



Dealing with contamination

Overview

Land can be contaminated by things like:

1. Heavy metals, such as arsenic, cadmium and lead
2. Oils and tars
3. Chemical substances and preparations, like solvents
4. Gases
5. Asbestos

What counts as contamination?

Land is defined as “Contaminated Land” where substances are causing or could cause:

1. Significant harm to people, property, or protected species
2. Significant pollution of surface waters (for example lakes and rivers) or groundwater
3. Harm to people.

Contaminated land may previously have been used as a:

1. Factory
2. Mine
3. Steel mill
4. Refinery
5. Landfill



Is there suspected contaminated land.

And how to deal with it:

- 1. If when breaking out a structures floor slabs and footings materials, odours, discoloration of soils are found, STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY.**
- 2. Report the find to your line Manager.**
- 3. The site Manager will make the area safe by placing restrictive barriers around the area, they may want to back fill the excavation or cover it over with a covering of polyethene.**
- 4. When carrying out the above in No.3 eye protection and gloves MUST be always worn Inc. face mask. NOTE: ALL site personnel are face fitted.**
- 5. ALL PPE used in making safe a suspected contamination will be bagged and disposed of as contaminated waste.**
- 6. The site Manager will inform the Client and Local authority.**
- 7. Depending on the find an appropriate contractor will be appointed to take samples and NO further work in that area will continue until:**

- 1. The test results confirm that there is NO contamination then works may proceed.**
- 2. The test results confirm that YES, the ground/material is contaminated.**
- 3. If No.2 the Client will appoint an appropriate contractor to remediate the area and to provide certified confirmation that ALL contaminants have been removed and the area is SAFE to proceed with works.**