

This report presents cost and performance data for a soil vapor extraction system at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA) Superfund site, Motor Pool Area, in Commerce City, Colorado. Soil vapor extraction (SVE) was conducted from July to December 1991 as an interim response action to treat soil between the ground surface and groundwater (vadose zone). The contaminants of concern at the site were halogenated organics, primarily trichloroethylene (TCE). This action was conducted in response to requirements in a Record of Decision from February 1990 and a Federal Facilities Agreement between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Army, and other parties. This action was initially considered to be a pilot study because it was expected to provide performance data on SVE at this site that could be used to expand the system. During this application, the pilot-scale SVE system removed sufficient vapor contaminants from the vadose zone, and expansion of the system beyond pilot-scale was not necessary.

The Motor Pool Area at RMA, referred to as Operable Unit 18, had been used for cleaning and servicing equipment, vehicles, and railroad cars, and for storing diesel, gasoline, and oil products in aboveground and underground storage tanks. VOCs, detected in the Motor Pool Area's soil and groundwater, have been attributed to releases of chlorinated solvents used during cleaning operations; these solvents were discharged through floor drains and pipes into unlined ditches at the site. Soil gas studies, completed within the Motor Pool Area in 1986 and 1989, identified a trichloroethylene (TCE) soil vapor plume extending north, northwest from the Motor Pool Area. A SVE system was installed in this area in the location where the highest soil

vapor concentrations of TCE were measured within the vadose zone, as identified in the 1989 study. The SVE system at this site was principally designed to remediate the soil vapors identified by the soil gas studies.

The SVE system used within the Motor Pool Area consisted of one shallow vapor extraction well and one deep vapor extraction well and an activated carbon system for treatment of extracted vapors. Four clusters of vapor monitoring wells were installed as part of this remedial action to aid in the assessment of the performance of the SVE system. Within five months of system operation, TCE levels in soil vapors were reduced from levels as high as 65 ppm to levels less than 1 ppm. Approximately 70 pounds of TCE were recovered during this cleanup action. The operating parameters collected during the system's 1991 operation indicated that a clay lense located beneath the site affected the SVE system's performance by limiting both the shallow and deep vapor extraction wells' vertical zones of influence.

The total cost for procuring, installing, and operating the SVE pilot system, as well as preparing a pilot study report was \$182,800. This cost was approximately 15% less than the preliminary cost estimate provided by the remediation contractor for the project.

Approximately \$74,600 of the total costs were for activities directly related to treatment. This value does not include costs for disposal of carbon. The \$74,600 for treatment activities corresponds to \$2.20 per cubic yard of soil treated (for 34,000 cubic yards of soil) the soil treated contained relatively low level of contaminants.



Rocky Mountain Arsenal
Motor Pool Area (Operable Unit 18)
Commerce City, Colorado
CERCLIS #: C05210020769
ROD Date: 26 February 1990

Type of Action: Remedial
Treatability Study Associated with Application? No
EPA SITE Program Test Associated with Application? No
Period of Operation: 7/16/91 - 12/16/91
Quantity of Material Treated During Application: 34,000 cubic yards of soil. This value is an estimated amount based on a treatment area 70 feet in radius (approximate distance of the farthest well cluster at which an appreciable vacuum was measured during vapor extraction) by 60 feet in depth (approximate total depth of the deep extraction well and depth to the water table).

Background

Historical Activity that Generated Contamination at the Site: Motor vehicle, railcar, and heavy equipment maintenance, repair, and cleaning activities.

Corresponding SIC Code(s):
7699—Repair Shops and Related Services,
Not Elsewhere Classified

Waste Management Practice that Contributed to Contamination: Discharge to sewer

Site History: The Rocky Mountain Arsenal is a former U.S. Army chemical warfare and incendiary munitions manufacturing and assembly facility that occupies more than 17,000 acres northeast of Denver, Colorado, as shown on Figure 1. Since 1970, facility activities have primarily involved the destruction of chemical warfare materials. The Motor Pool Area, referred to as Operable Unit 18, is located within the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in the southeastern corner of Section 4, as shown on Figure 2. Since 1942, this area has been primarily used by the Rocky Mountain Arsenal for cleaning and servicing equipment, vehicles, and railroad cars, and for storing diesel, gasoline, and oil products in above-ground and underground storage tanks. [6]

From the early 1940s to at least 1985, chlorinated solvents were used during equipment

cleaning activities within the Motor Pool Area's Buildings 624 and 631. [7] Halogenated volatile organic compounds, including trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene, have been detected in the Motor Pool Area's soil and groundwater and the contamination has been attributed to the use of

