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Site Remediation Using Chemical Oxidation Techniques

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NATO/CCMS Pilot Study

"Prevention and Remediation in Selected Industrial Sectors: Small Sites in Urban Areas"

Athens, Greece

4-7 June 2006





□ NATO CCMS Pilot Study - 7 June 2006

- Need for and motivation to develop and use oxidation processes for site remediation
- Evolution and status of chemical oxidation
- Ongoing technology initiatives

NATO Advanced Research Workshop - 8 June 2006

- Aspects of CSM research will be covered in a companion talk during the NATO Advanced Research Workshop
 - Enhanced DNAPL destruction in 'reaction clouds'
 - Combining oxidation with other remedies
 - Oxidation enhanced bioremediation (chem-bio)
 - Co-injection or sequential injection of oxidants with surfactants and cosolvents
 - Model development and application

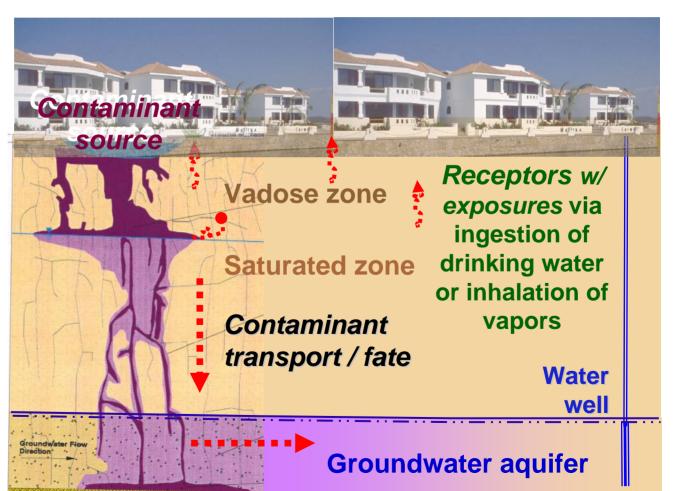






The problem...widespread contamination of soil and groundwater by organic chemicals

Major challenges occur at sites with dense nonaqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) such as PCE and TCE solvents







□ Magnitude of the problem in the U.S.

- Estimated 30,000 to 50,000 sites with groundwater contamination (excludes petrol UST sites)
 - 80% of the sites are contaminated with organic chemicals, and of these, 60% likely have DNAPLs
- Clean up costs for 15,000 to 25,000 sites with DNAPLs...?
 - Conventional groundwater pumping and treatment systems
 - > Median is \$180,000/year; range is \$30,000 to \$4,000,000/year
 - > For all sites, annual costs are \$2.7 to 4.5 billion/year



- Assuming a 30-year life and a 5 to 10% interest rate, life-cycle costs of "cleanup" could range from \$50 to \$100 billion dollars
- Clean up based on groundwater pump and treat is *hopeless;* Alternative technologies and approaches are needed.....

Source: USEPA (2003). www.epa.gov/ada/download/reports/600R03143/600R03143.pdf





□ In Situ Chemical Oxidation (ISCO) for remediation

- ISCO involves delivery of oxidants into soil and groundwater to destroy organic chemical contamination
- Several different chemical oxidants can be used for ISCO:
 - Catalyzed hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) (modified Fenton's)
 - Activated sodium persulfate (Na₂S₂O₈)
 - Potassium or sodium permanganate (KMnO₄, NaMnO₄)
 - Ozone (O₃)
- These oxidants can rapidly destroy many contaminants (e.g., > 99% destruction in minutes)
 - Oxidants can mineralize chlorinated hydrocarbons, PAHs, BTEX, MTBE, phenols, PCBs, TNT, Lindane, and others
 - Reaction stoichiometries, pathways, and kinetics are generally well-established for a wide range of contaminants





- But,... successful use of ISCO for site clean up requires system engineering that must address:
 - > Oxidant type and concentration to be used
 - > Natural oxidant demand (NOD) of subsurface media
 - Contaminant type, mass level, and architecture
 - Subsurface and surface site conditions
 - Method and mode of oxidant delivery to soil or groundwater
 - > Wells vs. probes vs. mixing etc. and One vs. many doses
 - Hydraulic control and fugitive emissions control
 - > Maintain permeability in injection wells and/or the aquifer
 - Prevention of groundwater quality impacts
 - Synergy of ISCO with pre- and post-ISCO methods
 - Methods for process monitoring and performance validation
 - Health and safety controls





- For clean up of small sites, ISCO can be very attractive
 - Small sites often have contaminants that ISCO can treat
 - For example: dry cleaners, machining and metal working, vehicle repair, chemical factories, testing labs, etcetera
 - At small sites, ISCO can be relatively easy to use why?



