

## **The EPRI “Groundwater and Soil Remediation Guidelines for Nuclear Power Plants”**

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The follow are excerpts from the report summary of the EPRI Groundwater and Soil Remediation Guidelines (EPRI Report 1023464.)

“The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Groundwater and Soil Remediation Guidelines provides the nuclear power industry with technical guidance for evaluating the need for and timing of remediation of soil and/or groundwater contamination from onsite leaks, spills, or inadvertent releases to a) prevent migration of licensed material off-site and b) minimize decommissioning impacts.”

“This document provides the guidance necessary to establish a decision making protocol for soil or groundwater remediation at each nuclear power plant site. The remediation evaluation protocol includes remediation objectives, site investigation criteria, and draft site release limits to evaluate the need for remediation in the event of a leak or spill. Considerations that should be included in the decision-making protocol are:

1. Potential for off-site migration of contamination following an inadvertent release.
2. Potential impacts to decommissioning planning and costs, such as increases in contaminated materials requiring disposal at decommissioning.
3. Potential to exceed site release criteria at license termination.
4. Potential impacts to plant operation and business practices.

The document also provides the information necessary to evaluate remediation options with respect to technical feasibility, safety, and cost in order to determine if remediation is more effective and/or less costly during operation or decommissioning. Based on this evaluation, the user can make a site-specific and informed technical and business decision for each incident on undertaking remediation during operation or during decommissioning.”

“EPRI developed these Guidelines in response to an industry-wide need for guidance in evaluating the need for soil and groundwater remediation and applicable and cost-effective technologies. The decision making process provided in this document was designed to ensure that each nuclear power plant could implement a remediation program that was appropriate for their site, thus allowing each plant to optimize their resources.”