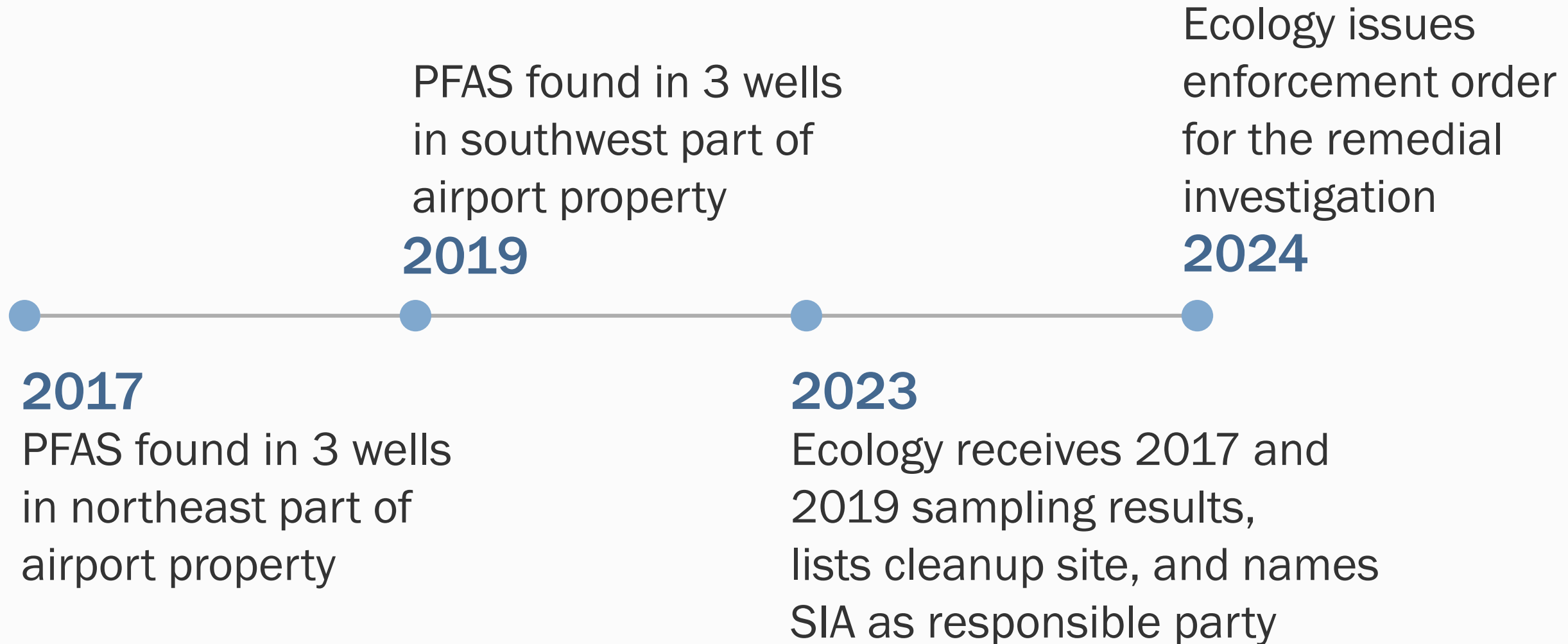


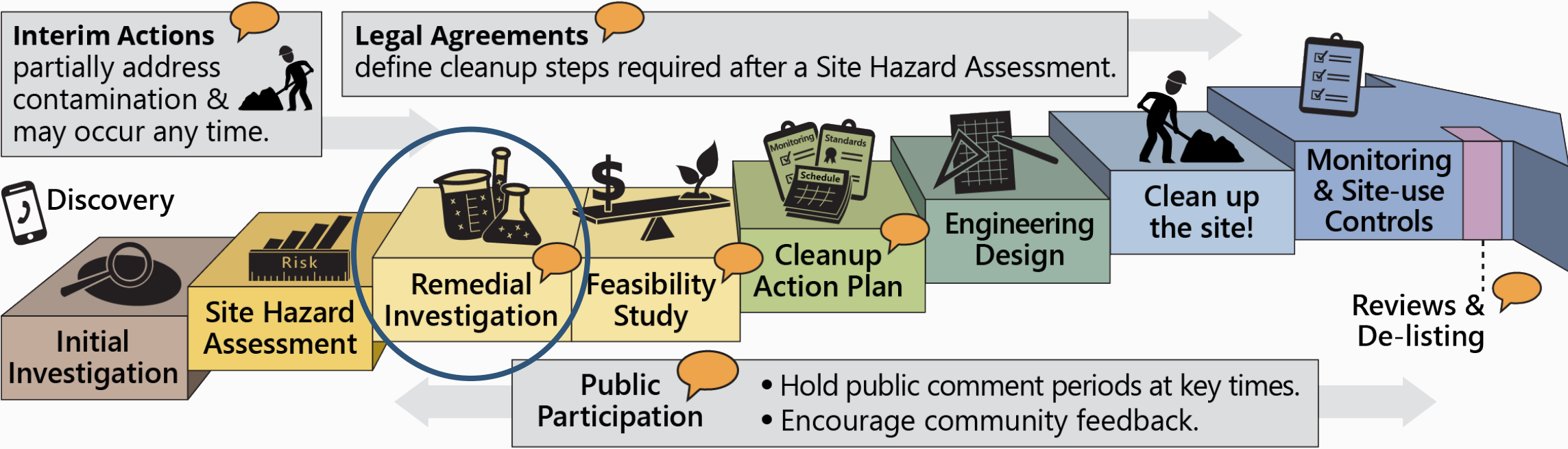
# Spokane Airport PFAS Site: Comment period on the Enforcement Order to investigate contamination

Erika Beresovoy & Jeremy Schmidt  
May 6, 2024

# Spokane Airport PFAS site history



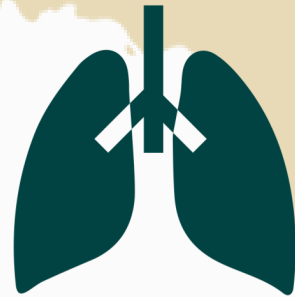
# Where we are: Remedial investigation



**Protect  
people and  
