RISK@Learning Nanotechnology – Applications and Implications for Superfund

Superfund Superfund Bisic Research Relevance	Februar Ses "Nanotechr Remo Dr. Mason Toms Dr. Shas M Northwest Na	ry 13, 2007 sion 2: nology – Metal ediation" son, Rice Univers attigod, Pacific tional Laboratory	ity
SBRP/NIEHS	EPA	L	MDB
William Suk	Michael Gill	Nora Savage	Maureen Avakian
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Contaminant Removal and Water Reuse: Research Opportunities with Nanotechnology

Arsenic Adsorption on Nanoscale Magnetite

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These are the most general and important "first" points to know about Arsenic. The particularly important point, highlighted in green, is that it is As(III) that is the largest threat to humans.



Redox conditions, pH, biological activity and specific chemical reaction are keys to distribution – NOT A GENERAL SOLUBILITY BALANCE!

The last statement is a "soft" way of saying "without normal oxidizing and acid conditions, we have a problem!"



This is how arsenic is deposited and gets into a aquifer.



For the scientifically and chemically oriented audience members!



The picture is a sample of arsenic sulfide.

Important points to emphasize are that:

•Aquifers are "vessels" that can, potentially, extend a contamination problem over a wide area.

•Human activity sources of arsenic, though potentially and actually lifethreatening, usually create contamination zones that are <u>limited</u>, relative to natural sources.



A reducing environment can create and preserve arsenite. When we withdraw it from that environment, as in withdrawing water from a well, it can take a long time for a significant portion of the arsenite to oxidize and become "safer"!



This is the result of arsenic ingestion – including inhalation impact on the lungs. (I don't have a specific reference for the 50 ppb statement, but it is stated in at least one place in USGS or WHO publications. JWC)



Plenty more on the referenced website!



This is how the

Contamination Location and Level of contamination Population Health and Life and Death

come together!



The values shown are far from the highest recordings in these areas, but they are presented to provide a "sampled picture" of how arsenic contamination is spread throughout the world. (The next slide – if used – is a table showing the ranges of concentrations encountered in some of these areas.)

International Contamination	Arsenic on Sites	
Location	<u>Conc. As (ppb).</u>	
Taiwan: Southwest Coast	100–1810	
Taiwan: Putai	470–897	
Chinese Inner Mongolia (Hetao Plain)	50–1080	
Bangladesh: Ganges Delta	10–2040	
Bangladesh: Pabna (North District)	50-14,000	
India: West Bengal	50-3400	
Vietnam: Hanoi and Red River Valley	1–3050	
Note: Table adapted from Joanna Shaofen Wang and Chien M. Wai, L Feb., 2004	1.0f Idaho. J. Chem. Ed.,vol. 8, n.2, p.209 13	RICE

Clearly, the values on the previous slide (which showed 100 ppb in Taiwan, > 200 ppb in Bangladesh and >1,000 in China) were not maximum values! In fact the next slide shows haw bad the problem is in one area in Bangladesh.)



Here is map of the sampled concentrations of arsenic in the water in the United States. Recently (January 2006), the USA has imposed a standard of <10 ppb (<10 mg/L) concentration in drinking water in the Country. This change from the previous 50 ppb has intensified the search for improved processes for reducing the amount of arsenic in drinking water – **on top of** the demands caused by much more hazardous concentrations in other areas of the world.





This is an "encapsulation of information" that briefly gives glimpse of the extent of the contamination and potential health impact of arsenic contamination.



New Jersey proposes toughest arsenic standard worldwide

The state of New Jersey has proposed an arsenic standard for drinking water that, if adopted, would be twice as stringent as the U.S. EPA standard and World Health Organization guideline of 10 parts per billion (ppb). The 5-ppb standard is based on recommendations from the New Jersey Drinking Water Quality Institute (NJDWQI), which found that a 10-ppb level wouldn't meet the level of protection required by state doesn't permit. For example, it is far more expensive to reduce arsenic levels in states such as New Mexico than in New Jersey, explained Bradley Campbell, commissioner of the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in a policy directive.

