CERCLA: A step-by-step process

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Preliminary Assessment
The Preliminary Assessment (PA) investigates the history of a site and determines if further study is necessary.

Site Inspection
A Site Inspection (SI) is an on-site investigation to find out if there is a release (or a potential release) of substances to the environment, and to determine if environmental risks may be present.

Remedial Investigation
A Remedial Investigation (RI) determines the nature and extent of an environmental impact. Data is collected to learn more about the site and to determine if cleanup action is necessary.

Feasibility Study
When a response (such as cleanup action) is required, a Feasibility Study (FS) is completed to identify the best options available. The RI data is used to define the objectives of the response action and to analyze the alternatives for future cleanup actions.

Proposed Plan
The Proposed Plan outlines the nature and extent of environmental conditions and provides the preferred cleanup alternative from the Feasibility Study. A public meeting is held to provide the community an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed cleanup action.

Record of Decision
The Record of Decision (ROD) outlines the cleanup actions that will be taken to clean affected soil and groundwater according to standards approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Remedial Design
The Remedial Design (RD) is the technical analysis of the selected cleanup remedy for a site. It results in a detailed set of plans for implementing the cleanup. This step also includes any ongoing, long-term monitoring or other controls (zoning prohibitions, deed restrictions etc.) that may be required.

Remedial Action
The Remedial Action (RA) is the actual cleanup. It involves the construction or implementation of the cleanup remedy as determined by the ROD.

For more information on the laws governing the Memphis Depot environmental cleanup program, visit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website:

CERCLA:
www.epa.gov/superfund/action/law/cercla.htm.

SARA:
www.epa.gov/superfund/action/law/sara.htm

For general information on the Depot's environmental program, call the Community Relations Office at (901) 544-0613.

What's New at your local

Need to check a document or find more information on the environmental cleanup program at the Memphis Depot? You'll find technical documents, meeting minutes, historical files and other data at any of our three public Information Repositories, located in the Depot community.

Please note the hours of operation for the Memphis/Shelby County Public Library (Cherokee Branch) have changed.

Location: Memphis/Shelby County Public Library – Cherokee Branch
Address: 3300 Sharpe Ave.
Hours:
- Mon. to Thurs. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Closed Friday and Sunday.

Location: Memphis/Shelby County Health Department –Pollution Control Division
Address: 814 Jefferson Ave.
Hours:
- Mon. to Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: The Memphis Depot Community Reading Room
Address: Building 144, 2163 Airways Blvd.
Hours:
- Please call ahead for an appointment: 544-0613

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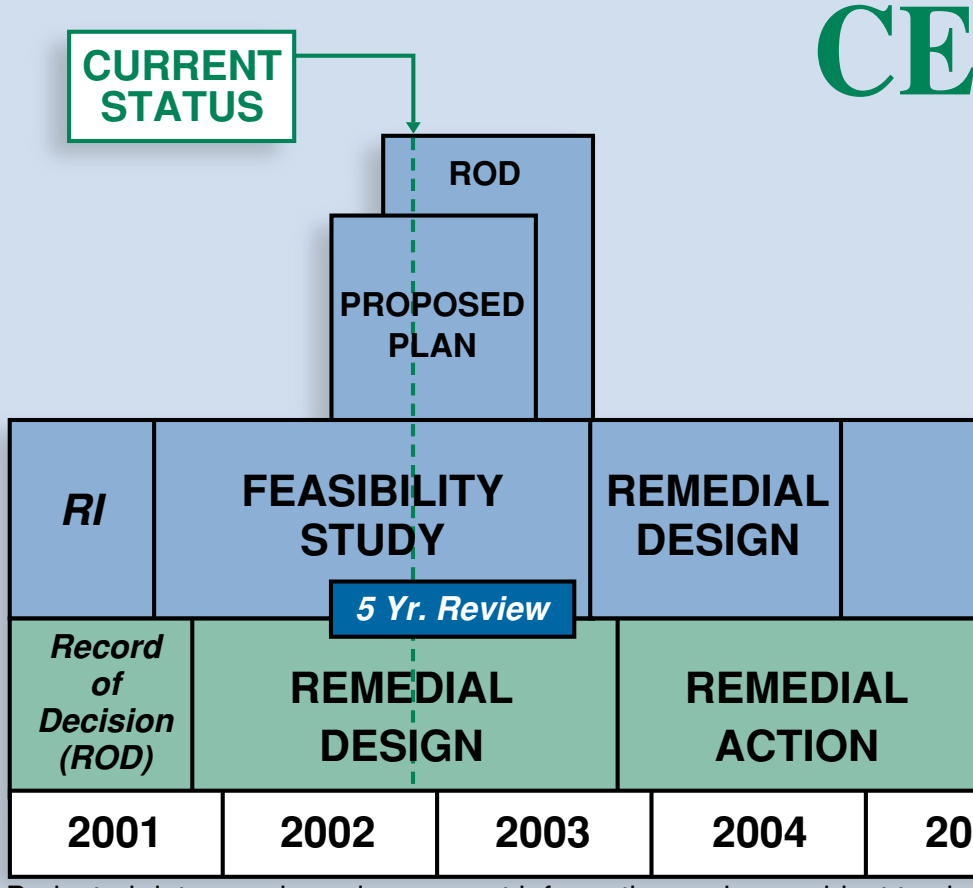

Projected dates are based on current information and are subject to cha