

Standards for Substances in Schedule 10 of the Contaminated Sites Regulation

Schedules 4 through 7, 10 and 11 of the Contaminated Sites Regulation provide numerical concentration environmental quality standards for a large number of substances. In relation to the substances in Schedule 10, this guidance describes:

- how the standards are integrated with those of Schedules 4–7 and 9; and
- the duties of responsible persons using Schedule 10 in the context of risks to ecological health.

For a detailed description of environmental quality standards and how they work, please refer to Technical Guidance 3 in this series.

What are the Schedule 10 standards?

Schedule 10 lists soil and water standards for over 200 substances, many of which are pesticides. They were derived for the protection of human health, for the five land uses in Schedules 4 and 5, and drinking water use. Practical quantitation limits for a number of these substances were formerly included in this Schedule but have now been deleted.

Schedule 10 contains numerical standards

Changes to the Regulation in 2004 introduced amended definitions for environmental quality standards. The generic numerical soil standards and the generic numerical water standards were both redefined to include substances in Schedule 10. This means that the standards in Schedule 10 can be used to determine if a site is contaminated and when

a site has been remediated to meet government requirements.

The standards in Schedule 10 now can be used to authorize the relocation of contaminated soil. Amendments to the Regulation in 2009 have expanded trigger values for Contaminated Soil Relocation Agreements in section 40(2)(a) to include values in both Schedule 7 and Schedule 10.

Schedule 10 substances address the protection of human health

The standards provided in Schedule 10 only address human health risks. As a result, a responsible person for a site containing a substance listed in Schedule 10 must ensure that the use of the standards in the Schedule does not constitute a significant risk or hazard to ecological health.

Responsible persons are advised to consider carefully the following factors when reviewing the potential of such a Schedule 10 substance to impact ecological receptors:

- the quantity of the substance-contaminated material to be remediated or relocated;
- the acute and chronic toxicity, bioavailability, and bioaccumulative potential of the substance; and
- the environmental persistence, fate, and transport associated with the substance.

For more information, contact the Environmental Management Branch at site@gov.bc.ca.