

LOW AND HIGH ACETATE AMENDMENTS ARE EQUALLY AS EFFECTIVE AT PROMOTING COMPLETE DECHLORINATION OF TRICHLOROETHYLENE (TCE)

Wei, N. and K.T. Finneran.
Biodegradation, Vol 24 No 3, 413-425, 2013

Experiments with TCE-contaminated aquifer material demonstrated that TCE, dis-DCE, and VC were completely degraded with concurrent Fe(III) or Fe(III)+sulfate reduction when acetate was amended at stoichiometric concentration; competing terminal electron acceptors did not inhibit ethene production. Adding 10 times more acetate increased methane production without affecting the rate or extent of TCE reduction. Concurrent Fe(III) or Fe(III)+sulfate reduction in enrichment cultures degraded ~90 µM TCE or ~22 µM VC primarily to ethene within 20 days. Results suggest that adding low levels of substrate may be equally if not more effective as high concentrations without producing excessive methane and with substantial leaching on treatment cost.

FIELD-SCALE TRANSPORT AND TRANSFORMATION OF CARBOXYMETHYLCELLULOSE-STABILIZED NANO ZERO-VALENT IRON

Johnson, R.L., J.T. Nurmi, S. D'Arcy, A. D'Annunzio, D. Fan, R.L. O'Brien, Johnson, Z. Shi, A.J. Salter-Blanc, P.G. Tratnyek, and G.V. Lowry.
Environmental Science & Technology, Vol 47 No 3, 1573-1580, 2013

The fate of nano-scale zerovalent iron (NZVI) during subsurface injection was examined using carboxymethylcellulose (CMC)-stabilized NZVI in a very large 3-D physical model aquifer. To quantify the extent of NZVI transport directly, a spectrophotometric method was developed, and the results indicated that deployment of unoxidized NZVI for groundwater remediation likely will be difficult.

COMPOUND SPECIFIC ISOTOPE RATIO ANALYSIS IN VAPOUR INTRUSION STUDIES USING WATERLOO MEMBRANE SAMPLER (WMS)

Goli, Oana, Master's thesis, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada, 93 pp, 2013

In a study of the applicability of the Waterloo Membrane Sampler (WMS) for compound-specific isotope analysis (CSIA) in vapor intrusion studies, analyte amounts sufficient for CSIA were collected using thermal desorption to introduce the sample into the gas chromatography-isotope ratio mass spectrometry system (TD-GC-IRMS). The TD-GC-IRMS system was employed to determine the stable carbon isotopic composition of three model analytes—hexane, benzene, and TCE—contained in a standard gas mixture. The WMS-TD-GC-IRMS method was tested on sample gases collected during a gasoline bioparging treatment by exposing the samplers to the standard gas for 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, and 192 hours. Variations of the isotopic carbon composition for each analyte were measured versus time, amount of analytes sorbed, and exposure temperature. When compared with solvent base-active sample collection and analysis, the study results obtained demonstrated good data reproducibility. <http://uwaterloo.ca/handle/10012/7795>

REMEDICATION OF A MERCURY-CONTAMINATED INDUSTRIAL SOIL USING BIOAVAILABLE CONTAMINANT STRIPPING

Pedron, F., G. Petruzzelli, M. Barbaferi, and E. Tassi.
Pedosphere, Vol 23 No 1, 104-110, 2013

Using plants to remove bioavailable amounts of heavy metals from contaminated soil has been dubbed "bioavailable contaminant stripping" (BCS), a type of remediation phytotechnology. Pot trials carried out under greenhouse conditions were conducted to evaluate the ability of three common plant species, *Brassica Juncea*, *Poa annua*, and *Helianthus annuus*, to remove bioavailable amounts of mercury from a contaminated industrial soil containing 15.1 mg/kg Hg. The BCS remediation approach was enhanced by the addition of a strong mobilizing agent, ammonium thiosulfate, to increase mercury bioavailability. After one growth cycle, the plants had removed nearly all the bioavailable mercury (95.7%). The metal remaining in the soil was considered inert because it was neither extractable by ammonium thiosulfate nor taken up by plants during a second growth cycle. The enhanced BCS process removed the most dangerous metal forms while substantially shortening the cleanup time. Additional background on this study is available in a 2012 paper at <http://www.aicdc.it/est/12/28/036.pdf>.