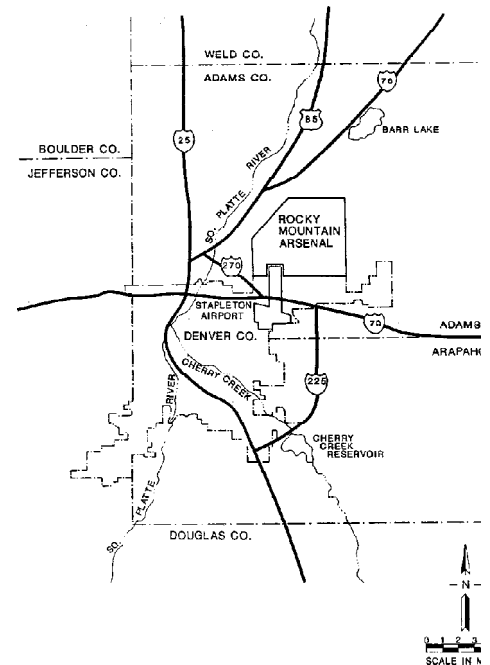


Figure 1. Rocky Mountain Arsenal Location Map

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chlorinated solvents during equipment cleaning activities within these two buildings. Chlorinated solvents, along with oil, grease, fuel, and other liquids and residues generated from maintenance operations, were discharged through floor drains and pipes into unlined ditches located between Buildings 624 and 631, and Buildings 624 and 625. Figure 2 shows the relative locations of Buildings 624, 625, and 631 within the Motor Pool Area. [6]

Regulatory Context: Rocky Mountain Arsenal was added to the National Priorities List in July 1987. In 1988, as a result of a Consent Decree in the case of *United States v. Shell Oil Company*, a Federal Facilities Agreement was entered into between five federal agencies: EPA, the Army, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Justice. This Federal Facility Agreement established procedures for implementing cleanup of the RMA, as specified in the Technical Program Plan. The Army and Shell Oil Company agreed to share certain costs of the remediation to be developed and performed under the oversight of EPA. The Federal Facilities Agreement specified 13 interim response actions determined to be necessary and appropriate, including the "Remediation of Other Contamination Sources," which covered the Motor Pool Area. [1 and 10]

Remedy Selection: The ROD for the Motor Pool Area was signed on February 26, 1990. Interim response action alternatives considered for the Motor Pool Area were no action, monitoring, institutional controls, capping, on-site and off-site incineration, bioremediation, thermal desorption, and soil vapor extraction.

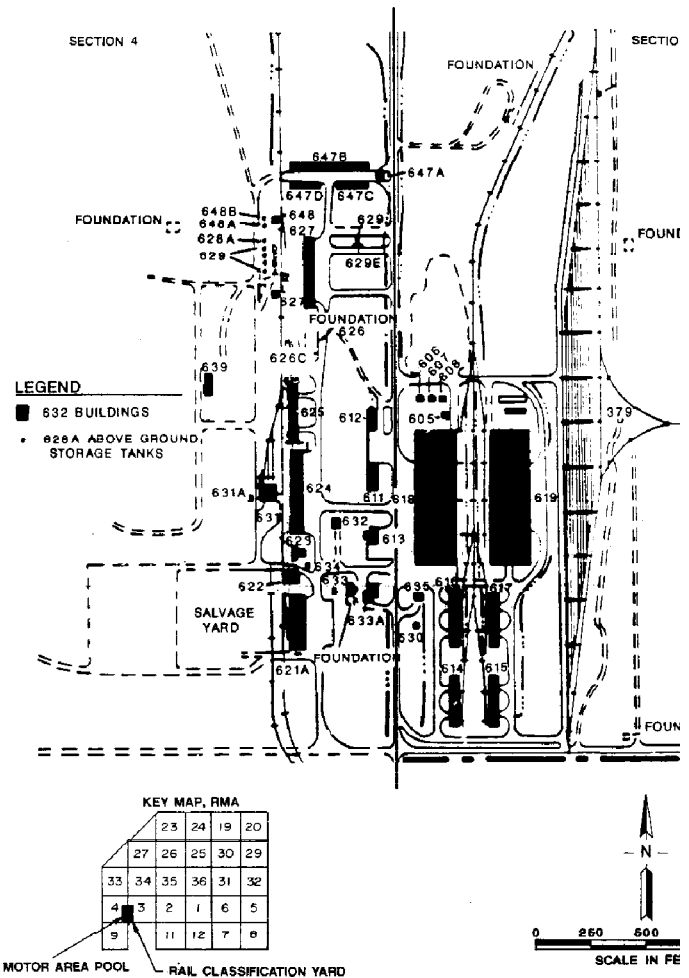


Figure 2. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study Vicinity Map [6]

