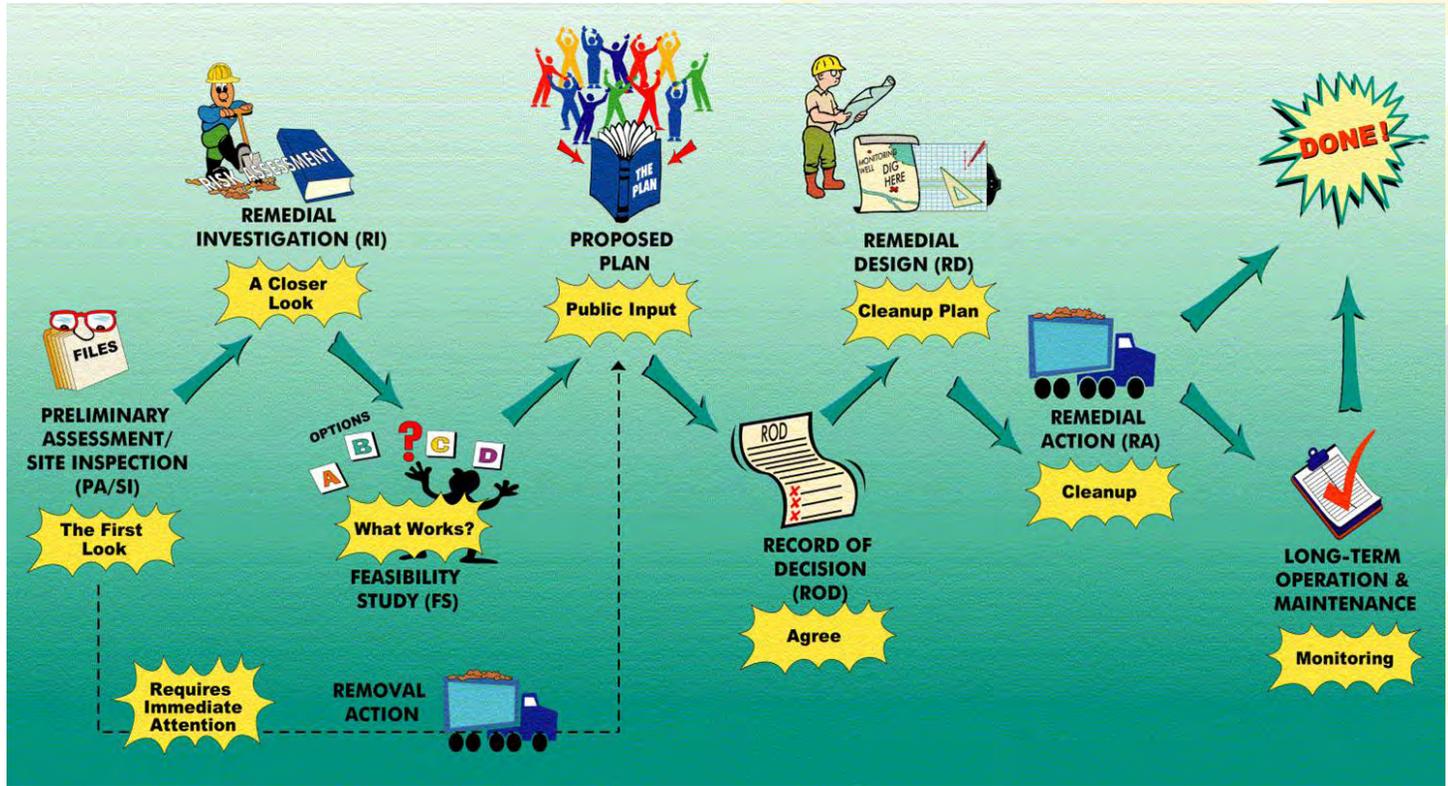


# What is CERCLA



CERCLA stands for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Administered by the EPA, this federal law prescribes a very specific process for the investigation and cleanup of sites listed on the National Priorities List, or Superfund. The following describes the CERCLA process:



**Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection:** Investigates site conditions and contaminants.

**Immediate Attention Removal Action:** Contains or removes contaminants that pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment prior to completion of the CERCLA process.

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study:** Determines the nature and extent of contamination. Assesses the treatability of site contamination and evaluates the potential performance and cost of treatment technologies.

**Proposed Plan:** Presents the responsible entity's preferred alternative for cleanup. This Plan is presented to the public and public comment is sought through a public meeting and a public comment period of at least 30 days.

**Records of Decision:** Explains which cleanup alternatives will be used at site.

**Remedial Design:** Defines the specific design of the actual cleanup remedy.

**Remedial Action:** Implements the cleanup remedy.

**Long-term Operation and Maintenance:** Ongoing monitoring of the site to verify the effectiveness of the cleanup remedy.