

### **Minor asbestos fiber release episode (minor)**

A minor asbestos fiber release episode is commonly defined by Federal regulators as anything less than 3 sf or 3 linear feet of friable asbestos being disturbed. Examples of a minor are: water leak that causes fireproofing and/or contaminated ceiling tiles to collapse into a space, the leaking or bursting of an insulated pipe, equipment damaging walls with surface asbestos.

In the event of a minor asbestos fiber release the following actions shall be performed:

1. The affected area (regulated area) will be evacuated immediately by occupant management, PBS staff, O&M staff, or whoever has the authority. Access to the area shall be limited to authorized individuals only.

The regulated area shall be isolated within 1 hour of notification and remedial response initiated. The O&M staff or their representative(s) shall isolate the area by:

- i. Placing clear signage indicating that the area is not to be entered,
- ii. Shutting down HVAC system serving the area if feasible, and
- iii. Placing critical barriers on doors and HVAC diffusers/grills.

For purposes of remediation, the regulated area will extend out at least 10 feet in all directions beyond the immediately affected area. If the release occurs in an individual office less than this size, then the office shall be considered the regulated area.

2. A third-party IH consultant shall be retained as soon as possible by PBS staff or their representative. They shall monitor the remediation, inspect and sample for final clearance. Upon arrival, the third-party shall assess the affected area to ensure that the established regulated area is sufficient or if it needs to be expanded due to the potential for contamination spread outside of the 10 foot perimeter.
3. The staff performing remediation shall be experienced and have a minimum of 16-hour asbestos O&M training.
4. Remediation staff shall don minimum PPE of disposable suits with booties, gloves and appropriate respiratory protection (based on any exposure assessment or at minimum half-mask APRs with HEPA filters).
5. Perform remediation and cleaning by wetting large debris, placing in disposal bags, then wet wiping (with amended water) and HEPA vacuuming of all surfaces in the regulated area. Fabric materials that can be disposed of may be disposed as asbestos-contaminated instead of cleaning, with approval of the property owner agency or company.
6. Any personal property, papers or records potentially contaminated in the regulated area shall be placed in 6-mil disposal bags, or covered with 6-mil plastic by the remediation staff, to be later managed by the owner(s).
7. Cleanup of the regulated area that are operationally critical (e.g. network server rooms, holding cells, areas that must remain open, and other areas tenant identified critical area, etc.) shall be completed as soon as feasible, with a target re-occupancy of 24 hours after notification. Following cleaning, the remediation staff shall dispose of all PPE, rags and plastic in 6-mil disposal bags and dispose of as asbestos waste.

8. Following remediation and cleaning, the third-party will inspect the regulated area for visible dust or debris. If none is observed, the third party will collect clearance samples consisting of a minimum of 3 TEM air samples. Samples shall be collected aggressively, as feasible, unless any remaining asbestos could be re-entrained into the air during the aggressive process.
9. The area can be released for occupancy following successful clearance (TEMs <70 s/mm<sup>2</sup>).