Soil vapor extraction was selected as the interim response action for the Motor Pool Area because it was a cost effective alternative that was expected to provide an easily implemented and, if necessary, expandable method of reducing the volume of soil contaminated with volatile organic compounds, specifically the halogenated volatile organics detected in the Motor Pool Area's soil vapor. The potential benefits in the utilization of soil vapor extraction were the use of relatively simple equipment in the implementation of the technology, the application of a minimal amount of intrusive procedures such as excavation, and the generation of a small amount of contaminated materials requiring disposal. [1 and 8]



Site Management: U.S. Army - Lead

Oversight: EPA

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MATRIX DESCRIPTION

Matrix Identification

Type of Matrix Processed by the Treatment System During this Application: Soil (in situ)

Contaminant Characterization

Primary contaminant groups that this technology was designed for in this treatment application: Halogenated Volatile Organic Compounds

Two soil gas studies were completed in the Motor Pool Area near Buildings 624 and 631 in 1986, and a third soil gas study was completed in this area during July of 1989. The grid sampling results from the July 1989 soil gas study are shown in Figure 3, and an iso-concentration map of those results is provided in Figure 4. Figures 3 and 4 show a TCE soil vapor plume extending north, northwest from an area north of Building 631 and west of Buildings 624 and 625. [6]

In addition to the soil gas studies, soil investigations were conducted in the Motor Pool Area, and documented in 1988. The soil investigations indicated that VOCs, including TCE, ethylbenzene, and toluene, were present

in near surface soil samples at or below 4 µg/g. [6]

In October 1990, five soil borings were collected to further characterize the lateral and vertical extent of halogenated VOCs in the soil west of Buildings 624 and 625. The soil borings, shown in Figure 5, were collected to the depth of groundwater. Soil borings were sampled at 5-foot intervals and analyzed for halogenated VOCs by Datachem laboratories using a gas chromatography analytical method with an electrolytic conductivity detector. [2 and 6]

The results of this sampling indicated that carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄) was the only analyte detected. CCl₄ was detected in a single sample collected from the 18 to 19-foot below ground surface (BGS) interval in boring COEMPA0005, at a concentration of 0.592 µg/g. However, analysis of the duplica



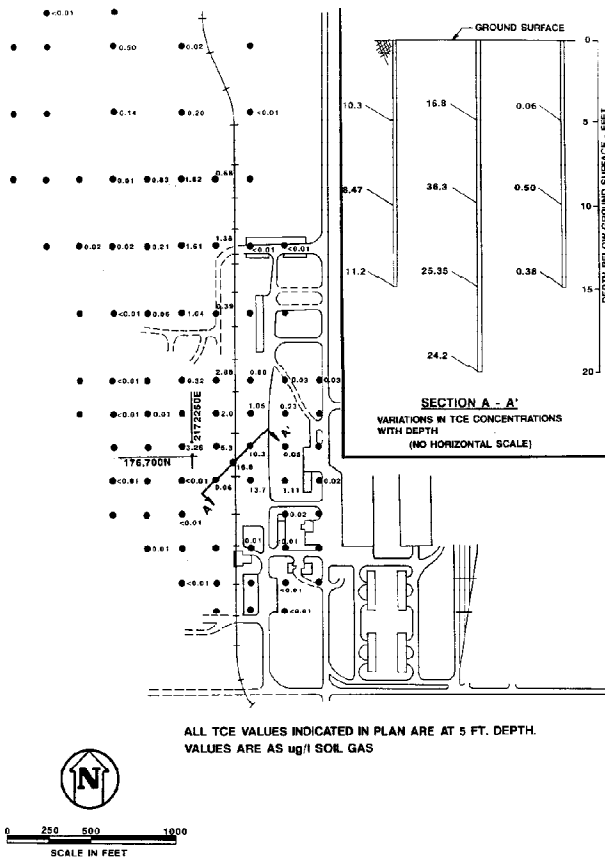


Figure 3. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study
1989 TCE Soil Gas Survey [6]

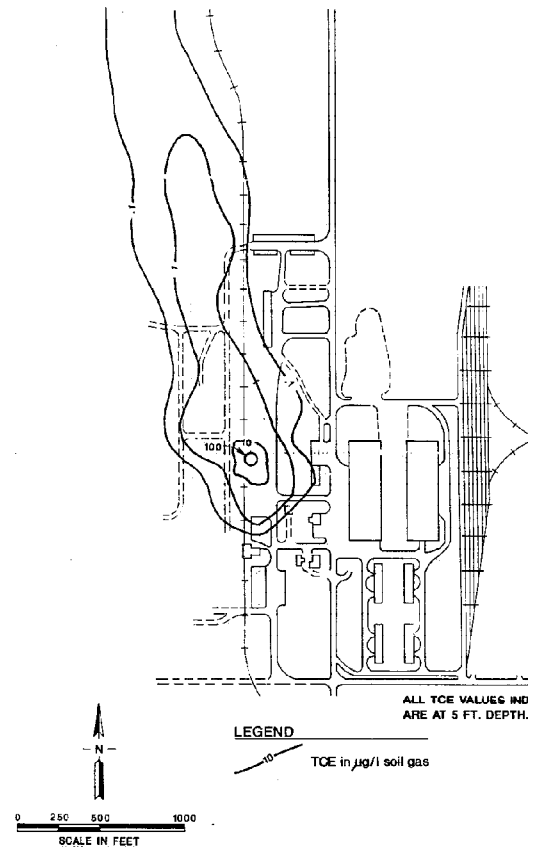


Figure 4. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study
1989 Soil Gas Survey Iso-Concentration Profil

