

567—105.202(455H) Definitions. For the purposes of this division, these definitions and the definitions in Iowa Code section 455H.103 shall apply:

“ASTM standards” means the standards as specified in these rules and most recently adopted by ASTM International as of August 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted in these rules.

“Background standard” means a standard that represents concentrations of contaminants that are naturally occurring or are generally present and not related to a readily identifiable release.

“Carcinogenic health risk” means the incremental risk of a person developing cancer over a lifetime (70 years) as a result of exposure to a hazardous substance, expressed as a probability such as one in a million (10⁻⁶). The contaminant level for the probability value is derived from application of certain designated exposure assumptions and a slope factor.

“Code of Federal Regulations” or *“CFR”* means the federal administrative rules adopted by the United States as amended through August 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted in these rules.

“Contaminant” means any hazardous substance found in the various media of the environment.

“Contaminant of concern” means specific hazardous substances that are identified for evaluation in the risk assessment process. Identification can be based on their historical and current use at the site, detected concentrations in environmental media and their mobility, toxicity, and persistence in the environment.

“Cumulative risk” means a summation of cancer and noncancer risks, determined separately, based on exposure to multiple contaminants from the same medium and exposure of the same individual to contaminants in multiple media.

“Enrolled site” means any property as defined by a legal description, a parcel number, or similar description that sufficiently defines the property in question, that has been or is suspected to be the site of or affected by a release and that has been enrolled pursuant to this division by a participant.

“Environmental protection easement” means an institutional control created under Iowa Code section 455H.206 that is a statutorily authorized restriction on land use.

“Exposure pathway” means the course a contaminant of concern may take from its source area to an exposed organism. Each exposure pathway includes a source or release from a source, a point of exposure, and an exposure route.

“Exposure route” means the manner in which a contaminant of concern comes in contact with an organism (including but not limited to ingestion, inhalation, dermal contact).

“Free product” means a hazardous substance that is present as a nonaqueous phase liquid (e.g., liquid not dissolved in water) or is present as a solid in its original form as a product or waste material.

“Gross contamination” means contamination present at concentrations in an amount sufficient to reasonably expect that institutional or technological controls will not be adequately protective of human health or the environment.

“Group A, B, C, D and E chemicals” means hazardous substances that have been classified based on the weight of evidence of human carcinogenicity. Group A substances are carcinogenic to humans. Group B substances are likely to be carcinogenic to humans. Group C substances have suggestive evidence of human carcinogenicity, but not sufficient evidence to assess human carcinogenic potential. Data are inadequate to assess human carcinogenic potential for Group D substances. Group E substances are not likely to be carcinogenic to humans.

“Hydraulic conductivity” means a measure of the capacity of a porous medium (rock or soil) to transmit water. It is expressed as the volume of water that will flow through a unit length of a unit cross-sectional area of the porous medium in a unit time with a unit head loss.

“Institutional controls” means a nonphysical action that restricts land use to reduce or eliminate exposure to the contaminants of an affected area.

“Lifetime health advisory level” or *“HAL”* means a lifetime health advisory level for a contaminant, established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Health advisories represent the concentration of a single contaminant, based on current toxicological information, in drinking water that is not expected to cause adverse health effects over lifetime exposure.

“Maximum contaminant level” or *“MCL”* means the enforceable maximum contaminant level established by the EPA pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act.

“No further action certificate” means the same as no further action letter as described in Iowa Code section 455H.301. It is a document issued by the department to the participant certifying no further response action is required at an enrolled site for those conditions classified as no further action except the monitoring or the maintenance of institutional or technological controls when required.

“No further action certification” means the department has determined an enrolled site has met all standards applicable for the identified hazardous substances and no further response action is required except the monitoring or the maintenance of institutional or technological controls when required.

“Nonresidential land-use area” means any area that is not a residential land-use area.

“Participant” means any person who applies for the program or enrolls property pursuant to this chapter. A participant is a participant only to the extent the participant complies with the requirements of this chapter.

“Point of compliance” means a location selected within the affected area where the concentration of contaminants of concern must be at or below the target levels established for that point.

“Point of exposure” means the location at which an individual or population may come in contact with a contaminant of concern from the enrolled site.

“Receptor” means an individual or population that is or may be affected by a release from the enrolled site.

“Reference dose,” expressed in units of milligrams per day exposure to the contaminant per kilogram of body weight of the exposed individual, means the amount of contaminant that an individual can ingest on a daily basis for a lifetime that is not likely to result in adverse noncancer health effects. A reference dose is protective of the entire human population, including sensitive subpopulations.

“Residential land-use area” means an area zoned for residential use or an area where residential use currently exists, is planned, or is not otherwise precluded. In addition, a residential land-use area includes other areas where frequent, long-term, close contact with soils is likely to occur (e.g., playgrounds, sport fields, gardens, child care facilities).

“Risk evaluation/response action document” means a document based on the site assessment for the enrolled site that includes a risk evaluation, proposed response action, and proposed compliance verification strategy for the enrolled site.

“Site assessment plan” means the optional plan submitted to the department that lays out the rationale and the steps to be followed in the conduct of a site assessment for the enrolled site.

“Site assessment report” means the report of the site assessment that defines the nature and extent of contamination, identifies likely exposure pathways, and allows for characterizing potential and current exposure risks posed by the enrolled site.

“Site-specific standard” means a standard for a specific site that represents a concentration of a contaminant in a media of an affected area at which exposure through a specific pathway is considered unlikely to pose a threat to human health, safety, or the environment given site-specific factors related to contaminant transport and likely exposure.

“Slope factor” means an upper bound estimate that approximates a 95 percent confidence limit of the increased cancer risk from a lifetime exposure to a contaminant. This estimate is expressed in units of the proportion of a population that is affected per milligram per day exposure to the contaminant per kilogram of body weight of the exposed individual.

“Statewide standard” means a standard that represents a concentration of a contaminant in a specific media of an affected area at which normal, unrestricted exposure through a specific exposure pathway is considered unlikely to pose a threat to human health, safety, or the environment.

“Surface water” means general use segments as provided in 567—paragraph 61.3(1)“a” and designated use segments of water bodies as provided in 567—paragraph 61.3(1)“b” and 567—subrule 61.3(5).

“Target level” means a concentration of a contaminant of concern required to establish compliance with background, statewide or site-specific standards.

“Target organ” means the biological organ(s) most adversely affected from exposure to the contaminant of concern. A “reference dose” used to calculate noncancer health risk is normally established based on adverse impact to a target organ or organs from exposure to the contaminant of concern.

“Technological control” means a physical action whose main purpose is to reduce or eliminate exposure to the contaminants of an affected area.

[ARC 0486D, IAB 8/19/26, effective 9/23/26]