the  
environment  
by  
reducing risk  
from  
polluted sites**

## **Model Toxics Control Act 1989**

- Citizen mandated
- Implemented by Ecology



Breathing



Touching



Swallowing



# Key principles

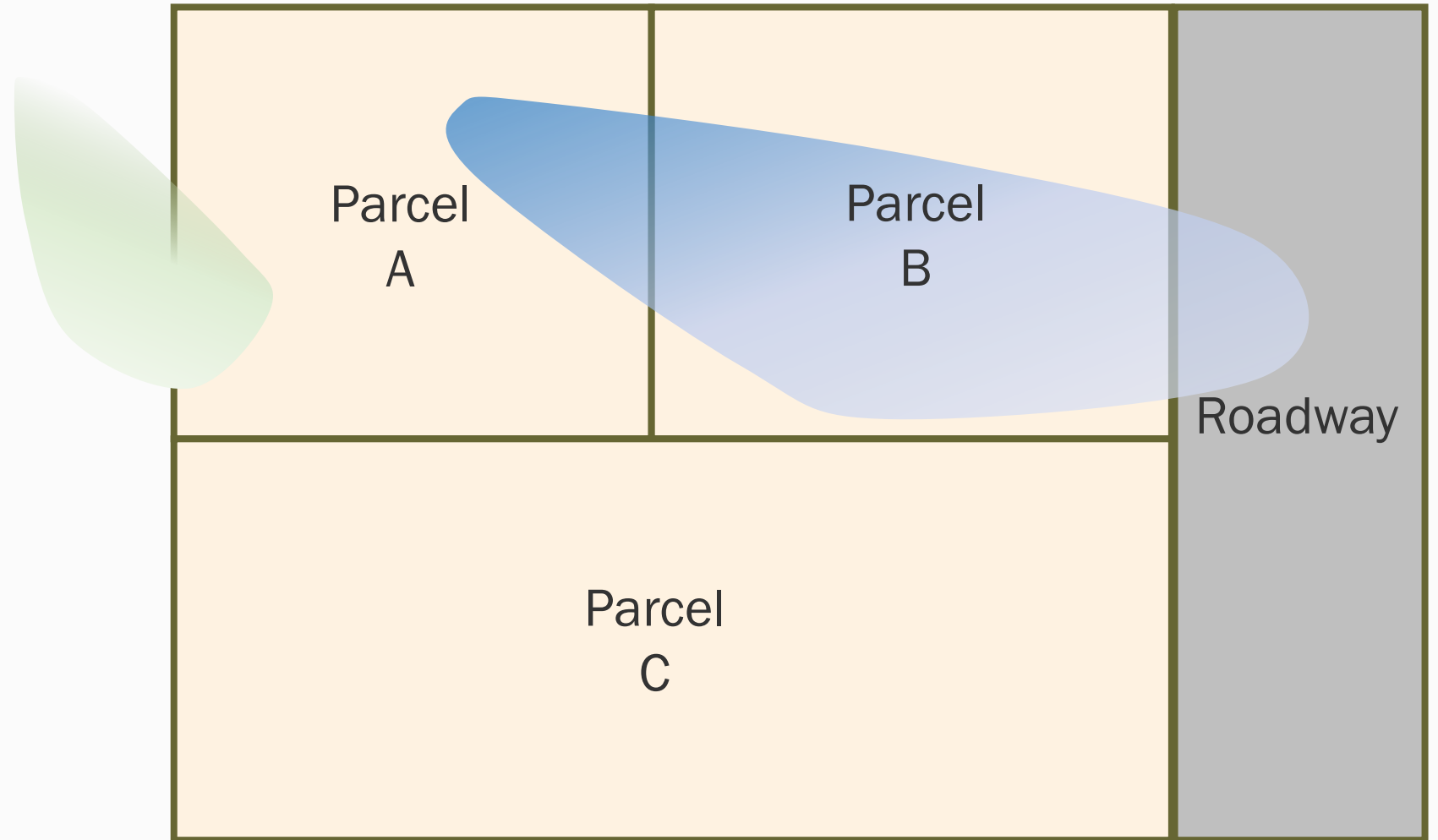
- Polluter pays
- Permanent remedies
- Public participation
- Bias towards action
- Innovation



