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**NJDEP ADOPTS TOUGHER REMEDIATION STANDARDS
New Rules Effective on June 2, 2008**

TRENTON, NJ – The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) adopted new Remediation Standards on June 2, 2008 to implement the provisions of the Brownfield and Contaminated Site Remediation Act. The Remediation Standards, defined in N.J.A.C. 7:26D, establish the minimum standards for the remediation of contaminated soil, groundwater, and surface water.

These new standards have been established to replace the previous Soil Cleanup Criteria, dated May 12, 1999. However, the NJDEP did not adopt the minimum impact to groundwater standards in the new Remediation Standards. According to the NJDEP, the impact to groundwater will be developed on a site-by-site basis and plans to issue new guidance materials. In the meantime, the standards from rules previously adopted for groundwater under N.J.A.C. 7:9C and for surface water under N.J.A.C. 7:9B will be applied.

The NJDEP has established a six month grace period for the implementation of the new Remediation Standards, which ends on December 2, 2008. This means that for every contaminated site where the old soil cleanup criteria was utilized, a remedial action report (RAR) or remedial action workplan (RAW) must be submitted to and approved by the NJDEP on or before the December 2, 2008 deadline. In addition to meeting the deadline, the former standards applied to the above criteria site contaminants cannot be greater by an order of magnitude (defined as a change by a factor of 10) or more than by what is stated in the new standards. If this occurs, the property owner may be responsible for additional remediation.

For specific details on Remediation Standards N.J.A.C. 7:26D, please visit the NJDEP's official website at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/srp/regs/rs/>.

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