

Technology Innovation News Survey

Entries for November 1-15, 2019

Market/Commercialization Information

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CORE
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USACE HEC, Ft. Belvoir, Alexandria, VA.
Contract Opportunities on Beta.Sam.gov, Solicitation W911H2Q050004, 2019

DoD's SERDP Office is interested in receiving pre-proposals from businesses both large and small for innovative research focusing on the following FY2021 Environmental Restoration and Munitions Response statements of need: **ERSON-21-C1** - Improved understanding of thermal destruction technologies for materials laden with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances; **ERSON-21-C2** - Improved understanding of processes influencing the effectiveness and fate of particulate amendments; and **MRSON-21-C1** - Detection, classification, and remediation of military munitions underwater. Go to

Research

EFFECT OF THE SURFACE CHARGE ON THE ADSORPTION CAPACITY OF CHROMIUM(VI) OF IRON OXIDE MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES PREPARED BY MICROWAVE-ASSISTED SYNTHESIS

Gallo-Córdova, A., M. del Puerto Morales, and E. Mazario | Water 11(11):2372

Superparamagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles (MNP) with different surface charges were tested as nanosorbents to remove Cr(VI) from aqueous solution. A microwave polyol-mediated method was used to synthesize uniform magnetic nanoparticles (~12 nm). Tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS) and (3-aminopropyl) triethoxysilane (APTES) were grafted onto the nanoparticle's surface to provide a variation in the surface charge. The adsorptive process of Cr(VI) was evaluated as a function of the pH, the initial concentration of Cr(VI), and contact time. Kinetic studies were best described by a pseudo-second-order model in all cases. TEOS-MNPs barely removed Cr(VI) from the media. Non-grafted particles and APTES-TEOS-MNP followed the Langmuir model with maximum adsorption capacities of 1.5 and 35 mgCr/g, respectively. Cr(VI) adsorption capacities abruptly increased when the surface became positively charged as the species coexisting at the experimental pH were negatively charged. These particles were found to be highly efficient in water remediation due to their 100% reusability after more than six consecutive adsorption/desorption cycles. *This article is [Open Access at <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-5468/11/11/2372>](#)*

THE COMBINED EFFECTS OF SURFACTANT SOLUBILIZATION AND CHEMICAL OXIDATION ON THE REMOVAL OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBON FROM SOIL

Li, Y., X. Liao, S. G. Huling, T. Xue, Q. Liu, H. Cao, and Q. Lin.
Science of the Total Environment 647:1106-1112(2019)

A study was conducted to determine whether a combination of surfactant-aided soil washing and chemical oxidation by activated persulfate (SP) was effectively remediating PAH-contaminated soil. Triton X-100 (TX-100) and SP were applied to contaminated soil concurrently and sequentially. Results indicated that surfactant followed by amendment with a solution of TX-100+SP was most effective in decreasing PAH concentrations in sandy loam (from 1220 mg/kg to 414 mg/kg) and silt clay (2730 mg/kg to 180 mg/kg) soils. Compared with TX-100 alone and SP alone, TX-100+SP increased the removal of PAHs by 10-20% and exhibited greater reduction of oxygenated PAHs, including furans and xanthene. TX-100 improved the degradation of 3-4 ring PAHs and 5-6 ring PAHs in sandy loam soil by ~8%-11%.

USE OF A NON-THERMAL PLASMA TECHNIQUE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CHLORINE ACTIVE SITES ON BIOCHAR FOR IMPROVED MERCURY REMOVAL

Wang, T., J. Liu, Y. Zhang, H. Zhang, W.-Y. Chen, P. Norris, and W.-P. Pan.
Chemical Engineering Journal 331:536-544(2018)

Biochar was prepared from rice straw (R6), tobacco straw (T6), corn straw (C6), wheat straw (W6), millet straw (M6), and black bean straw (B6) in high purity nitrogen at 600 °C. The biochars were modified with chlorine non-thermal plasma to increase Cl active sites to promote mercury removal efficiency. Modification by chlorine plasma increased the Hg⁰ removal efficiency of the biochars from ~8.0% to 80.0%. The Hg⁰ adsorption capacity of T6 was 36 times higher after chlorine plasma modification. Plasma caused the biochar surface to become porous and promoted thermal stability. Sulfur content remained in the range of 0.5-0.7%, and elemental sulfur, organic sulfur, and sulfides were converted to sulfate. The relative intensity of the oxygen functional groups (C-O, C=O, and C(O)-O-C) was enhanced, while the oxygen content in biochar decreased. The improved mercury removal efficiency was attributed to the increased number of C-Cl groups on the surface of the biochars which functioned as activated sites and promoted the Hg⁰ removal efficiency. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2018.05.034>

REMOVAL KINETICS OF PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS FROM LOW-PERMEABLE SOIL BY SAND MIXING AND THERMAL ENHANCEMENT OF SOIL VAPOR EXTRACTION

Yu, Y., L. Liu, C. Wang, Z. Yan, Y. Zhu, J. Wang, and H. Zhang.
Chemosphere 236:124319(2019)

