

## Technical Reviews

Applications for some types of permits under the *Environment Act* require applicants to provide specialized technical information in conjunction with the permit application. When the technical expertise required to review that information is not available in-house, the Environmental Programs Branch will send the technical information to experts outside of government that determine whether the technical information is accurate and comprehensive prior to issuing the permit.

When a technical review is required, the Standards & Approvals section will notify the applicant in writing that the review must be completed before the permit can be issued, amended, or renewed. This notice will include the cost to have the information reviewed and the length of time the review will take. If the applicant wishes to proceed, the applicant will be required to pay the cost of the technical review to Standards & Approvals. Standards & Approvals will use these funds in their entirety to contract a technical expert to review the technical information.

If the applicant chooses not to proceed with the permit application or the applicant does not pay the review cost within 60 days of being notified that a review is required, Standards & Approvals will not issue a new or amended permit.

The Government of Yukon has established a list of qualified reviewers that can be called upon to assess technical information submitted in conjunction with permit applications.

In some cases, after reviewing the technical information, the reviewer may recommend that changes be made to the original technical information. If significant changes are recommended, Standards & Approvals will notify the permit applicant of the required modifications and the cost and length of time to have those modifications reviewed. If the applicant does not provide the modified technical information and pay the additional required review cost within 90 days of being notified of the required changes, Standards & Approvals will not issue the permit.

### Reports that require technical reviews

The technical documents listed in the table below are externally reviewed at the cost of the permit applicant. The list of report types below is based on activities commonly permitted by Standards & Approvals. Other types of technical information may be reviewed externally if the technical information is associated with a large or complex project and must be assessed by a technical expert prior to the activity being permitted.

The Environmental Programs Branch has established standardized costs and timelines for each type of review, which ensures that the technical review process is fair and transparent for permit applicants. Some of the report types are separated into "average" and "complex" reports, where "complex" reports are associated with a higher cost and longer timeline to review.

<b>Report type and permit type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Timeline (days)</b>
<b>Air emissions data for air emissions permit</b>	Source or ambient air quality data collected from more than 10 locations around a site.	\$3,700	14
<b>Air dispersion model for air emissions permit</b>	Air dispersion models use a variety of parameters to predict the concentration of air pollutants originating from a specific industrial or commercial activity. Proponents are responsible for preparing and submitting an air dispersion model prior to being issued a permit for a large or significant project that has the potential to negatively impact the surrounding air quality.		
	Average: Screening dispersion model, as defined by the US EPA or BC Ministry of Environment.	\$4,200	21
	Complex: Advanced or non-screening dispersion model, as defined by the US EPA or BC Ministry of Environment.	\$6,400	28
<b>Hydrogeological assessment for land treatment facility permit or solid waste disposal facility permit</b>	A hydrogeological assessment evaluates the hydrogeological conditions of a site and involves the installation of groundwater monitoring wells. Hydrogeological assessments are required by persons applying to construct or operate a land treatment facility that accepts special wastes or has a capacity of 3000 m <sup>3</sup> or greater. Hydrogeological assessments are also required for all class 1 and class 2 landfills and some modified transfer stations.		
	Average: Less than ten groundwater monitoring wells installed <b>and</b> none of the groundwater monitoring wells are screened in bedrock.	\$4,200	21
	Complex: Ten or more groundwater monitoring wells are installed <b>or</b> one or more of the groundwater monitoring wells are screened in bedrock.	\$8,500	28
<b>Site assessment for risk-based restoration permit and Ministerial authorizations</b>	A site assessment aims to assess the type and amount of contaminants present at a contaminated site and the spatial extent of contamination. Site assessments will be externally reviewed when a person applies to conduct risk-based restoration of a contaminated site or applies for a ministerial authorization for a contaminated site.	\$4,200	21
<b>Screening-level risk assessment for risk-based restoration permit</b>	A risk assessment aims to determine the level of risk posed to receptors (e.g., people) by the contamination observed at a contaminated site. Risk assessments are required for persons applying to conduct risk-based restoration of a contaminated site. All risk assessments will be reviewed externally.	\$3,200	14
<b>Comprehensive risk assessment for risk-based restoration permit</b>	A risk assessment aims to determine the level of risk posed to receptors (e.g., people) by the contamination observed at a contaminated site. Risk assessments are required for persons applying to conduct risk-based restoration of a contaminated site. All risk assessments will be reviewed externally.	\$9,500	28

**September 2018**

Fact sheets are also available on the following topics:

- Guidelines for Land Treatment Facilities
- Risk Assessment and Risk Management
- Siting Requirements for Public Waste Disposal Facilities
- Construction Requirements for New Public Waste Disposal Facilities
- Closure Requirements for Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

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**For more information on the Environment Act, please contact:**

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The Environment Act and regulations may be viewed online at [www.env.gov.yk.ca](http://www.env.gov.yk.ca), or at any Yukon Public Library, territorial agent, territorial representative or regional services office. You may purchase copies at the Inquiry Centre, Government of Yukon Administration Building, 2071-2nd Avenue in Whitehorse, or by mail from the Subscriptions Clerk, Government of Yukon Queen's Printer, Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6 (phone 867-667-5783 or toll free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5783).

