

Waste Management following the Novichok Incidents in the U.K.

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On 4th March 2018, Sergei and Yulia Skripal were found seriously ill on a bench in Salisbury, England having been exposed to military-grade nerve agent Novichok. On 30th June 2018, two further civilians were taken unwell in a private property in the nearby town of Amesbury and later confirmed as having been exposed to the same substance.

These incidents triggered a massive clean-up effort. The Department for the Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (Defra) plays a leading role in the United Kingdom's government preparedness for major incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and hazardous materials. This presentation focuses on some of the waste management challenges faced by Defra during the remediation of sites contaminated by Novichok. Defra's roles and responsibilities will be covered along with the approach used for the containment, transportation, and disposal of the waste produced from these incidents.