

Research on investigation and measures technology of land pollution related to sewer

Whole term

2002.4 ~ 2004.3

(Purpose)

In recent years, the number of found soil contamination cases caused by toxic substances is significantly increasing, and the fear of influence of soil contamination on health and the social demands for establishing any measures for preventing it are mounting. In this situation, “Soil Contamination Control Law” was enforced on February 15, 2003, which stipulates the obligation of identifying the states of soil contamination and taking soil contamination control measures such as actions for preventing the human health damage caused by soil contamination, for ensuring the safety and peace of mind of the people.

In the case where the land where a sewerage facility is planned to be constructed is a site where a specified facility using a toxic substance existed, or in the case where sewerage construction work encounters soil contamination or ground water contamination, the contamination state must be investigated and the contaminant must be removed.

The purpose of the present study is to compile the matters necessary for sewerage administrators to investigate the soil contamination concerned with sewerage and to take any control measures against it in accordance with the “Soil Contamination Control Law,” for issuing the compilation as a technical information material.

(Result)

The flow of the study is shown in Fig. 1.

The results of the study have been compiled as a technical information material. The contents are as follows.

1. Specified toxic substances concerned

The specified toxic substances concerned are 25 substances stipulated in the Soil Contamination Control Law and are classified into class 1 specified toxic substances (volatile organic compounds, etc.), class 2 specified toxic substances (heavy metals, etc.) and class 3 specified toxic substances (agricultural chemicals, etc.). Meanwhile, dioxins and oils are excluded.

2. Scope

The law covers the work (treatment facility, pumping station, sewer construction or other work) to be performed on a land site administered by any sewerage administrator, and does not cover the work to be performed on a land site administered by any other administrator than a sewerage administrator.

3. Flow from investigation to completion of action

1) Emergency action

In the case where there is a possibility of having encountered soil contamination, the dispersion of contamination to the surrounding should be immediately prevented. In the case where there is a fear of affecting the working environment of workers, an emergency action for securing the safety, etc. such as preventing the scattering of contaminated soil should be taken as required. In the case where any action is taken, a consultation with the prefectural governor concerned, etc. should be made.

2) Investigation

In the case where there is a possibility of contamination, investigation should be made in reference to data, etc. and also to identify the state of contamination. Further, the specified toxic substance concerned, its concentration, distribution, etc. should also be investigated and confirmed. The matters to be investigated and investigation methods should conform to the law.

3) Action

If the contamination by a specified toxic substance is confirmed as a result of investigation, a consultation with the prefectural governor concerned, etc. should be made based on the result, and if it is judged that any action must be taken, the action for responding to the specified toxic substance concerned, its concentration and distribution, surrounding environment, etc. should be examined and taken. After completion of the action, monitoring should be made for the purpose of confirming its effect and the influence on the surrounding.

4) Disclosure of information

If soil contamination is confirmed, it should be quickly reported to the prefectural governor concerned, etc., and when any action is examined, planned, taken or when its effect is confirmed, the information should be

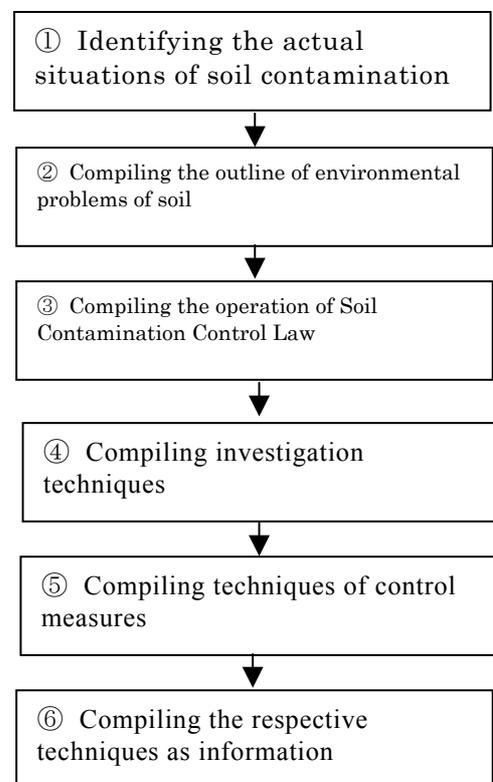


Fig. 1 Flow of the study

positively disclosed to the local inhabitants, etc.

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Keywords

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