- Engineers are 'comfortable' with chemical oxidation based on training and experience (e.g., with waste treatment)
- ISCO can be designed and implemented with widely available materials and equipment
- ISCO does not require large or highly specialized equipment
- ISCO does not have unusual power requirements or other utility needs
- ISCO can be done relatively quickly (days to a few weeks)
- ISCO does not have major patent limitations







□ ISCO has 'matured' since the early 1990's

- Laboratory research increased the fundamental understanding of chemical oxidation, including:
 - Reaction chemistry for organics in aqueous systems
 - Transport processes affecting oxidant delivery
 - Oxidant interactions with soil or aquifer media
- Pilot-scale studies helped advance the engineering of ISCO for common types of contaminated sites, including:
 - Sites with dissolved and sorbed phase levels of organic chemicals in soil and groundwater plumes
 - To a lesser degree, sites with DNAPL source zones
 - > DNAPL residuals suspended in homogeneous media
 - > DNAPL pools resting on a low permeability layer





- Based on the results of R&D and pilot-scale studies, guidance documents were produced in the late 1990's and early 2000's, including:
 - Project case study reviews
 - > e.g., USEPA 1998, ESTCP 1999
 - Technical reference book
 - > e.g., Siegrist *et al.* 2001
 - Technical and regulatory guidance
 - e.g., ITRC 2001, 2005
 - www.itrcweb.org/gd_ISCO.asp







- During the late 1990's, engineers and consultants increasingly used ISCO for site remediation
 - Different oxidants have been used alone or combined

 $\mathbf{\bullet} \quad \mathsf{H}_2\mathsf{O}_2, \, \mathsf{Na}_2\mathsf{S}_2\mathsf{O}_8, \, \mathsf{NaMnO}_4, \, \mathsf{KMnO}_4, \, \mathsf{O}_3$

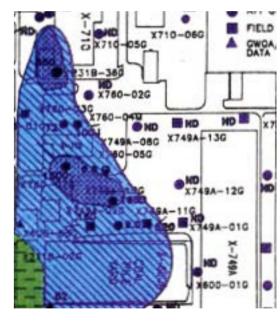
- Optional subsurface delivery methods have been used
 - Direct-push probes, drilled wells, or specialized injectors, with some use of fracturing techniques
 - Reactive barriers, recirculation schemes, multiple delivery modes, or other strategies
- Cleanup goals have varied, for example:
 - Reduce the concentration or mass by some % (e.g., >90%)
 - Achieve a final soil concentration (e.g., 1 mg/kg or less)
 - Achieve a concentration in a plume at some compliance plane downgradient from a DNAPL source zone





A few examples help illustrate the features of ISCO remediation projects

- Vertical well-to-well recirculation of NaMnO₄ in Ohio
 - ISCO treatment of the source of a TCE groundwater plume in an industrial area
 - 1.5 to 2.0 mg/L TCE in sandy gravel aquifer zone at 7.9- to 10.4-m depth bgs (Ksat ~ 7.9 to >90 m/d)
 - Treatment goal
 - Reduce the mass of TCE in the source zone causing the groundwater plume and prevent the plume from growing



Source: Lowe, K.S., F.G. Gardner, and R.L. Siegrist (2003). *Ground Water Monitoring and Remediation*. Winter issue.





- System design and implementation
 - Lab tests, modeling, hydraulic control tracer test
 - Full-scale system included 1 center injection well and 4 perimeter extraction wells at 13.7-m radius
 - Extraction of groundwater, amendment with ~250 mg/L NaMnO₄, flow-through reactor, inline filter, and re-injection
 - Injection/extraction rate was 68 Lpm yielding 3 pore volumes throughput in a 380 m² treatment zone in ~10 days
 - Oxidant used = 162 kg (295 L) of 40 wt.% NaMnO₄ solution







Performance observations

- Effective hydraulic control was quickly accomplished
- Monitoring revealed TCE reduction of >97%
 - After 30 days, concentrations remained < 20 ug/L</p>
- Oxidant depletion
 - To <20 mg/L at 2 weeks</p>
 - Fo <1 mg/L at 4 weeks</p>
- No loss in hydraulic conductivity within the treated zone
- No biotoxicity measured by Microtox assays

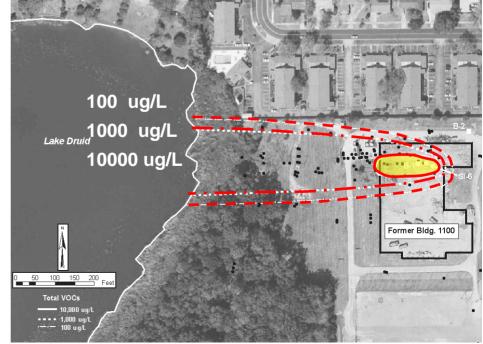




- Vertical well-to-well flushing of KMnO₄ in Florida
 - ISCO treatment of the source of a PCE plume in groundwater
 - PCE plume (10,000 ug/L near the source) located in shallow (0 to 25 ft) and deep (25 to 60 ft) sandy zones
 - The plume was estimated to be approximately 100 ft wide, 500 ft long, and 60 ft deep
 - Treatment goal

