



Project Profile

Sector: Risk Assessment

Project: Method for deriving site-specific human health assessment criteria for contaminants in soil

Client: Scottish and Northern Ireland Forum For Environmental Research (SNIFFER) in collaboration with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Environment Agency

Published: April 2003

SNIFFER commissioned Land Quality Management to update report SR 99(02), which was originally published in January 2000 and subject to minor amendments in April 2000 (see project profile *Framework to Derive Numeric Targets for Contaminated Soil to Protect Human Health*). The reason for wishing to update the project was to:

- add clarity through changing some of the terminology and formatting used;
- ensure that the framework is compatible with UK policy, in particular the defaults and assumptions underpinning the Contaminated Land Exposure Assessment (CLEA) model; and
- make validated electronic worksheets to support the framework available on SNIFFER's website.

The framework provides a deterministic approach which can be worked through on a site-by-site basis to derive human health assessment criteria. The assessment criteria derived are useful in assessing whether concentrations of substances in soil are unacceptable in terms of chronic risks posed to human health and in informing remediation objectives.

The framework considers standard land uses and also presents formulae should non-standard land uses require consideration.

The updated report, entitled the 'Method for deriving site-specific human health assessment criteria for contaminants in soil' (SNIFFER project reference LQ01), which also includes a sensitivity analysis of the method, and the validated electronic worksheets which the support the method are available for free download from:

http://www.sniffer.org.uk/whats_new.asp