COMPARISON OF MINERAL-BASED AMENDMENTS FOR EX-SITU STABILIZATION OF TRACE ELEMENTS (AS, CD, CU, MO, NI, ZN) IN MARINE DREDGED SEDIMENTS: A PILOT-SCALE EXPERIMENT

Mamindy-Pajany, Y., C. Hurel, F. Geret, M. Romeo, and N. Marmier.
Journal of Hazardous Materials, Vols 252-253, 215-219, 2013

A pilot-scale experiment was performed to stabilize As, Cd, Cu, Mo, Ni, and Zn in contaminated sediment using hematite, zero-valent iron, and zeolite. Although zeolite proved unsuitable, the iron-based amendments were able to reduce the leaching and the bioavailability of trace elements in the sediment sample, potentially presenting a low-cost alternative to traditional stabilization methods involving chemical reagents.

DEVELOPMENT OF CHEMICAL REDUCTION AND AIR STRIPPING PROCESSES TO REMOVE MERCURY FROM WASTEWATER

SRNL-STI-2013-00409, 26 pp, July 2013

When the existing baseline air stripping process for removing organics from wastewater at the Savannah River site was ineffective in removing mercury at ~250 ng/L to a proposed limit of 51 ng/L Hg, a continuous dose of reducing agent (an acidified solution of bin(II) chloride dihydrate) was injected for 6 hrs at the inlet of the air stripper. This action resulted in the chemical reduction of mercury to Hg(0), a species that the existing unit operation can remove. A 94% decrease in Hg concentration was observed during the injection period, and the effluent satisfied proposed limits. A minimum dose of 6.65 mg/min (16X stoichiometry) was needed to initiate the reduction reaction that facilitates Hg removal. Results indicate that chemical reduction coupled with air stripping can treat large volumes of water to emerging parts-per-trillion regulatory standards for mercury. <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1092601>

THERMAL TECHNIQUES FOR THE IN-SITU CHARACTERIZATION AND REMEDIATION OF MERCURY: INSIGHTS FROM DEPLOYMENT OF THE MEMBRANE INTERFACE PROBE

Jackson, D., B. Looney, and C.A. Eddy-Dilek.
SRNL-STI-2013-00434, 30 pp, Aug 2013 [Presented at the 11th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant, Jul 28-Aug 2, 2013. Edinburgh, Scotland]

This presentation focuses on how thermal energy can be used to enhance characterization, promote remediation, and aid in delivering a sequestering agent to stabilize elemental Hg in subsurface soils. Using heat, sulfur can be deployed as a gas in the subsurface, where it reacts spontaneously with elemental Hg to form more recalcitrant mercury sulfides (cinnabar). See slides and speaker's notes at <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1089550>

NOVEL INSTRUMENTS FOR IN SITU CONTINUOUS RN-222 MEASUREMENT IN GROUNDWATER AND THE APPLICATION TO RIVER BANK INFILTRATION

Gilfedder, B.S., H. Hofmann, and I. Cartwright.
Environmental Science & Technology, Vol 47 No 2, 993-1000, 2013