sample collected from the 17 to 18-foot BGS interval within the same boring did not detect any halogenated VOCs. The reason for the disparity between these sampling intervals is not known. [6]

Site Geology/Stratigraphy

The unconsolidated deposits beneath the Motor Pool Area consist of discontinuous sand and gravel lenses, interbedded with silt and clay. In the area of the SVE system, a low permeability clayey sand to clay layer 1 to 3 feet thick exists between 32 and 38 feet BGS. The water table is approximately 65 feet below ground surface in the Motor Pool Area. The topography around the Motor Pool Area is generally flat with a minor slope toward the northwest. Quaternary Alluvium is the uppermost stratigraphic unit encountered in the

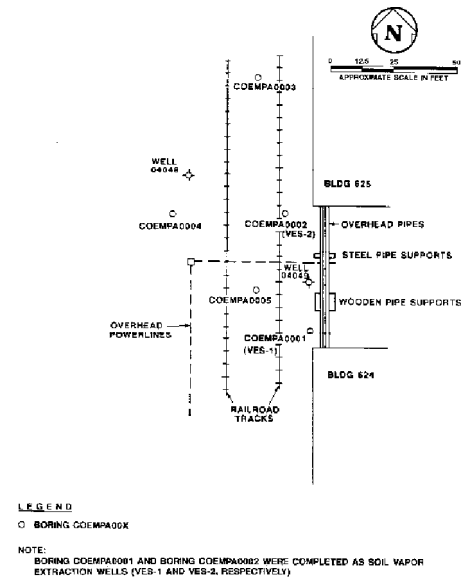


Figure 5. October 1990 Soil Boring Locations [

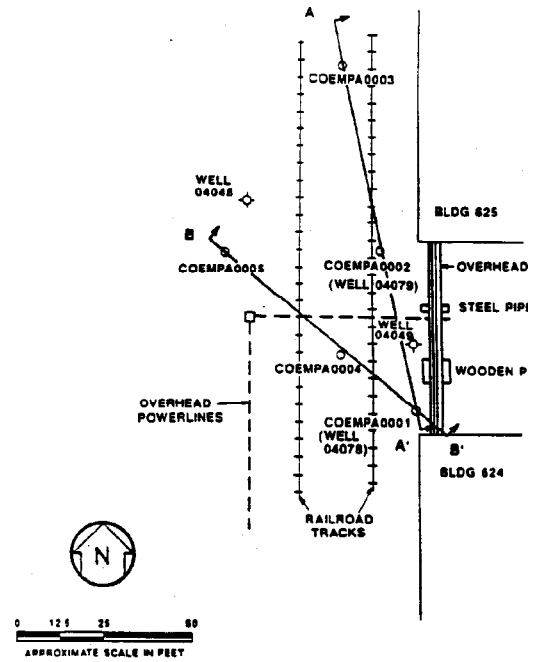
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area. Figure 6 shows the relative locations of 5 borings and the A-A' and B-B' cross sections that helped to characterize the geology of the Motor Pool Area and to define the aerial extent of volatile halogenated organics in the soil west of Buildings 624 and 625. The geologic cross sections that were produced, based on the information gathered from these borings, are shown in Figures 7 and 8. Gravel and gravelly sands are present at the base of the alluvium, especially in ancient stream channels called paleochannels. [6]

The Denver Formation is the bedrock below the approximately 70 to 100 feet thick alluvium. It predominantly consists of claystone with interbedded sandstone, siltstone, and lignite beds that vary from approximately 2 to 20 feet in thickness. The bedrock surface generally slopes to the northwest, except near the northern boundary of the Motor Pool Area, where a northwest trending paleochannel with approximately 70 feet of relief exists. [6]



NOTE: BORING COEMPA0001 AND BORING COEMPA0002 HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AS EXTRACTION WELLS 04078 AND 04079, RESPECTIVELY. BORINGS -0003, -0004 AND -0005 WERE GROUTED AND ABANDONED IMMEDIATELY AFTER DRILLING.