Thermally-enhanced remediation of n-alkanes-contaminated silt soil mixed with coarse quartz sands was demonstrated in a 40 cm x 30 cm lab cylindrical tank. The experiment investigated the removal kinetics of semi-volatile n-alkanes (C10, C11, and C13-16) under three pulsed heating operations of SVE. CMG-STARs software was adopted to simulate the dynamics of heat transfer within the soil column. Results indicated a dramatic increase of air permeability of soil and acceleration of heat transfer after the introduction of sand and SVE achieved rapid soil remediation. Gas-phase transfer of n-alkanes mainly occurred when the average soil temperature was >100°C. After a 30.8 h run, the average soil concentration of total n-alkanes was reduced by 93.4%, from 3106.5 to 202.4 mg/kg. The residual n-alkanes of C10, C11, C13 and C14 in all collected soil samples were

PHOSPHATE INDUCED ARSENIC MOBILIZATION AS A POTENTIALLY EFFECTIVE IN-SITU REMEDIATION TECHNIQUE-PRELIMINARY COLUMN TESTS

Majer, M.V., V. Wotter, C. Zentler, C. Scholz, C.N. Stirm, and M. Isenbeck-Schroter.
Water 11(11):2364(2019)

To accelerate ongoing but ineffective pump-and-treat efforts to remediate As in groundwater, the competitive effect of increasing phosphate doses contaminated aquifer material of different depths and under distinct geochemical conditions was examined. Columns with added phosphate showed significant amounts of As released rapidly under oxic and anoxic conditions, though levels were higher in anoxic columns. As(III) was the dominant species, in particular during the first release peaks and the anoxic tests. Higher amounts of phosphate did not trigger As release further and led to a shift of As species. The competitive surface complexation was the major process of As release especially when higher amounts of phosphate were added. While As release is commonly described at Fe-reducing conditions, observations suggested a change in redox potential towards Mn reducing conditions in the oxic tests. Fe reducing conditions in the anoxic column took place later and independently of As release. The reduction of As(V) to As(III) and a loss of sulfate in all columns with phosphate under both redox conditions was presumed to be an effect of microbial activity, which may play a significant role in the process of arsenic release. Preliminary tests with sediment material from a contaminated site showed that phosphate additions did not change the pH value significantly. Results indicated that in-situ application of phosphate amendments to As-contaminated sites could accelerate and enhance arsenic mobility to improve the efficiency of pump-and-treat remediation without negative side effects. *This article is [Open Access at <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-5468/11/11/2364>](#)*

USE OF FUNCTIONALIZED BIMETALLIC MEMBRANES FOR TREATMENT OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER AT A HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE IN KENTUCKY

Pacholik, L.C., Master's Thesis, University of Kentucky, 154 pp, 2019

Research was conducted on a portable membrane system that incorporates a functionalized bimetallic membrane technology to treat groundwater contaminated with VOCs and sVOCs at a former organic chemical manufacturing plant in Louisville, KY. Three bench-scale tests were performed with a membrane treatment system using deionized water spiked with the chemical TCE. Results showed that using functionalized Fe/Pd membranes significantly decreased TCE concentrations over time. While further tests should be conducted to verify the results of the preliminary bench-scale tests, the membrane treatment system shows potential for use at the hazardous waste site in Kentucky. https://uknowledge.uky.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=10848&context=ce_diss

ADSORPTION OF PERCHLORATE FROM WATER USING QUATERNARY AMMONIUM-FUNCTIONALIZED CHITOSAN BEADS

Sowmya, A., D. Das, S. Prabhakar, M.M. Kumar, K. Anbalagan, and M. Rajesh
Environmental Process & Sustainable Energy [Published online 23 July 2019 prior to print]

In this study, perchlorate was efficiently removed from water using quaternary ammonium-functionalized cross-linked chitosan beads (QACB). This synthesized bead was found to be efficient in terms of perchlorate removal capacity, 100% regeneration of used beads (using HCl or NaCl), and selectivity in the presence of anions, namely, chloride, sulfate, carbonate, and nitrate. QACB removes perchlorate by the exchange of chloride ions. QACB was able to remove >95% perchlorate from brackish water. Batch studies were conducted to optimize the condition for maximum perchlorate removal. The perchlorate removal capacity of QACB from 1,000 mg/L aqueous solutions was 153 mg/g. The outcome of pH variation studies indicated that QACBs can remove perchlorate in pH ranges of 2-11. Equilibrium isotherm data of adsorption of perchlorate at temperature 303, 313, and 323 K were well fitted to the linear Freundlich, Langmuir, and Dubinin-Radushkevich isotherm models. The adsorption kinetics data were best described by the pseudo-second-order kinetic model. FTIR was used to confirm the interaction of perchlorate with QACB.