Little is known about the short-term dynamics of groundwater-surface water exchange in losing rivers, but two new instruments now available for continuous in situ Rn-222 measurement in bores can be used to quantify the surface water infiltration rate into an underlying or adjacent aquifer. These instruments are based on Rn-222 diffusion through silicone tube membranes, either wrapped around a pole (MonoRad) or strung between two hollow end pieces (OctoRad). They are combined with novel robust gas-tight Geiger counters and the effluent saturated proposed limits. A minimum dose of 6.65 mg/min (16X stoichiometry) was needed to initiate the reduction reaction that facilitates Hg removal. Results indicate that chemical reduction coupled with air stripping can treat large volumes of water to emerging parts-per-trillion regulatory standards for mercury. <http://www.hydro-earth-syst-sci.net/17/3437/2013/hess-17-3437-2013.pdf>

RE-INVERSION OF SURFACE ELECTRICAL RESISTIVITY TOMOGRAPHY DATA FROM THE HANFORD SITE B-COMPLEX

Johnson, T.C. and D.M. Wellman.
PNWL-22520, 40 pp, May 2013

This report documents the 3-D inversion results of surface electrical resistivity tomography (ERT) data collected over the B-Complex site at Hanford to image the subsurface distribution of electrically conductive vadose zone contamination resulting from both releases of contamination into subsurface infiltration galleries (cribs, trenches, and tile fields) as well as unplanned releases from tank farms and associated facilities. To provide additional detail concerning contaminated zones in terms of conductive anomalies, the ERT data were re-inverted using the E4D inversion code, which improved imaging resolution significantly and allowed a better understanding of vadose zone contamination distribution at the B-Complex. <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1087277>

CHARACTERIZATION AND POTENTIAL REMEDIATION APPROACHES FOR VADOSE ZONE CONTAMINATION AT HANFORD 241-SX TANK FARM

Eberlein, S.J., H.A. Snyder, D.L. Parker, and D.R. Glaser.
WRPS-54371-FP, 14 pp, 2013 [Presented at WM2013: Waste Management, Phoenix, Arizona, 24-28 Feb 2013]

Evaluation of previous work on vadose zone desiccation (pore-water extraction) at the Hanford 241-SX Tank Farm using large-diameter (>4 in) boreholes combined with laboratory test results has led to the design of a field proof-of-principle test to remove water and possibly mobile contaminants at greater depths via small boreholes placed with direct push. The proof-of-principle test is being deployed during fiscal year 2013, with testing to be completed during fiscal year 2014. <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1060387>

JOINT GEOPHYSICAL MODELING OF CONDUCTIVE PLUMES IN HISTORIC SMELTER TAILINGS, BUTTE, MT

Bertette-Aguire, H., C. Link, T. Tu, A. Adewuyi, B. Rutherford, and G. Favi.
SAGEEP 2013: Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Environmental & Engineering Problems, 17-21 March, Denver, CO, 10 pp, 2013

The size and extent of a shallow groundwater plume influenced by acid mine drainage along historic Silver Bow Creek in Butte, Montana, was characterized using DC electrical, electromagnetic, and seismic data collected along monitoring wells. The study also identified the possible presence of deeper confined groundwater plumes. Modeling of DC resistivity sounding and profile data was used to build a conductivity reference map that was correlated with the site hydrological conductivity. Resistivity data collected using electrode separations that ranged from 1-300 meters gave conductivity images associated with the distribution of contaminants with depth as well as a measure of the effects of the local electrical anisotropy. The electromagnetic data were acquired in a dense grid over the study area with inter-coil separations ranging from 3-20 meters. Seismic refraction tomography lines aided the resolution of the unresolved conductivity anomalies. The joint geophysical imaging techniques used in this work were able to provide an important characterization for the area of study.

A MODEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS OF SUBSURFACE PROCESSES

Zachmann, D.
DOE-VCT-4661, 16 pp, Oct 2013

DOE and other federal agencies have committed significant resources to developing mathematical models for studying subsurface science problems, such as groundwater flow, fate of contaminants, and carbon sequestration. The Subsurface Science Resource website (<http://subsurface.science.energy.gov/boxcar>) provides new tools to help decision-makers and stakeholders in subsurface science-related problems select an appropriate set of simulation models for a given field application. The website is designed to provide a gathering place for the subsurface science modeling community to share and discuss numerical models, data sets, and model results. <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1095616>

PRELIMINARY DATA REPORT: HUMATE INJECTION AS AN ENHANCED ATTENUATION METHOD AT THE F-AREA SEEPAGE BASINS, SAVANNAH RIVER SITE

Millings, M.E., M.B. Denham, and G.B. Looney.
SRNL-STI-2013-00514, 39 pp, Sep 2013

The groundwater plume at the F-area field research site located in DOE's Savannah River facility contains many contaminants, including strontium-90, uranium isotopes, iodine-129, tritium, and nitrate. Groundwater remains acidic, with pH as low as 3.2 near the basins and increasing to the background pH of ~5.6 at the plume fringes. Following three months of baseline monitoring, a potassium humate solution was injected in monitoring well FOB 16D. After 4.5 months of post monitoring, most of the humate that did not sorb to the sediments has flushed through the surrounding formation. Data indicate that the test was successful in loading a band of sediment surrounding the injection point to a point where pH could return to near normal during the study timeframe. <http://www.oost.gov/scitech/sep/lets/purl/1096504>

OPTIMAL FIELD APPROACHES FOR ELECTROKINETIC IN SITU OXIDATION REMEDIATION

Wu, M.Z., D.A. Reynolds, A. Fourie, and D.G. Thomas.
Ground Water Monitoring & Remediation, Vol 33 No 1, 62-74, 2013

Numerical simulations were used to identify and evaluate optimum electrode configurations and approaches for electrokinetic in situ chemical oxidation (EK-ISCO) remediation of low-permeability sediments. This paper is Open Access at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1745-6592.2012.01410.x/full>

General News

DRAFT GROUNDWATER REMEDY COMPLETION STRATEGY

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Oct 2013

EPA's Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation is seeking input on a draft groundwater remedy completion strategy. The 22-page document provides a strategy to help site teams focus resources on the information and decisions needed to complete groundwater remedies effectively. The strategy comprises recommended site-specific course(s) of action and decision-making processes to achieve groundwater remedial action objectives and associated cleanup levels using an updated conceptual site model, performance metrics, and data derived from site-specific remedy evaluations. Several related documents are posted with the strategy at <http://epa.gov/superfund/gwr/strategy>. Comments on the strategy should be emailed to www.completionstrategy@epa.gov by December 20, 2013.

TOXICOLOGICAL REVIEW OF 1,4-DIOXANE (WITH INHALATION UPDATE) IN SUPPORT OF SUMMARY INFORMATION ON THE INTEGRATED RISK INFORMATION SYSTEM (IRIS)

Gillespie, P., E.D. McLanahan, R. Sams, J. Stanek, et al.
EPA 635-R-11-003F, 419 pp, Sep 2013

EPA has updated the 2005 toxicological review and final IRIS summary for 1,4-dioxane to provide scientific support and rationale for the hazard and dose-response assessment in IRIS pertaining to chronic exposure to the compound. <http://www.epa.gov/iris/subst/0032.htm>

Additionally, the Interagency Science Discussion Draft of the 1,4-dioxane IRIS assessment is available at http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris_drafts/recordisplay.cfm?id=247493

TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILE FOR 1,4-DIOXANE

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 295 pp, 2012

This peer-reviewed profile identifies and reviews the key literature that describes 1,4-dioxane's toxicologic properties; chemical and physical information; production, import, use, and disposal; potential for human exposure; analytical methods; and regulations and advisories <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp.asp?id=655&tid=196>

MATRIX DIFFUSION TOOLKIT USER'S MANUAL

Fahnestock, S.K., C.J. Newell, T.C. Sale, D.J. Dandy, J.J. Wahlberg, M.A. Seyedabbasi, J.M. McDade, and N.T. Mahler
EPA/600/R-12/012, 160 pp, 2012

A new spreadsheet-based tool helps site managers and consultants determine if matrix diffusion processes in groundwater will cause rebound of downgradient plume concentrations above remediation goals after plume remediation or isolation is complete. This information is helpful in selecting remedies and improving effective risk communication. The user's manual details the tools provided to calculate and evaluate matrix diffusion effects, including a discussion of key parameters built into the toolkit and frequently asked questions related to matrix diffusion. The project summary presentation provides an overview.

