



Evaluation of Alternatives

Under CERCLA, **nine criteria** are used to evaluate remedial alternatives developed in the Feasibility Study, both individually and against one another, to select a remedial action. These criteria are summarized below.



Threshold Criteria

(must be satisfied to be eligible for selection as the Preferred Alternative)

1. Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment determines whether the alternative eliminates, reduces, or controls threats to human health and the environment.

2. Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) evaluates whether the alternative meets federal and state (or, in this case, District) environmental statutes, regulations, and other requirements identified by the lead agency as applicable, or relevant and appropriate, to the circumstances at the Site, or whether a waiver of such requirements is justified.

Balancing Criteria

(used to compare alternatives)



3. Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence considers the ability of the alternative to maintain protection of human health and the environment over time.

4. Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume of Contaminants through Treatment evaluates the alternative's use of treatment to reduce the harmful effects of principal contaminants, their ability to move in the environment, and the amount of contamination present.

5. Short-Term Effectiveness considers the length of time needed to implement the alternative and the risks posed to workers, residents, and the environment during implementation.

6. Implementability considers the technical and administrative feasibility of implementing the alternative, including factors such as the relative availability of goods and services.

7. Cost includes estimated capital and annual operations and maintenance costs, as well as present worth cost. Present worth cost is the total cost of an alternative over time in terms of today's dollar value. Cost estimates are expected to be accurate within a range of +50 to -30 percent.

Modifying Criteria *(to be evaluated based on input from the District and the community on this Proposed Plan)*



8. State (District) Acceptance considers whether the District concurs with NPS's selection of the Preferred Alternative, as described in the Proposed Plan.

9. Community Acceptance considers whether the local community supports selection of the Preferred Alternative. Comments received on the Proposed Plan are an important indicator of community acceptance.