FACT SHEET

EPA
REGION 7

Superfund Facts

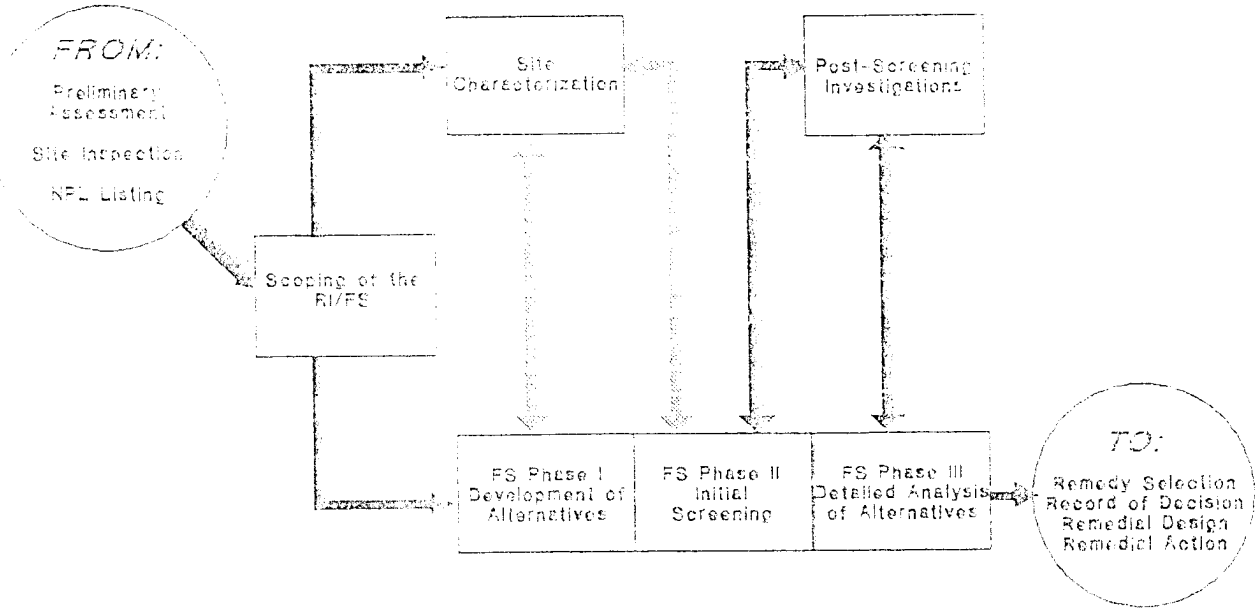
February 1988

Superfund The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund, was passed into law in December 1980. Superfund established a program to identify and cleanup uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), a 5-year extension of the program, was signed into law on October 17, 1986.

National Priorities List (NPL) A list of sites across the country slated for long-term remedial action under the Superfund law.

National Contingency Plan (NCP) The basic policy directive for federal response actions under CERCLA. It sets forth the procedures and standards for responding to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Extensive technical studies conducted to investigate the scope of contamination (RI) and determine the remedial alternatives (FS) which, consistent with the NCP, may be implemented at a Superfund site.

Record of Decision (ROD) Written record deciding on the appropriate remedy selected for the cleanup at a site relying generally on the RI/FS. Published by the government after completion of a RI/FS, the ROD identifies the remedial alternative chosen for implementation at a Superfund site.

RI/FS PROCESS