



ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION DIVISION

PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

WORKSHOP

U.S. Army Environmental Center

Two years ago, the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (OACSIM) initiated the Independent Technical Review (ITR) program; first for the Base Realignment and Closure Program in FY98 and then for the Active Sites cleanup program in FY99. For more information on ITR, see the ITR/GWETER fact sheet. As an outgrowth of the ITR, an additional mechanism, the Principles of Environmental Restoration (PER) Workshop has been developed to provide environmental restoration assistance to the Army. This outgrowth of ITR is the result of an effort to capitalize on a training program developed jointly by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to improve the DOE cleanup program.



The purpose of the PER workshop is to provide tools and approaches that will help decision-makers collect appropriate investigative information and proceed more quickly to acceptable site closeout. The workshop stresses the need for early planning and development of data quality objectives and early development of exit criteria to ensure investigations and cleanups stay on track. The workshop is intended to:

1. provide sufficient understanding of environmental restoration principles to ensure that proposed investigative and cleanup requirements are needed to support risk-based decisions and actions, and
2. Improve the process within which the installation project teams operate to better focus on the end objectives of the restoration program.

Central to the PER workshop are four key principles of environmental restoration and their interrelationship (see figure). These principles are:

1. building an effective project management team;
2. clear, concise, and accurate problem identification;



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3. early identification of possible response actions; and
 4. uncertainties are inherent and will always need to be managed.

The workshop addresses the applicability of these principles across the spectrum of restoration efforts - from site investigation planning through site closeout - and how they can be used to improve the decision-making process at most sites. For more information on the decision-making process, see the fact sheet on decision-based planning.

The PER workshop provides the opportunity to refocus on the basic principles of environmental restoration and the ultimate goal of site closeout. This mechanism also provides the opportunity for the project management team to meet and work through site-specific exercises that address the issues at hand.

More Information

If you are interested in discussing the PER Workshop and how it may benefit your installation in greater detail, contact:

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