Environmentalists and water purveyors, both of which are represented on NJDWQI committees, say they support the New Jersey standard. Many in the state say that

ES&T March 15, 2004



Effects of	f New S	tandard	
Max. Levels reduce	ced from 50	μg/L to 10 μ	g/L
 13 million people i (West, Midwest, N 	in areas of I I. England)	nigher standa	ard
 <u>Annual</u> Estimated 	Reductions	6:	
	Cases	Deaths	
Bladder Cancer	19-31	5-8	
Lung Cancer	19-25	16-22	
Diabetes	?	?	19
Heart Disease	?	?	
Source: Environmental Protection Agency (US)) (Jan. 2001) Technical	Fact Sheet EPA 815-F-00	-016 RICE

Here is the Environmental Protection Agency's assessment of the <u>annual</u> impact of reducing the levels of arsenic in drinking water in the United States

Annual	Estimated Co Standard: <50	ost of Raising	Arsenic
EPA estin reporting \$181 mill	nates the total national annual, recordkeeping, and adminision (using 1999 dollars at a t	alized costs of treatment, more tration for this rule to be app hree percent discount rate. In millions of dollars	nitoring, roximately
	Treatment	\$ 177*	
	Monitoring	*(3% Discount Rate, \$millions)	
	State Costs	1.0	
	Total	\$ 181	20
Source: 1	Environmental Protection Agency (US) (Ja	n. 2001) Technical Fact Sheet EPA 815-F-	00-016 RICE

Note that this is the <u>annual</u> cost.

Motivation for Our Work with Nanotechnology

- A need for a cost-effective and highperformance technology to remove arsenic from drinking water
 - Reduce arsenic to less than $10\mu g/L$ in less than a minute
- The mechanism of arsenic removal by iron oxides



Current Technologies

• US EPA As standard level: 10µg/L

TechnologyDisadvantagesIon exchangeNo As(III) removal Interference from SO42-& TDSMembrane methodsExpensiveCoagulations with iron saltsSolid-liquid separation
Ion exchange No As(III) removal Interference from SO ₄ ²⁻ & TDS Membrane methods Expensive Coagulations with iron salts Solid-liquid separation
Interference from SO ₄ ²⁻ & TDS Membrane methods Expensive Coagulations with iron salts Solid-liquid separation
Membrane methods Expensive Coagulations with iron salts Solid-liquid separation
Coagulations with iron salts Solid-liquid separation
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Experimental Set-up: Vessel Apparatus

- Temperature controlled
- Overhead
 agitator/stirrer
- 3 connectors by 3-way valves
 - Sampling
 - Ar gas
 - Solution injection/gas purging
- Anoxic/ Oxic conditions
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Field Test – Brownsville, TX

 Arsenic-contaminated water from Southmost Regional Authority Desalination Plant Brownsville,TX in August, 2006: Wells #8 and 12 (Brackish water: ~ 5mS/cm)


Characterization of Brownsville Wells

	Well #8	Well #12
Initial As (µg/L)	27.2	39.0
pH	7.32	7.39
Alkalinity (mg/L as HCO ₃ ⁻)	335	464.6
SO_4^{2-} (mg/L)	1165	1192.5
Silica (mg/L as SiO ₂)	41.4	36.4
PO ₄ ³⁻ (mg/L)	0.23	0.16
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Lets start with some applications.

As you know, Mason and Vicki are working to develop a novel approach to remove arsenic from drinking water using magnetite nanoparticles that are not only superior sorbents with minimal bleed-off potential, but are also amenable for magnetic separation.

This could therefore result in a cost-effective treatment system that could be used at the household-level to alleviate arsenic poisoning in many areas of the world that. Clorox who makes Britta filters has shown a lot of interest.



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	Functionalized Ceramic Nanoporous Sorbents			
	1. Introduction			
	2. Nanoporous Sorbents Substrate Synthesis Monolayer Functionalization process (SAMMS) Host design for molecular recognition			
	3. Performance – SAMMS (Self Assembled Monolayers on Mesoporous Supports) thiol SAMMS Cu-EDA SAMMS HOPO SAMMS			
	4. Treatment costs & waste form stability			
	5. Potential Applications & Commercialization			
Battelle	47			






























