Figure 6. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study Site Plan

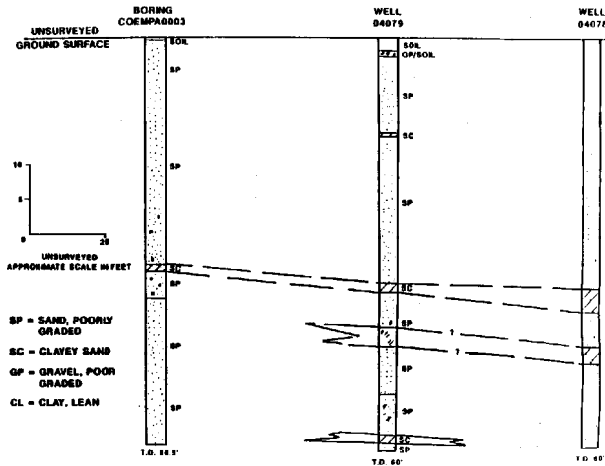


Figure 7. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study Cross Section A-A' [2]

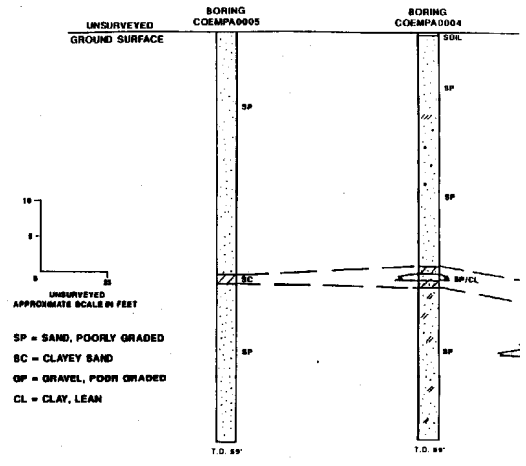


Figure 8. Motor Pool Area Study Area Cross Section B-B'

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The major matrix characteristics affecting cost or performance for this technology are shown below in Table 1.

Table 1. Matrix Characteristics [6, 11, and 16]

| Parameter | Value | Measurement Method |
|---|---|--|
| Soil Types (Soil classification and particle size distribution) | 0 to 35 ft. below ground surface (BGS): poorly graded sand (SP), poorly graded sand with gravel (SP), and poorly graded sand with silt (SP-SM). 35.5 ft BGS: lean clay with sand (CL). 55 ft. BGS: poorly graded sand (SP). | Particle Size Analysis: ASTM Method D422-63 |
| Moisture Content | 4.7 to 30.9% | Gravimetric Analysis: ASTM Method D2216-90 |
| Permeability | 0 to ~38 ft. BGS: 167 darcys ~55 ft. BGS: 2,860 darcys | Vacuum readings were taken at five-minute intervals P-7B and VES-4 during the system start-up until steady state conditions were observed. Vacuum readings at each location were plotted against the natural log of time. The slope and y-intercept of each plot were used in a Johnson et al., 1990, equation to predict soil permeability to air flow. |
| Porosity | Not measured | — |
| Total Organic Carbon | Not measured | — |
| Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids | No evidence of NAPLs was found within Operable Unit 18 | Not Reported |

TREATMENT SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Primary Treatment Technology Type:
Soil Vapor Extraction

Supplemental Treatment Technology Type
Post-Treatment of Vapors using Carbon Adsorption

Soil Vapor Extraction System Description and Operation

As shown in Figure 9, the SVE system used in the Motor Pool Area consisted of a shallow vapor extraction well, VES-3, located above the clay layer and screened between 13 and 28 feet BGS, and a deep vapor extraction well, VES-4, located below the clay layer and screened between 43 and 58 feet BGS. The purpose of installing both shallow and deep vapor extraction wells was to provide a means for assessing the affect of the clay layer on the removal of VOCs. The extraction wells were connected by insulated PVC pipe to a liquid vapor separator tank designed to remove condensed water, a sediment filter, and a 10-horsepower regenerative blower. Exhaust air from the blower was discharged to two sets of vapor-phase granular activated carbon (GAC) canisters consisting of three canisters each. The first series of

GAC canisters was designed to remove approximately 90% of the TCE from the extracted gas, while the second series was used as a polishing step to remove remaining TCE. A temporary building housed the blower and associated equipment. [6]

