

The risk associated with a hazard is related to the severity of a single incident, and the frequency and duration of exposure to the hazard. In many instances, other hazards present may increase the risk of an individual hazard.

**STEP 1:** Consider how likely a risk is encountered, and what might happen.

**STEP 2:** Use the risk level calculator to determine the likely risk level (outcome) to persons who may be exposed to the hazards.

**STEP 3:** Identify and develop effective control measures. (Consult the hierarchy of risk control measures when carrying out this step).

LEVEL OF CONSEQUENCES	CONSEQUENCES OF EVENT OCCURRING <i>What is the likely outcome of an exposure to the risk?</i>	Likely	Possible	Unlikely
<b>High (H)</b> <i>High level of harm</i>	Potential death; permanent disability; major structural failure/damage. Off-site environmental discharge/release not contained. Significant long-term environmental harm.	1	1	2
<b>Moderate (M)</b> <i>Moderate level of harm</i>	Potential temporary disability; minor structural failure/damage. On-site environmental discharge/release contained. Minor remediation required; short-term environmental harm.	1	2	3
<b>Low (L)</b> <i>Low level of harm</i>	Incident that has the potential to cause persons to require first aid. On-site environmental discharge/release immediately contained. Minor level clean up with no short-term environmental harm.	2	3	3

LIKELIHOOD <i>How likely is it that an exposure will occur?</i>		RISK LEVEL <b>Class/ranking</b>	Description/requirements
<b>Likely</b>	Could happen frequently	<b>1 (High )</b>	Will require detailed pre-planning. Actions will be recorded on SWMS
<b>Possible</b>	Could happen occasionally	<b>2 (Medium )</b>	Will require operational planning; Actions will be recorded on SWMS
<b>Unlikely</b>	May occur only in exceptional circumstances	<b>3 (Low )</b>	Will require localised control measures

LIKELIHOOD OF EVENT OCCURRING <i>Consider the following:</i>	LIKELY CONSEQUENCES OF EVENT OCCURRING <i>Consider the following:</i>
How often is the task/activity performed? How many people are exposed to the hazard? How long is the exposure? Are engineering controls preventing exposure at present? Does workplace layout and condition affect exposure? Are abnormal conditions which may result in a greater exposure reasonably foreseeable? What are the results of any biological or atmospheric monitoring? Do workers have appropriate skills and knowledge to perform tasks? Do current work practices expose workers to a hazard? Are there other contributing factors?	What are the consequences in the short term? What are the consequences in the long term? What is the history of injuries related to exposure to the hazard? How close are workers to the hazard? What is the energy level of the hazard (i.e., weight, voltage, volume, height above ground, temperature, amplitude, concentration, aggressive state)?

## HIERACHY OF RISK CONTROLS

**Eliminate** the risk. If it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate the risk, minimise it by:

1. **Substitution**
2. **Isolation**
3. **Engineering Means**
4. **Administrative Controls**
5. **Personal protective equipment (PPE)**