

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- An analysis of potential soil contamination could aid the Department in assessing potential adverse impacts. This could consist of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to assess whether current or historical property uses have impacted the soil or groundwater and could pose a threat to the environment and/or human health. If Phase I results indicate potential contamination risks, a Phase II ESA is typically performed, which involves collecting samples from soil and groundwater and conducting laboratory tests to identify any further potential sources of contamination. The referenced ESAs are defined by ASTM International, which also provides standards, but are not required by the Department under 62-780, F.A.C. If contamination is discovered, or contaminants of concern are identified, a full site assessment shall be developed in accordance with Rule 62-780, F.A.C., for further review by the Department under this rule. Arsenic would be the suspected substance based on the agricultural use of site, but that does not preclude the possibility of other substances being found during site assessments.**

Response: The above-referenced environmental study will be completed at the time of permitting. There are multiple acceptable methods to address the potential soil and groundwater contamination if encountered to not cause an adverse regional impact.