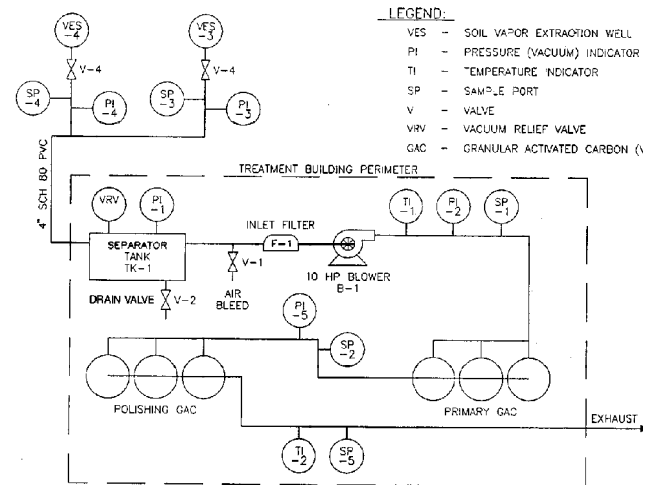


Figure 9. Soil Vapor Extraction System Process Flow Diagram

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To better assess the performance of the SVE system, four clusters of soil vapor monitoring wells were installed in the Motor Pool Area. Figure 10 shows the locations of the vapor extraction wells and vapor monitoring well clusters. The vapor monitoring well clusters P-5, P-6, and P-7 were installed at the locations shown on Figure 10 based on an analysis of the results from the 1989 soil gas survey that showed a TCE vapor plume extending in a

shallow, intermediate, and deep vapor monitoring wells shown in Figure 10 are identified by the letters A, B, and C, respectively. [6]

Vapor extraction wells VES-1 and VES-2 shown on Figure 10 were used to perform an initial air permeability test in October 1990 to determine the relationship between the soil gas flow rate and vacuum applied at well locations within the Motor Pool Area; these wells were not connected to the Motor Pool Area's soil vapor extraction system. VES-1 and VES-2 were constructed with borings COEMPA0001 and COEMPA0002, respectively, and the data collected from them was used during the design of the SVE system. [6]

The in situ soil vapor extraction system was operated in 1991 and again briefly in 1993. During the first four weeks of operation in 1991, referred to as the short-term operating period, vapor was extracted from VES-3 for weeks one and two and then from VES-4 for weeks three and four. The long-term operation began immediately after the short-term operation period and continued for approximately four additional months. During the first part of the long-term operation, soil gas was extracted from VES-3 for approximately two weeks before extraction was suspended for one week, to allow time for the desorption of VOCs from the soil and VOC vapor recovery within the well. This cycle was then repeated three times.

The second part of the long-term operation consisted of the same extraction and recovery cycle, repeated three times, for VES-4. [6]

The system was operated again in 1993 for a 48-hour period to assess the longer-term effectiveness of the treatment provided during the system's 1991 operation. This 48-hour operating period is referred to as a verification program test. [5]

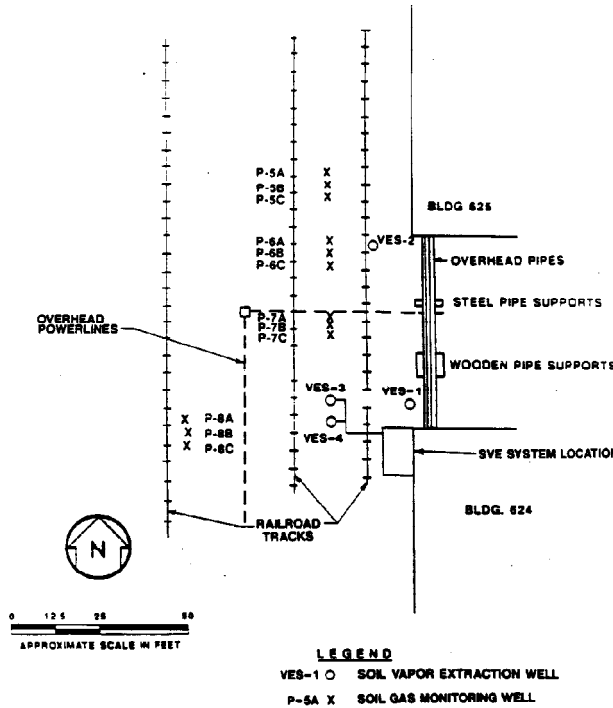


Figure 10. Motor Pool Area Pilot Study SVE Well Locations [6]

generally north to northwesterly direction from the area west of Buildings 624 and 625. Monitoring well cluster P-8 was installed to the west of the vapor extraction wells to evaluate any radial heterogeneities. Each cluster had a shallow vapor monitoring well screened between 12 and 14 feet BGS, an intermediate vapor monitoring well screened within the 30 to 38 feet BGS sandy clay to clay layer, and a deep vapor monitoring well screened between 52 and 56 feet BGS. The



Listed below in Table 2 are the key operating parameters for this technology and the values measured in this application. Additional typical operating parameters and data are shown on Table 3 below.

