category to describe former mining sites that have been used to deposit or store waste.

**Coal:** Operations involving coal excavation.

**Metals:** Operations involving mining of metals such as gold, silver, iron, or copper.

**Non-metal minerals:** Operations involving mining of non-metals such as sulfur or phosphorous.

**Oil and gas:** Operations involving extracting oil and natural gas from the ground.

**Other:** Activities that involve mining, but do not clearly fit into any of the above sub-categories, such as sand and gravel excavation.

**Unknown:** Activities that involve mining, but the specific activities are unknown.

**Recycling:** Activities involving the reprocessing of some product to regain material.

**Automobiles/tires:** Activities involving recovering products from automobiles such as tires and metals.

**Batteries/scrap metals/secondary lead smelting/precious metal recovery:** Activities related to reprocessing of batteries or scrap metals to gain another product. This subcategory includes precious metal recovery and secondary lead smelting.

**Chemicals/chemical waste (e.g., solvent recovery):** Activities which involve the recovery of chemicals such as solvents.

**Drums/tanks:** Activities involving processing of used drums or tanks.

**Waste/used oil:** Activities related to reprocessing waste oil to gain another product.

**Other:** Activities that involve recycling, but do not clearly fit into any of the above sub-categories.

**Unknown:** Activities that involve recycling, but the specific activities are unknown.

**Waste management:** Activities related to the treatment, storage, or disposal of waste.

**Co-disposal landfill (municipal and industrial):** A landfill which meets the definition of both an industrial and municipal landfill.

**Illegal disposal/open dump:** A disposal area where hazardous waste was dumped without authorization of the site owner or an open dump area.

**Industrial waste landfill:** An area used solely as a landfill where hazardous waste from a commercial or industrial source is disposed, regardless of whether the landfill is permitted by some government entity.

**Industrial waste facility (non-generator):** A facility which disposes, treats, or stores industrial waste. Examples of waste management operations that fit under this sub-category would be facilities that contain surface impoundments, incinerators, injection wells, open burn areas, or containers/drums/tanks.

**Mine tailings disposal:** An area where mine tailings, subsequent to mining, are disposed.

**Municipal solid waste landfill:** An area used solely as a landfill where domestic, demolition, construction, or sanitary waste is disposed, regardless of whether the landfill is permitted by some government entity.

**Radioactive waste treatment, storage, disposal (non-generator):** A facility which disposes, treats, or stores radioactive waste, but does not generate waste.

**Other:** Activities that involve waste management, but do not clearly fit into any of the above sub-categories.

**Unknown:** Activities that involve waste management, but the specific activities are unknown.

## Appendix B Definitions of Primary Site Activity Types (cont.)

**Other:** This category should only be used when a site activity does not fit into any of the other main categories.

**Agricultural (e.g., grain elevator):** A site at which agricultural activities such as farming or pesticide application occurred.

**Contaminated sediment site:** Contaminated surface water sediments with no identified source. For sites where the source of contamination is known, select the appropriate category/sub-category.

**Ground water plume site:** Contaminated ground water plume with no identified source. For plume sites where the source of contamination is known, select the appropriate category/sub-category.

**Military:** Activities at a military installation which could not specifically be assigned to any other category/subcategory (e.g., military base used for training, recruiting, or as a command center).

**Product storage/distribution:** Activities involving storage and/or distribution of items such as goods, products, or substances.

**Research, development, and testing facility:** A site that is used solely for research, development, and/or testing with no other site activities occurring.

**Residential:** A site used for residential purposes (including hotels). This sub-category can be used for Secondary Site Activity Type only.

**Retail/commercial:** A site which can be classified as being used for retail or commercial purposes such as a shopping center or dry cleaners.

**Spill or other one-time event:** A site that is the result of a one-time spill (e.g., truck, rail car, or barge accident) or other one-time event (e.g., one-time illegal dumping), with no other ongoing waste management or waste generation activities on-site.

**Spraying or spreading substances for dust control:** Activities involving spraying or spreading substances on the ground for purposes of dust control.

**Transportation (e.g., railroad yards, airport, barge docking site):** Activities related to airports, railroad yards, barge docking sites, transfer stations, or cleaning or fueling facilities. This sub-category does not include manufacturing or maintenance activities.

**Treatment works/septic tanks/other sewage treatment:** Activities related to wastewater and sewage treatment operations, including publicly owned treatment works.

**Other:** Activities which do not fit into any of the above sub-categories.

**Unknown:** Site activities are unknown based on available site documentation.

**Appendix C**  
**Definitions of Potentially Vulnerable Environments**  
**(To be Used in Responding to Question 7.1)**

**100-year Floodplain:** Any area that is subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year from any source. For riverine systems, both the floodway and the floodway fringe are included in the 100-year floodplain.

**Karst Terrain:** Area where karst topography, with its characteristic surface and subterranean features, is developed as a result of dissolution of limestone, dolomite or other soluble rock. Characteristic physiographic features present in karst terrain include, but are not limited to, sinkholes, sinking streams, caves, large springs, and blind alleys.

**Seismic Impact Area:** Area where the probability is greater than or equal to 10 percent that the maximum horizontal acceleration in firm ground or rock at a particular site will equal or exceed 0.10 g (expressed as a percentage of the earth's gravitational pull (g)), within a time period of 250 years. Horizontal ground acceleration is defined as maximum change in velocity over time relative to horizontal movement of the earth's surface as measured at a particular point during an earthquake. This parameter is used to calculate the acceleration values for any particular area and is derived from equations relating to the area's geology and its past seismicity.

**Unstable Terrain:** Area capable of impairing the integrity of an engineered structure as a result of natural events or human activities. Relevant natural events include, but are not limited to, localized ground subsidence; differential settling, collapse and slope failure; sinkhole formation in karst terrains; liquefaction; and hydrocompaction. Relevant human activities include, but are not limited to, construction operations; flood controls; ground water pumping, injection, and withdrawal; resource extraction; storm water drainage; and seepage from human-made water reservoirs.

**Vulnerable Ground Water (Class I Ground Water):** Ground water that is highly vulnerable to contamination and are either (1) irreplaceable as a source of drinking water to a substantial population or (2) ecologically vital.

**Wellhead Protection Area:** Area designated by the states to protect wells in recharge areas of public drinking water supplies, under authority of Section 1428 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.



