

Directive 2004/35/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage

*Article 6*

**Remedial action**

1 Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take:

- a all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and
- b the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7.

2 The competent authority may, at any time:

- a require the operator to provide supplementary information on any damage that has occurred;
- b take, require the operator to take or give instructions to the operator concerning, all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effect on human health, or further impairment of services;
- c require the operator to take the necessary remedial measures;
- d give instructions to the operator to be followed on the necessary remedial measures to be taken; or
- e itself take the necessary remedial measures.

3 The competent authority shall require that the remedial measures are taken by the operator. If the operator fails to comply with the obligations laid down in paragraph 1 or 2(b), (c) or (d), cannot be identified or is not required to bear the costs under this Directive, the competent authority may take these measures itself, as a means of last resort.