Table 2. Operating Parameters [6]

| Parameter | Value | Measurement | Method |
|------------------|---|--------------|---------------|
| Air Flow Rate | 145 to 335 cfm at blower exhaust (SP-1) | Orifice type | flow meters |
| Operating Vacuum | 0 to 30 inches of water | Magnehelic | vacuum gauges |

Table 3. SVE Pilot Study Summary of Typical Operating Conditions [6]

| Well | Type of Vapor Well | Vacuum (in H ₂ O) |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| VES-3 | Shallow Extraction | 0 - 13.8 |
| VES-4 | Deep Extraction | 0 - 30 |
| P-5A | Shallow Monitoring | 0 - 0.74 |
| P-5B | Intermediate Monitoring | 0 - 0.50 |
| P-5C | Deep Monitoring | 0 - 0.50 |
| P-6A | Shallow Monitoring | 0.10 - 1.2 |
| P-6B | Intermediate Monitoring | 0.4 - 1.55 |
| P-6C | Deep Monitoring | 0 - 2.05 |
| P-7A | Shallow Monitoring | 0.32 - 1.80 |
| P-7B | Intermediate Monitoring | 0.30 - 3.0 |
| P-7C | Deep Monitoring | 0.30 - 3.05 |
| P-8A | Shallow Monitoring | 0 - 1.85 |
| P-8B | Intermediate Monitoring | 0 - 2.10 |
| P-8C | Deep Monitoring | 0 - 2.30 |

Separator Tank Vacuum (PI-1):..... 18.2 to 36.5
 Separator Level Gauge:..... 0
 Blower Exhaust Temp. (TI-1):..... 123 to
 Blower Exhaust Pressure (PI-2):..... 8 to 12
 Blower Exhaust (SP-1):
 H Nu 0 to 20 ppm
 Sensidyne 0 to 15 ppm
 Velocity 2,600 to 6,000 ft/min
 Flow Rate 145 to 335 cfm
 GAC Exhaust Temp (TI-2) 85 to
 GAC Exhaust Concentration (SP-5) (13.7 lbs/day st
 emission limit):
 H Nu 0 to 3.7 ppm
 Sensidyne 0 ppm

Timeline

A timeline for this application is provided in Table 4.

Table 4. Timeline [5 and 6]

| Start Date | End Date | Activity |
|-------------------|------------------|---|
| 1942 | — | Active use of Motor Pool Area (MPA) by U.S. Army. |
| 1986 | 1989 | Soil gas studies conducted. |
| February 1990 | — | Record of Decision signed. |
| October 1990 | — | Site characterization of area west of Buildings 624 and 625 in the MPA using five soil borings. |
| 16 July 1991 | 12 August 1991 | Short-term SVE system operating period (4 weeks). |
| 12 August 1991 | 16 December 1991 | Long-term SVE system operating period (4 months). |
| 29 September 1993 | 1 October 1993 | Verification program testing and air monitoring of the soil vapor extraction system. |



Neither the ROD [7] nor the Implementation Document [2] specified quantifiable cleanup goals for the Motor Pool Area.

Additional Information on Goals

While no cleanup goals were specified for the Motor Pool Area, chemical-specific goals, including 5 µg/L benzene, were established for groundwater treatment for the Rail Classification Yard, located adjacent to the Motor Pool Area. [2, 7]

In addition, although not a quantifiable goal, the results of the SVE pilot study were to be

assessed after completion of the 1991 operation period to determine whether the TCE concentrations in the system's exhaust were low and relatively constant. The results of this assessment were to be used to determine if a full-scale system would be required for soil cleanup at Motor Pool Area.

Treatment Performance Data

Performance data for the SVE system operated in 1991 include TCE concentrations in the vapor extraction and monitoring wells, and in the blower exhaust, as well as the vacuum measured in the monitoring wells. Table 5 contains a summary of the TCE concentrations determined by laboratory analysis of charcoal tube samples of vapor from the extraction and monitoring wells.

Field sampling and analysis of extraction and monitoring well vapors during the 1991 operating period was performed using TCE-indicating Sensidyne tubes and a HNu photoionization detector. Laboratory analysis of gas samples from these wells was by a modified NIOSH method utilizing a Gillan personal sampling pump and charcoal tube samples. [6]

Figures 11 through 26 show the following information:

- Figure 11—Summary of TCE Concentrations Determined by Laboratory Analysis in the Blower Exhaust.
- Figure 12—Vacuum Measured in Soil Gas Monitoring Wells (SGMW) During VES-3 Extraction.
- Figure 13—Vacuum Measured in Soil Gas Monitoring Wells (SGMW) During VES-4 Extraction.

- Figures 14 through 17—TCE Concentrations Determined by Laboratory Analysis in the Shallow Monitoring Wells.
- Figures 18 through 21—TCE Concentrations Determined by Laboratory Analysis in the Medium (intermediate depth) Monitoring Wells.
- Figures 22 through 25—TCE Concentrations Determined by Laboratory Analysis in the Deep Monitoring Wells.
- Figure 26—Total mass of TCE extracted during the 1991 SVE system operation as a function of the number of days of system operation.

