
TECHNICAL HANDBOOK FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING
VOLUME VI - FACILITIES ENGINEERING
PART 75 - ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES

CHAPTER 75-6 BEST PRACTICES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION AND MANAGEMENT

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75-6.1 PURPOSE

This chapter designates the *Guidance Document for Managing Hazardous Materials in IHS Buildings* as the guidance regarding environmental remediation and hazardous materials considerations and establishes the order of precedence with other guidance.

75-6.2 BACKGROUND

This chapter provides guidance regarding how environmentally "clean" a building must be. It includes remediation action to be taken prior to transfer or demolition of IHS property as well as for property remaining in the IHS inventory.

75-6.3 PROCEDURES

The *Guidance Document for Managing Hazardous Materials in IHS Buildings* (latest version is available at http://www.dfo.ihs.gov/com_work/env_docs/Guidance_Document_for_Managing_Hazardous_Materials.PDF) shall be used as the basis of the decision process. This *Guidance Document* applies to the conduct of routine operations, renovations, and disposition, either by demolition or by transfer to tribal governments. It does not cover all possible environmental concerns but does cover asbestos, lead, PCB`s, mercury, hazardous waste and underground storage tanks. Best Management Practices shall be followed to the maximum extent practicable. If guidance for a particular situation is not found in the *Guidance Document*, more specific guidance should be sought for that particular situation from a source with more specialized knowledge related to the particular issue.

There may be occasion when other Handbook chapters or technical guidance, including decisions made by the Health Facilities Advisory Committee (HFAC) might conflict with the posted *Guidance Document for Managing Hazardous Materials in IHS Buildings*. If conflicts exist between the *Guidance Document* and other Technical Handbook chapters, the posted *Guidance Document* shall take precedence. If conflicts arise between HFAC decisions and the *Guidance Document*, those decisions postdating the posted *Guidance Document* will take precedence; otherwise the posted *Guidance Document in IHS Buildings* will take precedence.

The guidelines contained in the *Guidance Document* are not meant to be prescriptive. Although the underlying principles associated with these guidelines are consistent, decisions made during their application may

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differ from one facility to another due to such matters as local regulation, age and condition of facilities, future plans for facilities, staff resources, needs of recipient communities, etc. For example, decisions to remediate versus manage in place versus demolish may be influenced by one or all of these matters.