Comparison of Active Remediation Rates and Natural Attenuation Rates for TCE In Groundwater

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Introduction

- This Site represents a facility with over 30 years of investigation, soil/groundwater remediation and groundwater monitoring.
- Site conditions had improved substantially as a result of the site work and the question remained what is the appropriate course of action going forward.
- Groundwater quality monitoring data demonstrates that groundwater quality is improving as fast, if not faster, outside the capture area of the P&T system versus within the capture.



- Site Setting/Geology/Hydrogeology
 - Overburden (weathered shale) to ~9-15 ft bgs
 - Bedrock below 9-15 ft composed of Triassic Newark Group (shales, siltstones, and argillites)
 - Shallow bedrock aquifer (to approx. 80 feet depth):
 - Numerous but small fractures/partings, low K and low yield
 - Deep bedrock aquifer below approx. 80 feet depth):
 - Few but large fractures, high K and high yield
 - Aquifer is anisotropic with higher K along strike, lower K perpendicular to strike



- Contamination discovered in 1979
 - Small waste solvent tank
- Numerous wells installed to define area in 1980
 - 18 shallow over burden wells
 - 19 bedrock wells
- Highest groundwater contamination reported at ~60,000 ug/l TCE in bedrock groundwater in 1980



- Source Removal
 - Waste solvent tank excavated in 1980 (tank tested tight, releases associated with over fills)
 - 225 cubic yards of soil excavated and treated (1981 and 1982)
 - Shallow groundwater extracted and treated on a batch basis (1982 to 1983)



- Long Term Remedial Action
 - Groundwater P&T system began operation in 1986 in source area
 - Maximum TCE groundwater concentration when P&T system initiated was ~350 ug/l
 - System remained active until 2010



- Site was listed as CERCLA site in 1989
- RI conducted in 1998
 - Investigation of source area soils revealed a maximum concentration of TCE in soil of ~5 ug/kg
 - One additional well (cluster) installed
 - Maximum TCE concentration in groundwater reported was 320 ug/l



- ROD issued in 2004
 - Required implementation of a chemical oxidation remedy for "source control" and expansion of P&T system
- Independent of the ROD, the P&T System was expanded in 2004 to include two additional wells that reported TCE > 100 ug/l (but less than 300 ug/l)



- To address the requirements of the ROD, a Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) was completed in 2008 to evaluate how to implement the remedy
 - 19 additional bedrock wells installed
 - No residual source materials found
- PDI Concluded:
 - Chemical Oxidation not justified given the absence of any residual source materials
 - Continuing P&T not warranted
 - MNA recommended remedy



- What you're left with:
 - A site that was investigated in ~1980
 - Source removal completed in 1982
 - Groundwater remediation began in 1982
 - Continuous P&T began in 1986
 - P&T expanded in 2004
 - No residual source materials or DNAPL
 - Dilute groundwater plume in bedrock (avg. TCE concentration of ~ 40 ug/l
 - 30 years of groundwater quality from a number of wells, both within and outside the influence of the pumping well(s)





Evaluation of the Effectiveness of P&T

- In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the P&T system going forward, the 30 years of groundwater quality data was evaluated.
 - Linear interpolation using Microsoft Excel.
 - Statistical analysis via the Mann-Kendall trend analysis (via ChemStat).
- Slope and trend of the data for groundwater within the capture zone of the pumping wells were compared to slope and trend for groundwater outside the capture zone of the pumping wells.







Slope and Trend Analysis

- For wells that were in close proximity to the source area, only the data collected after the source removal work was completed was evaluated to reduce the bias in the data.
 - The data used included data from the initiation of the full time P&T system in 1986.
- For the wells that were not in close proximity of the source area, all data was used.



Slope Analysis (Linear Interpolation)

- > 27 wells were determined to have sufficient data for analysis.
 - Up to 62 data points were available over almost a 30 year period.
- Results of the Linear Interpolation:
 - 25 of the 27 wells indicated a negative slope in the linear interpolation.
 - 17 of the 25 wells with negative slopes were wells that were not in the capture zone of the pumping wells over the time frames evaluated.







Trend Analysis

- Results of the Mann-Kendall trend analysis:
 - 27 wells were evaluated for trend
 - 20 wells reported a negative "S" statistic, which indicates a downward trend
 - 6 wells reported a positive "S" statistic
 - 1 well reported an "S" Statistic of 0



						Calculated	Probability of	Comparison	Evidence of	Within Inferred "Recovery	
	Data	TCE		Graphical		Mann-	"S" Statistic or	Probability or	Statistically	Well"	
	Evaluation.	Concentration	Number of	Slope	Graphical	Kendall	Calculated Z-	Z-Value (95%	Significant	Capture	
Well ID	Time Period	Range (ug/L)	Samples	(ug/L)	Slope Trend	"S" Statistic	Statistic	Confidence)	Trend?	Area?	Comment
	05/27/1980 -										Elevated result 04/20/82 likely caused result to not
A-2	03/24/2008	ND - 1,290	8	-0.0468	Downward	-10	0.138	0.05	No	Yes	support downward trend
	05/27/1980 -								Yes		
A-3	08/04/2009	ND - 55.5	62	-0.00015	Downward	-687	-4.272	1.65	Downward	Yes	
	09/17/1992-								Yes		
A-4	06/17/2008	ND-2B	10	-0.00037	Downward	-31	0.002	0.05	Downward	Yes	
	06/09/1992 -										
A-5	06/17/2008	ND-5B	6	-0.00047	Downward	-8	0.102	0.05	No	Yes	
	03/31/1994-	300 14		0.00007	- ·	_	0.300	0.07			
A-6	06/17/2008	ND-15	6	-0.00095	Downward	-3	0.360	0.05	No	Yes	
A-7	06/17/2008	ND - 53	8	0.0035	T	5	0.317	0.05	No	Yes	
R-1	03/11/1993 -	NU - 33	ð	0.0000	Upward	3	0.517	0.03	NO	195	
A-8	03/20/2008	ND-12	5	-0.0095	Downward	4	0.242	0.05	No	Yes	
11-0	06/10/1986 -	1007-12	4	9.9993	Longendu	T	V.STS	60.60	Yes	1.90	
A-9	03/20/2008	1J-433.5	6	-0.0463	Downward	-15	0.001	0.05	Downward	Yes	
	05/01/1986 -								Yes		
A-11	06/17/2008	ND - 288	41	-0.0267	Downward	-282	-3.157	1.65	Downward	No	
	08/31/1994 -								Yes		
A-12	08/04/2009	ND - 120	38	-0.00995	Downward	-284	-3.559	1.65	Downward	No	
	03/31/1994 -								Yes		
A-13	08/04/2009	ND-75	39	-0.0062	Downward	-355	-4.285	1.65	Downward	No	
	05/01/1986 -								Yes		
A-14	08/04/2009	ND - 264	39	-0.0199	Downward	-477	-5.761	1.65	Downward	Yes	

