

## **Executive Summary**

The analytical process outlined in the Superfund Exposure Assessment Manual provides a framework for the assessment of exposure to contaminants at or migrating from uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The application of both monitoring and modeling procedures to the exposure assessment process is outlined. This process considers all contaminant releases and exposure routes and assures that an adequate level of analytical detail is applied to support the human health risk assessment process.

The analytical process is structured in five segments:

1. Analysis of contaminant releases from a subject site into environmental media;
2. Evaluation of the transport and environmental fate of the contaminants released;
3. Identification, enumeration, and characterization of potentially exposed populations;

4. Integrated exposure analysis; and
5. Uncertainty analysis.

The Superfund Exposure Assessment Manual supports the development of exposure assessments that are consistent from site to site, and provides a means of documenting that each site receives adequate evaluation. The procedures presented reflect current (at the time of publication) state-of-the-art methods for conducting an exposure assessment. However, it is important for the analyst to recognize that exposure assessment is a developing science. Although the overall protocol for conducting exposure assessments at Superfund sites will not change significantly over time and the basic parameters needed as input to the analysis are not likely to change, alternative analytical methods may be developed for many parts of the assessment. The methods presented in this manual can serve as a benchmark against which such new methods can be compared.