Spokane Junk Yard - after fire



Today - Andrew Rypien Field



What is  
a “site”?

# Enforcement order: What's in it?

- Identifies SIA responsible for cleanup
- Lists reasons Ecology named SIA and created the site
- Defines scope of work and schedule for completing it

State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
In the Matter of Remedial Action by:  
Airport Board City of Spokane/Spokane County  
Enforcement Order  
No. DE 22584

To:

Spokane International Airport  
9000 W. Airport Drive, Suite 204  
Spokane, WA 99224

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# What does the Scope of Work require?

- Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan
- Remedial Investigation
- RI and Feasibility Study (FS) Reports
- Interim actions (if required)
- Groundwater monitoring
- Reporting

## Exhibit B | Scope of work and schedule

- Task 1.A Site Assessment Report for PFAS
- Task 1.B Initial Investigation for PFAS
- Task 1.C Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan
- Task 2. Remedial Investigation
- Task 3.A Remedial Investigation (RI) Report
- Task 3.B Feasibility Study (FS) Report
- Task 4. Ecology Required Emergency Interim Action(s) (if required)
- Task 5. Additional Interim Action(s) (if required)
- Task 6. Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting
- Task 7. Progress Reports



# Investigation timeline



\*May take longer depending on how big the monitoring area needs to be to find all the contamination

\*\*RI and FS reports available for public comment

# Public Participation Plan: What's in it?

- How we share information
- How you can share information
- Site information
- Area community
- Groundwater and hydrogeology
- WA cleanup laws overview



## **Public Participation Plan Spokane International Airport PFAS site**

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9000 W. Airport Dr., Spokane, Spokane County  
Facility Site ID: 6332493, Cleanup Site ID: 16774

### **Toxics Cleanup Program**

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Spokane, Washington

January 2024

# Useful comments

- New information
- Historical / personal observations
- Expressions of support or disagreement and why
- Reference specific text or section
- Give an example

## COMMENTS:

I want to know that there is some plan in effect for Union Pacific or other responsible parties pay for checking the health effects of students residents and others who have had access to the water. There might be health effects a long time down the road, and we need to make sure that there is a long-term plan to ensure their health and fund any treatments if there is a problem that could be a consequence of ~~these~~ drinking the water or breathing contaminated air. This needs to be a life-long system, not just a one-time checkup.

I'm also concerned with having Union Pacific be putting forward ~~the~~ a proposed solution for this when they have a financial interest in making the solution as inexpensive as possible.