Well ID	Data Evaluation Time Period	TCE Concentration Range (ug/L)	Number of Samples	Graphical Slops (ug/L)	Graphical Slope Trand	Mann- Kondall		Comparison Probability or Z-Value (95% Confidence)		Within Inferred "Recovery Well" Capture Area?	Comment
A-16	04/07/1981 - 03/17/2008	ND - 70	7	-0.0037	Downward	-6	0.236	0.05	No	No	Consider data from max concentration to present?
A-17	04/07/1981 - 03/17/2008	3J-6,000	3	-0.3955	Downward	1	N/A	0.05		No	Insufficient Data to Test
A-18	05/01/1986 - 03/17/2008	ND - 201	5	-0.0142	Downward	-3	0.325	0.05	No	No	Consider data from max concentration to present?
FOXMW-2	04/11/2002 - 06/19/2008	12-23	6	-0.0016	Downward	-3	0.360	0.05	No	No	
FOXMW-5	04/11/2002 - 08/24/2009	56 - 120	7	0.0112	Upward	10	0.094	0.05	No	No	
RI-20S	09/01/1998 - 09/29/2004	ND-320 L	8	-0.0273	Downward	-6	0.274	0.05	No	No	
RW-1	03/02/1986 - 09/28/2004	100 - 392	48	-0.0095	Downward	-222	-1.968	1.65	Yes Downward	No	
W-1	05/01/1986 - 08/04/2009	ND - 180	57	-0.0055	Downward	-55	-0.372	1.65	No	Yes	
W-10	02/04/1980 - 06/16/2008	ND - 23	25	-0.0003	Downward	35	0.883	1.65	No		May show negative trend if non-detects assigned same value
W-12	02/04/1980 - 06/16/2008	ND-437	25	-0.0066	Downward	5	0.106	1.65	No		May show negative trend if non-detects assigned same value
W-13	02/04/1980 - 06/19/2008	ND-30.7	20	-0.0009	Downward	-43	-1.370	1.65	No	No	

Well ID	Data Evaluation Time Period	TCE Concentration Range (ng/L)	Number of Samples	Graphical Slope (ug/L)	Graphical Slope Trand	Mann- Kondall			Statistically	Within Inferred "Recovery Well" Capture Area?	Comment	
	02/04/1980 -		•								May show negative trend if non-detects assigned same	
W-14	06/16/2008	ND - 325	14	-0.0077	Downward	12	0.614	1.65	No	No	value	
	02/04/1980 -								Yes			
W-15	05/01/1986	12.6 - 392	8	-0.0946	Downward	-20	0.007	0.05	Downward	No		
	02/04/1980 -								Yes		Consider data from max concentration to present? May	
W-16	06/18/2008	ND - 29	12	-0.0012	Downward	-23	-1.696	1.65	Downward	No	show stronger negative trend if non-detects assigned	
	02/04/1980 -											
W-17	06/19/2008	ND-21.4	15	-0.0002	Downward	0	0.000	1.65	No	No		
				ND = Non-	detect							
(white)	All data used			J = estimate	ed value							
	Data from April	1986-Novembe	r 2004	L = Analyte present. Reported value may be biased low								
	Data from April			B = detected analyte in blank sample								

Trend Analysis

- For the wells that reported a negative S statistic, 10 wells were determined to have "statistically significant" downward trends.
 - Statistically significant at 95% confidence.
- Of these 10 wells with statistically significant trends:
 - The slope of the trend ranged from 0.00015 ug/l/day to 0.0946 ug/l/day (i.e., rate of decrease of TCE).
 - Four of these 10 wells were within the capture zone of the pumping wells, and 6 were outside the capture zone.



Slope and Trend Analysis

- For wells that reported a positive S statistic, none of the trends were observed to be statistically significant.
- In general, wells with a limited amount of data did not show statistically significant trends, but wells with extensive data did show statistically significant trends.



Result for Well within Capture Zone



Result for Well outside Capture Zone



Comparison of slopes

- The rate of decrease of TCE concentration for a well within the capture zone of the P&T system was ~0.0055 ug/l/day.
- The rate of decrease of TCE concentration for a well outside the capture zone of the P&T system was ~0.0095 ug/l/day.





Conclusion

- The rate of decrease of TCE concentration in groundwater was as great, if not greater, in areas outside the capture zone of the P&T system as within the capture zone of the P&T system.
- Based on this information, the P&T system was shut off in late 2010 to begin a MNA study.
- The results from two quarters of groundwater monitoring have demonstrated no rebound in groundwater quality in the monitoring wells.