Manual: <http://www.serdp.org/content/download/19988/213989/version/3/file/MatrixDiffusionToolkit-UsersManual.pdf>
Project Summary Presentation: <http://www.serdp.org/Tools-and-Training/Slides/EP-201176-Project-Summary-Presentation>
Toolkit: <http://www.serdp.org/content/download/18987/213979/version/1/file/EP-201196+Matrix+diffusion+toolkit+March+2013.zip>

EPA-EXPO-BOX (A TOOLBOX FOR EXPOSURE ASSESSORS) U.S. EPA, Environmental Assessment Website, 2013

A new online toolbox is now available for exposure and risk assessors. EPA-Expo-box is a Web-based compendium of 800+ exposure assessment tools that provides links to exposure assessment databases, models, and references. The website is organized by the components of the exposure assessment process in a user-friendly format. It provides one-stop shopping for the latest exposure assessment tools and techniques that can be used by EPA and others to support scientifically defensible exposure and risk assessments. <http://epa.gov/ncsa/erisk/expobox/>

RESIDUAL LNAPL IMPACTED SITES: CONCEPTUAL SITE MODELS AND EFFECTIVE REMEDIAL STRATEGIES American Institute of Professional Geologists (Kentucky Section), 2013

On April 26, 2013, the Kentucky section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists held an all-day professional development course on LNAPL cleanup. Presenters discussed modeling, assessment, and remedial methods currently being used to achieve goals determined by site-specific environmental and regulatory requirements. The workshop provided examples of methodologies that have proven successful in attaining No Further Action letters from the state of Kentucky. PDF files of the seven course sections are available at <http://ky.aipg.org/Articles.htm>

HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL FACILITY (TSDF) REGULATIONS: A USER FRIENDLY REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR RCRA SUBTITLE C PERMIT WRITERS AND PERMITTEES U.S. EPA, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. EPA 530-R-11-006, 64 pp, Oct 2013

EPA has developed this third edition of the TSDF tool to facilitate stakeholder's understanding of RCRA's requirements. The tool gathers in one place all publicly available resources for easy access. The resources include permit appeals; proposed and final Federal Register notices for Parts 264, 265, 266, 268, 270, and 124; flow charts of the permitting process that show how the public can be involved; training modules; example permits; and links to the actual regulations. The usefulness of this reference document is maximized when it is viewed on a computer that is connected to the Internet, which allows immediate navigation to supporting information. <http://www.epa.gov/wastes/hazard/tsd/permit/tsd-regs/tsdf-ref-rlc.pdf>

NEW SPECTROMETRY STANDARD FOR HANDHELD CHEMICAL DETECTORS AIDS FIRST RESPONDERS NIST Tech Beat, 24 Oct 2013

The recent publication of a new standard—a culmination of years of research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology—provides confidence that results from handheld chemical detectors can be compared, apples-to-apples. The new standard, published recently by ASTM International, is intended as a guide to correct the output from different handheld Raman spectrometers so that different instruments produce the same result for the same sample. Additional information on E2911-13, "Standard Guide for Relative Intensity Correction of Raman Spectrometers," is available at <http://www.astm.org/Standards/E2911.htm>. See the full NIST news release at http://www.nist.gov/oles/spectrom_standard_10242013.cfm

NANOREM: TAKING NANOTECHNOLOGICAL REMEDIATION PROCESSES FROM LAB SCALE TO END USER APPLICATIONS FOR THE RESTORATION OF A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