## The Art of Commenting 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

How to Influence Environmental  
Decisionmaking With Effective Comments



# What we've heard so far: 9 comments

- Getting clean water ASAP paid for by responsible parties without waiting for investigation to finish
- Concerns about irrigation and livestock water
- Personal injuries: health issues, property values decreasing, stress
- Suggestions about where to investigate
- Cleanup ideas
- Support for Ecology's role in cleanup work
- Getting clean water paid for by federal government
- Lack of clarity on map in public notice

# How to view all comments

### Spokane International Airport PFAS

Facility Site ID: 6332493

Cleanup Site ID: 16774

 **9000 W AIRPORT DR**  
**SPOKANE, Spokane County**

#### Site Status

Awaiting Cleanup

#### Site Details

[Download Site Report](#)

[View documents](#) **19**

[View contaminants](#) **1**

#### Contacts

**Jeremy Schmidt**  
[jeremy.schmidt@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jeremy.schmidt@ecy.wa.gov)  
Site Manager  
509-724-1164

#### Public Comment Period March 29, 2024-May 27, 2024

##### Enforcement order and public participation plan

You are invited to review and comment on the [Enforcement Order](#) and [Public Participation Plan](#).

The order requires Spokane International Airport (SIA) to complete a remedial investigation and feasibility study. The remedial investigation will determine the full extent of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other contamination in soil and groundwater, and the feasibility study will assess cleanup options. The order includes a scope of work and schedule for completing the investigation and study.

The order went into effect on March 29, the day we issued it. Any public input about the investigation, such as personal knowledge of the site's history or places you believe should be investigated, can be used as we develop the remedial investigation work plan. We planned a 60-day comment period to allow public input for at least 30 more days after people receive the notice in the mail.

The Public Participation Plan describes how you will be informed and can comment during the cleanup process.

You can learn more in the [public notice](#) that was mailed to the community and by reviewing the order and plan. You may also [view comments](#) as we receive them.

#### Submit comments via email, mail, or online by 5/27 to:

Jeremy Schmidt, [jeremy.schmidt@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jeremy.schmidt@ecy.wa.gov)  
4601 N. Monroe St., Spokane, WA 99205  
[Online comment form](#) | [View all comments](#)



# After the comment period

- Create Response to Comments document
- Distribute Response to Comments (email/mail commenters, email list, *Contaminated Site Register*, cleanup site page)
- Update webpage



## **Response to Comments**

### **Enforcement Order and Public Participation Plan for Spokane International Airport PFAS**

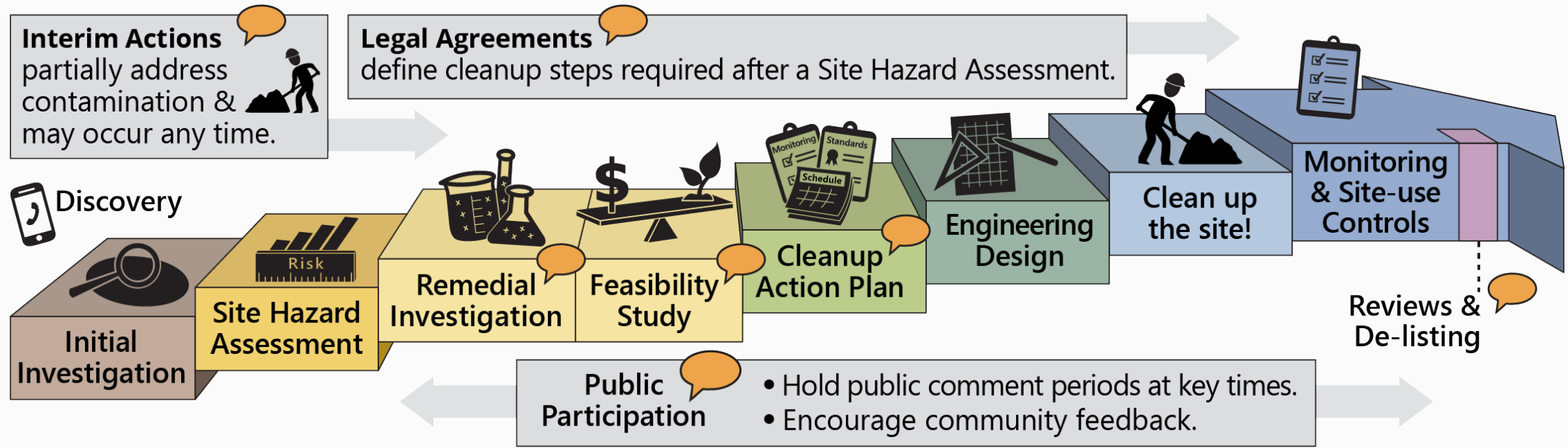
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Public comment period held March 29 – May 27, 2024  
Facility Site ID: 6332493, Cleanup Site ID: 16774|

#### **Toxics Cleanup Program**

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Spokane, Washington

June 2024



# Thank you! Questions?

# bit.ly/EcologySIA-PFAS