

Iowa Action Levels for Soils and Groundwater

Iowa has adopted the ASTM RBCA method for addressing Petroleum Contaminated sites. See Action levels, Tier 1 table below. The action levels are used to determine when a Tier 1 investigation is required.

567--135.14(455B) Action levels. The following corrective action levels apply to petroleum regulated substances as regulated by this chapter. These action levels shall be used to determine if further corrective action under 567--135.6(455B) through 567--135.12(455B) or 567--135.15(455B) is required as the result of tank closure sampling under 135.15(3) or other analytical results submitted to the department. The contaminant concentrations must be determined by laboratory analysis as stated in 567--135.16(455B). Final cleanup determination is not limited to these contaminants. The contamination corrective action levels are:

Product	Soils (mg/kg)	Groundwater (µg/L)
Benzene	0.54	5
Toluene	3.2	1,000
Ethylbenzene	15	700
Xylenes	52	10,000
Total Extractable Hydrocarbons	3,800	1,200

Iowa Tier 1 Look-Up Table

Media	Exposure Pathway	Receptor	Group 1				Group 2: TEH	
			Benzene	Toluene	Ethylbenzene	Xylenes	Diesel*	Waste Oil
Groundwater (µg/L)	Groundwater Ingestion	Actual	5	1,000	700	10,000	1,200	400
		Potential	290	7,300	3,700	73,000	75,000	40,000
	Groundwater Vapor to Enclosed Space	All	1,540	20,190	46,000	NA	2,200,000	NA
	Groundwater to Water Line	PVC or Gasketed Mains	7,500	6,250	40,000	48,000	75,000	40,000
		PVC or Gasketed Service Lines	3,750	3,120	20,000	24,000	75,000	40,000
		PE/PB/AC Mains or Service Lines	200	3,120	3,400	19,000	75,000	40,000
	Surface Water	All	290	1,000	3,700	73,000	75,000	40,000
Soil (mg/kg)	Soil Leaching to Groundwater	All	0.54	42	15	NA	3,800	NA
	Soil Vapor to Enclosed Space	All	1.16	48	79	NA	47,500	NA
	Soil to Water Line	All	2.0	3.2	45	52	10,500	NA

Iowa Tier 1 Look-up Table

Note: NA= Not applicable. There are no limits for the chemical for the pathway, because for groundwater pathways the concentration for the designated risk would be greater than the solubility of the pure chemical in water, and for soil pathways the concentration for the designated risk would be greater than the soil concentration if pure chemical were present in the soil.

TEH: Total Extractable Hydrocarbons. The TEH value is based on risks from naphthalene, benzo(a)pyrene, benz(a)anthracene, and chrysene.

* Standards in the diesel column apply to all low volatile petroleum hydrocarbons except waste oil.

Refer to Appendix B (567-IAC 135) for further details.

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