



State of Washington Pollution Liability Insurance Agency



Petroleum Technical Assistance Program Definitions

Further Action (FA): An opinion letter issued by the state of Washington that indicates further action is needed to meet the substantive clean-up requirements of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

Hazard Ranking (WARM Score): The results of the Site Hazard Assessment (SHA) are used in the Washington Ranking Method (WARM) to yield a WARM score. This is a number between 1 and 5 where a “1” represents the highest level of risk and a “5” the lowest (WAC 173-340-330).

Hazardous Sites List (HSL): A semi-annual list of contaminated sites that shows sites ranked and slated for clean up under the Model Toxics Control Act (WAC 173-340-330).

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA): A citizen-initiated toxic waste cleanup law that requires site cleanups to protect human health and the environment (Chapter 173-340 WAC).

No Further Action (NFA): An opinion letter issued by the state of Washington that indicates no further action is needed to meet the substantive clean-up requirements of MTCA.

Partial Sufficiency (PS): An opinion letter issued by the state of Washington that indicates that the substantive clean-up requirements of MTCA have been partially fulfilled.

Petroleum Technical Assistance Program (PTAP): PLIA’s technical assistance program for qualifying petroleum cleanup sites.

Terrestrial Ecology Evaluation (TEE): An ecological evaluation that determines if land-based plants or animals are at risk from exposure to contaminated soil (WAC 173-340-7490). Certain criteria may exclude a site from TEE (WAC-173-340-7491).

Release: Intended or unintended discharge of a hazardous substance into the environment.



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Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS): Activities to conduct, develop, and evaluate information regarding a site to select a cleanup action.

Revised Code of Washington (RCW): Permanent Washington State law.

Site Hazard Assessment (SHA): An assessment to confirm the presence of hazardous substances and assess the relative risk the site poses to human health and the environment (WAC 173-340-320).

Underground Storage Tank (UST): An underground storage tank and connected underground piping.

Washington Administrative Code (WAC): Washington State Regulations.