

Book review

Risk Assessment: Principles and Applications for Hazardous Waste and Related Sites,
P.K. LaGoy, Noyes Data Corporation, Park Ridge, NJ, 1994, \$48.00, 248pp, ISBN
0-8155-1349-6

“The overwhelming mandate of the Superfund program (and of all remediation work), is to protect human health and the environment from current and potential threats posed by uncontrolled releases of hazardous substances.”

To protect human health, one must assess the risk of in-place pollutants and determine the degree to which they must be removed. To do that, this book provides guidance on the mechanisms of risk assessment preparation and illustrates these approaches with examples.

The book has ten chapters and two 30-page case studies. After an introduction to the purpose, principles and history of site-specific risk assessment, the following chapters are found:

- Chemical characteristics
- Regular toxicology
- Exposure assessment
- Risk characterization
- Uncertainty in risk assessment
- Risk communication
- Risk assessment as a remediation tool
- Radiation risk assessment
- Ecological risk assessment

The two (detailed) case studies deal with: (1) Baseline site-specific risk assessment for a crop duster airfield and (2) risk assessment-based remediation goals for a metal plating company. The book ends with an extensive (144 item) list of relevant references.

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