

IWMB Basic Risk Assessment Training: Practical Exercise

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The site:

- An imaginary closed landfill that operated from the 1940s to approximately 1993.
- The landfill is ringed by ground-water monitoring wells and landfill gas monitoring wells.

The Scenario:

- The owner of an adjoining parcel has applied for a permit to subdivide the property and develop it for retail and light commercial use.
- The project will require an EIR, which will trigger a risk assessment.
- The developer will not accept deed-restricted property.

Assignment: Phase 1

- Break up into groups of about 4 persons each.
- Develop a work plan for investigating the site (physical characteristics, contamination, etc.)
- What information will you need?

- What chemicals are likely to be there?

- How will you get the needed information/data?

- What kind of should samples be taken?

- Where should the samples be taken?

- Re-convene, synthesize and discuss results.

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Assignment: Phase 2

- Return to your groups.
- Develop a work plan for assessing risk and hazard at the site for the planned use and relevant exposure scenarios.
- Think about how you will use the data that will come out of the site investigation we just described to estimate risk to future users of the site (actual or hypothetical).
- What are the land use plans? _____

- Who is likely to be exposed? _____

- By what pathways might chemicals in the landfill get to people? _____

- What will you do with the results? _____

- Will you impose a deed restriction? Why or why not? _____

- Re-convene and discuss results.

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Relevant media.

Off-site soils (spills)

Ground water (contamination, depth, flow direction, use)

Soil gas (contaminants, location, gradients, temporal trends)

Wind-blown dust. (wind direction, traffic)