General News

ADVANCES IN REMEDIATING GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATED WITH CHLORINATED SOLVENTS

Richardson, S., and C. Divine., SERDP & ESTCP Webinar Series, Webinar #105, December 2019

SERDP & ESTCP sponsored two webinars in this series that discussed new technological advances in the field of groundwater remediation. The first discussed an ongoing ESTCP project aimed to demonstrate an innovative application of the Grout Bomber technology to improve the delivery of remedial amendments at matrix-diffusion sites. The presentation included operational and performance results for this diffusion-based technology at Site 17, Naval Support Facility Indian Head, Maryland. The second presentation featured a discussion of the Horizontal Reactive Media Treatment Well (HRX Well®), which included results of modeling, tank tests and field implementation at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. <https://www.serdp-estcp.org/Tools-and-Training/Webinar-Series/12-12-2019>

PERFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES IN THE ENVIRONMENT: THEORY, PRACTICE, AND INNOVATION

Kempisty, D.M., Y. Xing, and L. Racz (eds.), CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, ISBN 9781498764186, 498 pp, 2018

Organized into four sections, this book discusses the various challenges of PFAS in the environment today, including their historical use, their chemical and toxicological properties. It also discusses analytical challenges and special considerations in sampling. Practical recommendations are provided for dealing with these compounds in today's dynamic regulatory landscape, and various conventional and state-of-the-art remediation techniques are discussed. The book explores the challenges across the topical areas of regulation and management, toxicology, environmental remediation, and analytical sampling and analysis. *View the table of contents and abstracts at <https://www.crcpress.com/Perfluoroalkyl-Substances-in-the-Environment-Theory-Practice-and-Innovation/Kempisty-Xing-Racz/book/9781498764186>*

PFAS EXPERTS SYMPOSIUM: STATEMENTS ON REGULATORY POLICY, CHEMISTRY AND ANALYTICS, TOXICOLOGY, TRANSPORT/FATE, AND REMEDIATION FOR PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL

SUBSTANCES (PFAS) CONTAMINATION ISSUES

Simon, J.A., S. Abrams, J. Braddburne, D. Bryant, M. Burns, D. Cassidy, J. Cherry, et al.
Remediation 29(4):31-48(2019)

Sixty members of the scientific, engineering, regulatory, and legal communities assembled for the PFAS Experts Symposium on May 20-21, 2019 to discuss issues related to PFAS based on the quickly evolving developments of regulations, chemistry and analytics, transport and fate concepts, toxicology, and remediation technologies. The symposium created a venue for experts with various specialized skills to provide opinions and trade perspectives on existing and new approaches to PFAS assessment and remediation in light of lessons learned managing other contaminants encountered over the past four decades. Concerns included time, expense, and complexity required to remediate PFAS sites and whether the challenges of PFAS warrant alternative approaches to site cleanups, including the notion that adaptive management and technical impracticability waivers may be warranted at sites with expensive PFAS plumes. A paradigm shift towards receptor protection rather than broadscale groundwater/aquifer remediation may be appropriate. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/rem.21624>

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON HORIZONTAL TO VERTICAL WELL RATIOS FOR SITE CLEANUP

Laton, W.R. | Remediation 30(1):27-31(2019)

Directional drilling has been used for a variety of purposes, including utilities, dewatering, and remedial activities. Using this method for site cleanup versus traditional vertical extraction wells needs to be considered based upon today's remedial challenges. Traditionally, it has been stated that a single horizontal well can substitute for up to 11 vertical wells. This "rule" is arbitrary since the length and depth of the plume, surface access, and hydrogeological conditions must be considered. A better way to evaluate the cost-benefit of a horizontal versus vertical well system is a predicted zone of influence using a mathematical and hydrogeological approach, as described herein. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/rem.21624>

CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY OF PERSULPHATE ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESSES

Ike, I.A., K.G. Linden, J.D. Orbell, and M. Duke.
Chemical Engineering Journal 338:651-669(2018)

This review provides a critical evaluation of various published techniques for the activation of PS, suggests novel explanations for important observations in the field, and advances proposals to explain reaction mechanisms more consistently. Discrepancies in results and areas for further studies were identified with the view of enhancing the sustainability and reliability of PS-AOPs.

A REVIEW IN THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS OF GENUS DEHALOCOCCOIDES, ITS CONSORTIA AND KINETICS FOR BIOREMEDIATION OPTIONS OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER

Sayani, D.M., H.-P. Chiu, M.-M. Whang, Y.-T. Chiu, and Y.-H. Chen.
Sustainable Environment Research 28:149-157(2018)

Current developments in using *Dehalococcoides* as key dechlorinating bacteria in chlorinated ethenes contaminated sites are the topic of this publication. The review elucidates the kinetics of *Dehalococcoides* growth and compound utilization in the dechlorination of chlorinated ethenes compounds. <https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S2468203917301668?token=C8B387351A029E29B44530083D702C8923E6D82C48589B024EFB29E54556CBAE213D4FC190855EB77D9DF21EF668F82>

The Technology Innovation News Survey welcomes your comments and suggestions, as well as information about errors for correction. Please contact Michael Adam of the U.S. EPA Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation at adam_michael@epa.gov or (703) 603-9915 with any comments, suggestions, or corrections.

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