

INVESTIGATING CONTAMINATED SITES

WHAT IS SITE INVESTIGATION?

Site investigation is a process used to gather detailed information about potentially contaminated sites. These investigations are carried out by qualified environmental professionals.

SITE INVESTIGATION PROTOCOL

Protocols describe technical and administrative procedures that must be followed when completing certain tasks.

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy wants to create a protocol for site investigation that will set clear requirements for collecting and testing soil, water, sediment, and vapour samples while ensuring Indigenous perspectives are considered.

The Site Investigation protocol will:

- include requirements that reflect Indigenous needs, interests, and perspectives
- improve the consistency and merit of data collection and reporting of site investigations carried out by qualified professionals;
- improve the ministry's ability to protect human health and the environment through compliance and enforcement; and
- reduce the backlog of contaminated sites applications by decreasing service response times.



STAGES OF SITE INVESTIGATION

Stage 1 Preliminary site investigation

Review of historical records to determine site use and potential for contamination

Stage 2 Preliminary site investigation

Collect and analyze samples to confirm site contamination

Detailed site investigation

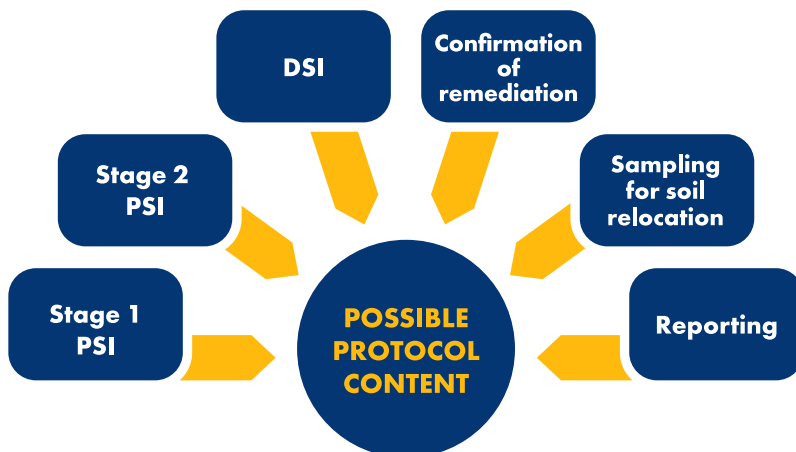
Final stage of site investigation to find the extent of contamination

Confirmation of remediation

Confirm the site is cleaned up

WHAT TO INCLUDE?

The content of the protocol will be determined through consultation and collaboration with Indigenous partners.



Requirements that already exist in other ministry protocols, technical guidance documents and websites will be moved into the new protocol. A review of other government approaches to site investigation is also underway.

