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### **KEY FEATURES OF BC's REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

- Liability provisions based on "polluter pays" principle; statutory basis for cost-recovery actions
- Science-based standards (generic/numerical and risk-based; multimedia: soil/water/sediment/vapour)
- Remediation process 'hard wired' to local government land use authorization processes
- Ministry sign off available for remediation plans, remediation completion, determinations sites are not contaminated, etc.
- Ministry has powers to order investigation, remediation and to enforce including by way of administrative monetary penalties
- Ministry may access funding for high-risk, orphan sites



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# KEY FEATURES... (CONT'D)

- Professional reliance delivery model for non- high risk sites
- Legal requirements to notify ministry when carrying out remediation; notify neighbours if contamination may have migrated offsite
- Rules for soil relocation (excess soil management)
- Public Site Registry
- Cost recovery model for regulatory delivery



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## **RECENT AND ONGOING INITIATIVES**

#### BILL 17 - 2019 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT ACT, 2019

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

Explanatory Mote

- 1 Section 39 (1) of the Environmental Management Act, S.B.C. 2003, c. 53, is amended
  - (a) in the definition of "operator" by striking out "at a contaminated site" and substituting "at a site",
  - (b) by repealing the definition of "site profile" and substituting the following:
    - "site disclosure statement" means a site disclosure statement under section 40 [site disclosure statements]; , and
  - (c) by adding the following definition:
    - "specified industrial or commercial use" means a use of land for a prescribed industrial or commercial purpose or activity; .



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# RECENT AND ONGOING INITIATIVES (CONT'D)

- Ongoing implementation of Stage 10/11/12 amendments to Contaminated Sites Regulation (update of over 8500 environmental quality standards; supporting protocols, guidance, etc.)
- Development of an environmental quality standards updating procedure
- Advancing wide area remediation planning in Trail, BC
- Development of a high risk/profile site management framework
- Internal improvements including an updated system for service applications tracking; development of a staff learning/training strategy
- Current status of brownfield-focussed work at Ministry



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