

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) at a glance.

There are many required steps associated with an environmental cleanup process under CERCLA. Briefly, these steps are:

1. **Preliminary Assessment (PA)** - A historical record search to determine whether further investigation is warranted.
2. **Site Investigation (SI)** - Physical inspection of site with biased soil, sediment, surface water and groundwater sampling to determine whether further investigation is warranted.
3. **Remedial Investigation (RI)** - Investigation into the type and extent of potential contamination through in-depth sampling of air, soils, surface water, groundwater, plants, and animal life.
4. **Feasibility Study (FS)** - Evaluation of potential cleanup alternatives and selection of a proposed remedy.
5. **Proposed Plan (PP)** - Documentation of the feasible alternatives that are considered along with the proposed remedy. The public may comment on the proposed plan.
6. **Record of Decision (ROD)** - Documentation of the selected remedy with the Army's response to any public comments.
7. **Remedial Design (RD)** - Completion of the engineering design for the selected remedy.
8. **Remedial Action (RA)** - Commencement and operation of the selected remedy.
9. **Remedy In Place (RIP)** - Remedies could include fences, clay covers, on-site treatment, monitoring, among many other actions that could be taken at locations of releases.