

## **Fundamentals (4.i): Permitting/Enforcement Closure Cost Estimates**

*Maintain a strong Financial Assurance program at all permitted facilities that reflects the actual cost of closure and post-closure work, and update the estimates every five years.*

**Goal:** Ensure that all permitted facilities have adequate financial assurances to cover the costs of closure and post-closure care. This requires ensuring estimates for all permitted facilities reflect actual costs for closure and post-closure care and creating an ongoing system to update the estimates on a five year cycle.

Typically, cost estimates have been reviewed on a 10-year cycle or longer, potentially leaving many facilities with financial assurance mechanisms that may not be adequate to cover the actual cost of closure or post-closure maintenance care. The concern is further complicated by the backlog of continued permits for which closure cost estimates have been delayed. Permitting's capacity to address this issue is dependent upon the availability of future resources to process and render permit decisions on these continued permits.

### **Timeline:**

#### **April – June 2013:**

- Coordinate with OEIM to identify steps and timeline to improve DTSC and public-facing EnviroStor to provide updated financial assurance information.
- Identify and prioritize facilities with closure cost estimates that are five years or older.

#### **July – September 2013:**

- Train Permitting staff on the requirements for implementing financial assurance mechanisms.

#### **October – March 2014:**

- With available resources, review cost estimates of highest priority facilities.