Overview of ITRC's Remediation Risk Management (RRM), Using the RRM Framework at Complex Sites, and Overview of ITRC's New Project on Remediation Management of Complex Sites

Anna Willett, Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council

In 2011, the Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) published a guidance document on Remediation Risk Management (RRM) and offered an associated Internet based training course. RRM is an approach to contaminated site management that considers a spectrum of project risks. The purpose of RRM is to significantly improve the quality of remediation decision making throughout a project life cycle regardless of the site size and complexity, type of cleanup program, or stage in the cleanup process. RRM prompts careful consideration of a variety of potential project risks and helps project managers identify and address the most significant risks to their project. RRM uses a broad perspective and provides general tools to allow project managers to execute risk mitigation plans to improve the likelihood of achieving project objectives. One project risk included in RRM is the risk that the selected remedy will fail to perform according to objectives. This risk is especially important to consider for complicated sites where clean up is technically challenging and expected to occur over very long timeframes (hundreds of years). To address the topic of complex site clean up, ITRC formed a new Remediation Management of Complex Sites Team in January 2014. The Complex Sites Team will work to better define what a complex site is and provide agreement upon approaches for management.