
APPENDIX 4 ▶ Site Classifications

Site Classifications

The Ministry for the Environment's guidelines on the management of contaminated site information "Collecting and Managing Contaminated Sites Information - A Guide for Local Government" (April 1996) provides some proposals for the definition of classes in the database. For the purpose of the Gisborne District Council Contaminated Site Database these classifications have been modified to suit. The definitions also contain labels to be placed on PIM and LIM's which describe the sites status.

CONTAMINATED SITE (MANAGED)

A contaminated site is one that has been identified as being contaminated by a site investigation or independent report, by a suitably qualified professional where objective or quantitative data has been received, confirming that the site has been contaminated.

The sites will be labelled:

"This site, currently or historically, has been occupied by landuse activities commonly associated with hazardous substances. This site has been assessed, and based on current information the site is confirmed to be contaminated. Due to the nature of the contamination no remediation is planned and the site will be managed in accordance with its contaminated site management plan. The site is currently mapped on sheet [insert appropriate sheet number] of the Gisborne District Urban and Rural Planning Maps."

CONTAMINATED SITE (FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED)

A contaminated site is one that has been identified as being contaminated by a site investigation or independent report, by a suitably qualified professional where objective or quantitative data has been received, confirming that the site has been contaminated. The classification allows Council to manage its responsibility to advise interested parties that there are concerns, but the extent or character of the contamination has not been confirmed. This classification would also be used to identify sites where owners indicate that investigations are currently under way but results have not been finalised.

The sites will be labelled:

"This site, currently or historically, has been occupied by landuse activities commonly associated with hazardous substances. This site has been assessed, and based on current information the site is confirmed to be contaminated. Due to the nature of the contamination further investigation will be needed to fully assess the adverse environmental effects occurring from the contamination."

CONTAMINATED SITE (REMEDATION PLANNED)

A contaminated site is one that has been identified as being contaminated by a site investigation or independent report, by a suitably qualified professional where objective or quantitative data has been received, confirming that the site has been contaminated. Remediation of this site has been planned but for a number of possible reasons is yet to begin.

The sites will be labelled:

"This site, currently or historically, has been occupied by landuse activities commonly associated with hazardous substances. This site has been assessed, and based on current information the site is confirmed to be contaminated. Remediation measures are planned to be undertaken at this site in the future, and are planned to commence [insert appropriate date]."

CONTAMINATED SITE (UNDER REMEDIATION)

A site under remediation is one where contamination has been confirmed. The site is currently undergoing remediation measures.

The Sites will be labelled:

"This site, currently or historically, has been occupied by landuse activities commonly associated with hazardous substances. The site has been confirmed contaminated and is currently undergoing remediation measures to make it suitable for [insert appropriate landuse] based on current information."

REMEDIED SITE

This category includes sites where the remedial action or management strategy implemented is such that the site contamination hazard no longer poses a risk to human health and/or the environment while the current landuse continues. It is necessary to keep this site in this category because if the site is rezoned or is proposed to be developed to a more sensitive landuse, existing levels of contamination may be inconsistent with the new landuse. If the landuse on this site changes (e.g. to one more sensitive) the site has the potential to classified as a contaminated site again.

The sites will be labelled:

"This location, currently or historically, has been occupied by landuse activities commonly associated with hazardous substances. The site has been Remediated and is suitable for [insert appropriate landuse] based on current information."