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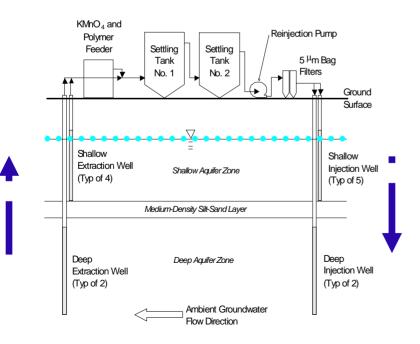
Source: Crimi and Siegrist (2003). *J. Ground Water;* Singletary *et al.* (2006). Battelle Recalcitrant Organics Conf. Reduce the PCE mass in the source zone and enhance the effectiveness of bioremediation and phytoremediation in the downgradient plume







- System design and implementation
 - Lab tests, field pilot test, and flow modeling were done
 - The full-scale system included a vertical well network with KMnO₄ flushing of shallow and deeper aquifer zones
 - Groundwater was extracted and processed in a treatment system prior to re-injection at a design rate of 57 Lpm (6.4 to 9.5 Lpm per well) and concentration of 1000 mg/L KMnO₄









Performance observations

- During the initial months of operation the delivery and distribution of KMnO₄ in the subsurface was much more limited than anticipated
- The system was shutdown and CSM studies were done
- Characterization studies revealed:
 - Very fine uniform sands (small d₁₀ and very low U.C.)
 - High organic carbon content and high NOD
 - > High groundwater dissolved solids level
 - These conditions caused injection well permeability loss and an inability to achieve the design oxidant injection flow rate and limited the actual oxidant distribution at the site
- Flow-through column tests and modeling studies using a new CSM model, CORT3D revealed:
 - Oxidant distribution could be improved by using a lower concentration at a faster injection rate for more pore volumes





- In situ soil blending using $Na_2S_2O_8$ in New Jersey
 - Treatment of VOC contaminated soil and groundwater
 - Depth to groundwater = 0.3 m
 - Treatment interval = 0.3 to 3.3 m depth bgs
 - System design and implementation
 - In situ blending using base-catalyzed persulfate (Klozur)
 - > Applied 10 Klozur grams per kilogram of soil
 - Applied 1 gram hydrated lime per kilogram of soil

Source: Dr. John Haselow (2006). Redox Tech, LLC. http://redoxtech.com/









- Performance observations
 - Treated approximately 5000 tons in 2 days
 - Concentrations dropped from 100 200 ppm total VOCS (TCE plus daughters) in groundwater to < 0.1 ppm in 1 week







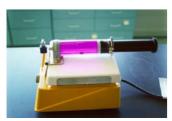
□ ISCO performance - design vs. outcomes...?

- At some sites, clean up goals have been met in a predictable, cost-effective and timely manner using ISCO
- ***** At other sites, ISCO performance has not met expectations
 - Examples of deficiencies have included:
 - Inability to achieve site cleanup goals based on predictions for the ISCO system that was designed and implemented
 - So-called "rebound" in groundwater concentrations following the end of active ISCO operations
 - Poor performance is often attributed to:
 - Site heterogeneities and low permeability zones
 - > Excessive oxidant consumption by soil and aquifer media
 - Presence of large masses of contaminants (e.g., DNAPLs)



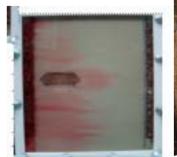


- CSM has been working along with others to help improve ISCO system design and performance
- Several major projects are in progress at CSM
 - "Reaction and transport processes controlling in situ chemical oxidation of DNAPLs" ~ 2002 to 2005
 - Oxidants: Catalyzed H₂O₂, NaMnO₄, KMnO₄
 - Contaminants: Varied levels of PCE and TCE
- DOD EPA SERDP Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
- Processes: Interphase mass transfer and oxidative degradation
- Delivery: advection and diffusion transport processes
- Coupling: oxidant enhanced bio, or surfactant flushing
- Modeling: analytical and numerical methods







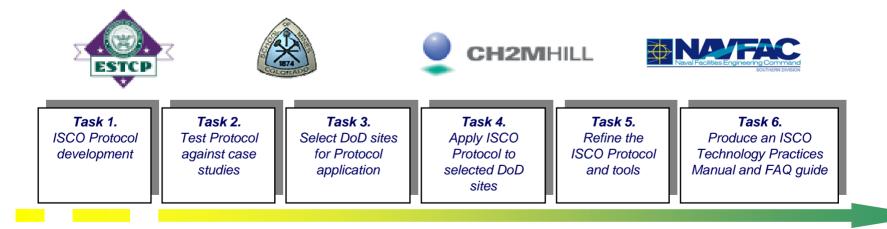








- In Situ Chemical Oxidation for Groundwater Remediation
 - Technology Practices Manual" ~ 2006 to 2008
 - New project being completed by a team from CSM, with CH2M Hill and the Navy
 - The goal is to advance the standard-of-practice and enable more predictable, cost-effective application of ISCO by providing engineering guidance and decision-support tools



Closing Remarks



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- Thank you for listening...

Questions...?

