**Section 731.163 Initial Site Characterization**

a) Owners and operators must assemble information about the site and the nature of the release, including information gained while confirming the release or completing the initial abatement measures in Section 731.160 and Section 731.161. This information must include, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

1) Data on the nature and estimated quantity of release;

2) Data from available sources or site investigations concerning the following factors: surrounding populations, water quality, use and approximate locations of wells potentially affected by the release, subsurface soil conditions, locations of subsurface sewers, climatological conditions and land use;

3) Results of the site check required under Section 731.162(a)(5); and

4) Results of the free product investigations required under Section 731.162(a)(6), to be used by owners and operators to determine whether free product must be recovered under Section 731.164.

b) Within 45 days after confirmation of the release, owners and operators must submit the information collected in compliance with subsection (a) to the Agency, in a manner that demonstrates its applicability and technical adequacy.

(Source: Amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 10312, effective July 13, 2016)