The 4-year NanoRem research project, funded under the European Commission FP7 from February 2013 through January 2017, will focus on facilitating practical, safe, economic, and exploitable nanotechnology for in situ remediation. This effort will be undertaken in parallel with developing a comprehensive understanding of the environmental risk-benefit for the use of nanotechnology, market demand, overall sustainability, and stakeholder perceptions in the EU environmental sector. Because the NanoRem website is still under construction, CL:AIRE has released the first NanoRem newsletter, which summarizes the project's ambitious objectives and the work undertaken in each of its 11 work packages. Download the newsletter at http://www.daire.co.uk/index.php?option=com_nbcadownload&view=file&id=384:Other-CL:AIRE-Documents&Itemid=61

CATALYZED PERSULFATE FOR GROUNDWATER AND SOIL REMEDIATION Wilson, S. Pollution Engineering, June 2013

This paper outlines in situ chemical oxidation technologies employed in environmental remediation, discusses the traditional technologies employed to activate persulfate, and introduces PersulfOx™, a new catalyzed persulfate chemistry that has been demonstrated to degrade contaminants effectively in situ while reducing the need for activation chemicals. <http://digital.bnpmedia.com/article/Catalyzed+Persulfate+For+Groundwater+And+Soil+Remediation/1411394/0/article.html>
A longer version of this white paper is available at http://www.pollutionengineering.com/ext/resources/PE/2013/June/White_Paper_on_PersulfOx_Catalyzed_Persulfate_Advancing_In_Situ_Chemical_Oxidation_1.pdf

SOIL REMEDIATION AND REHABILITATION: TREATMENT OF CONTAMINATED AND DISTURBED LAND Meuser, H. Springer, New York. ISBN: 9789400757509, Environmental Pollution Vol 23, 2013

In 2006, the Commission of the European Communities estimated the number of contaminated sites in the European Union at 3.5 million sites, affecting 231 million people and representing a market value of 57 billion Euros. This book presents an overview of the state of art of existing remediation technologies from a technical and practical perspective. The table of contents and chapter abstracts can be reviewed at <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-94-007-5751-6>

PROCESSES, ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS

Reible, D.D. (ed).
Springer, New York. ISBN: 978-1-4614-6726-7, SERDP ESTCP Environmental Remediation Technology Series, Vol 6, 462 pp, 2013

This book is designed to help identify and implement management approaches that provide solutions to sediment contaminant problems. Following an introduction to contaminated sediment management that summarizes the trade-offs between natural attenuation, containment, and active removal, the book offers (1) a series of chapters describing key sediment processes that separate sediment sites from contaminated soil sites, (2) a series of chapters describing sediment risk assessment approaches, and (3) a series of chapters describing sediment risk management (i.e., remedial approaches and their design). The final chapter identifies key uncertainties and resulting research and development needs. The table of contents and chapter abstracts can be reviewed at <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-1-4614-6726-7>

SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION OF URBAN BROWNFIELDS: IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOME THROUGH LCA

Sanscartier, D., S. MacWilliam, and M. Wismer.
LCA XII, 25-27 September 2013, Tacoma, Washington. American Center for Life Cycle Assessment, 17 slides, 2013

The applicability of life-cycle assessment (LCA) to site remediation is well documented in the literature. Three types of environmental impacts have been categorized for remediation: primary (those associated with the contaminants); secondary (those associated with the remediation activities); and tertiary (those associated with the future land use). While primary impacts are typically local, secondary and tertiary impacts can be local, regional, and global. Although focusing the LCA on secondary impacts is the most straightforward analysis, considering primary and tertiary impacts provides additional information to decision makers. This presentation introduces sustainable remediation, presents the application of LCA methodology to site remediation through case studies carried out by the authors and published in the literature, and notes lessons learned. <http://lccenter.org/lcaxii/final-presentations/652.pdf>

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