

Environmental Risk Assessment

What is an Environmental Risk Assessment?

There are many situations where the potential adverse effects on human health and the environment must be considered prior to the commencement of a project. The usual approach is through the use of an environmental risk assessment to ensure that site-specific risks are acceptable, once a development is underway or completed.

Assessment of environmental risk is a complex subject that is incorporated into European and UK legislation and statutory guidance documents. It is a process used to determine the following:

- What contaminants are present;
- What is the likelihood of and severity from any exposure to these contaminants; and,
- What can be done to manage any significant adverse risk.

Who needs an Environmental Risk assessment?

In a property transaction environmental risk assessment will enable all interested parties to make an informed decision on the likely environmental risks and liabilities that they may face.

Environmental risk assessments are a requirement for any development that could adversely affect or lead to an adverse affect on the environment or human health.

How are Risk Assessments carried out?

There are two types of environmental risk assessment:

- Tier I – Comparison of risk data with accepted, non-site specific guideline values.
- Tier II – Comparison of site data with site specific target values.

For Tier I and Tier II risk assessments, REC employs a range of appropriate software including:

- CLEA and SNIFFER to model the effect on human health from soil and vegetation;
- CONSIM, and EA R&D P20 for simulating contamination to controlled waters; and,
- RBCA and RISC to model the effect on human health from contaminated soil, groundwater and vapour.



How does Risk Assessment Help You?

REC views environmental risk assessment as influencing all aspects of development including:

- Foundation design;
- Gas protection measures;
- Construction procedures;
- Capping measures;
- Best use of land;
- Waste classification and disposal; and,
- Environmental and financial liability.

Why choose REC?

The REC land assessment team have many years of experience at environmental risk assessments in a wide variety of situations. Our existing clients value our technical knowledge and capabilities and we have an extensive and proven track record.

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REC Group Services include: ■ Geo-environmental Site Investigation & Risk Assessment, ■ Brownfield Site Remediation, ■ Ecological Surveys ■ Asbestos Surveys, Analysis & Clearance Certification ■ MCERTS accredited Stack Emission Monitoring ■ Air Quality & Odour Monitoring & Assessment ■ COSHH Monitoring Assessments ■ UKAS & MCERTS Accredited Laboratory Analysis

UK Offices in Manchester, Birmingham, Braintree, Fareham, Huddersfield, Newcastle, Port Talbot
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