Performance data for the SVE system operated in 1993 include TCE and tetrachloroethylene concentrations in the vapor extraction and monitoring wells. Field sampling and analysis of well vapor samples associated with the 48-hour test were performed with an on-site Photovac 10S70 Chromatograph. In addition, passivated S canister samples were collected and sent for site laboratory analysis. [5]

The performance data are presented in Table 6 through 9 as follows:

- Table 6—TCE and Tetrachloroethene Concentrations Measured Onsite in Shallow, Medium, and Deep Monitoring Wells Prior to the 48-Hour Test.



TABLE 3. SVS FINE-SCALE SUMMARY OF ANALYTICAL RESULTS (U)

| Sampling Date | TCE Concentrations (ppm) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| | P-5A | P-5B | P-5C | P-6A | P-6B | P-6C | P-7A | P-7B | P-7C | P-8A | P-8B | P-8C | VES-3 |
| STS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7/16/91 | 12.9 | 30.2 | 34.2 | 27.8 | 36.8 | 34.1 | 65.4 | 44.4 | 36.3 | 15.5 | 19.4 | 4.3 | N/A |
| 7/17/91 | 23.5 | 6.3 | ND | 12.2 | 6.5 | ND | 7.6 | 10.8 | ND | 2.1 | 2.2 | 0.9 | 51.6 |
| 7/19/91 | 5.3 | 20.0 | 23.4 | 6.5 | 20.1 | 26.5 | ND | 24.6 | 25.7 | ND | 11.6 | 11.9 | 16.7 |
| 7/24/91 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 7.5 | 3.1 | 7.3 | 20.2 | ND | 14.4 | 8.3 | ND | 4.2 | ND | 10.6 |
| STD | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7/29/91 | ND | 2.1 | ND | 1.1 | 3.1 | 2.1 | ND | 3.1 | 2.1 | ND | 3.2 | ND | N/A |
| 7/31/91 | ND | 0.7 | 2.8 | ND | 1.4 | ND | ND | ND | 2.2 | ND | 2.1 | 2.2 | N/A |
| 8/2/91 | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | 1.4 | 1.4 | ND | ND | 1.4 | ND | 2.1 | ND | N/A |
| 8/7/91 | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | 1.4 | 1.5 | ND | ND | 1.4 | ND | 2.9 | 7.8 | N/A |
| LTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8/12/91 | ND | ND | 2.8 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 2.1 | 3.6 |
| 8/19/91 | ND | 0.7 | ND | ND | 0.7 | 2.8 | ND | 2.1 | 2.1 | ND | 0.7 | 2.1 | 3.5 |
| 8/26/91 | ND | 1.1 | 0.4 | ND | 0.7 | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | 2.7 |
| 8/30/91 | ND | 1.1 | ND | ND | 0.7 | 0.4 | ND | 1.1 | 1.1 | ND | 0.4 | 0.7 | — |
| 9/3/91 | ND | 0.4 | 0.7 | ND | ND | 0.4 | ND | ND | 3.9 | ND | 0.4 | ND | 4.3 |
| 9/9/91 | ND | ND | 0.4 | ND | ND | 0.4 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 1.0 | 2.8 |
| 9/16/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 2.5 |
| 9/20/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | ND | 1.1 | ND | 0.4 | ND | — |
| 9/23/91 | ND | 0.7 | 0.7 | ND | ND | 2.0 | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.3 | 1.0 | 3.6 |
| 10/1/91 | ND | 0.5 | 1.2 | ND | 0.7 | 1.4 | ND | 1.1 | 1.6 | ND | 0.5 | ND | 2.8 |
| 10/7/91 | ND | 0.7 | 0.4 | ND | 0.9 | 2.1 | ND | 0.7 | 2.3 | ND | 0.5 | 1.6 | 3.2 |
| LTD | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10/11/01 | ND | 0.5 | 1.6 | ND | 0.7 | 1.2 | ND | 0.4 | 2.0 | ND | ND | 1.9 | N/A |
| 10/15/91 | ND | 0.3 | 0.7 | ND | 0.4 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.4 | 2.1 | N/A |
| 10/21/91 | ND | ND | 0.5 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | N/A |
| 10/28/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.4 | ND | N/A |
| 11/1/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | N/A |
| 11/4/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | N/A |
| 11/11/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | N/A |
| 11/18/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | N/A |
| 12/2/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 1.1 | ND | 0.2 | 1.4 | N/A |
| 12/9/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.6 | ND | 0.4 | 0.4 | N/A |
| 12/16/91 | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.2 | ND | ND | 0.4 | N/A |

- Sample not taken (recovery phase)
- ND Not Detected
- STS Short-term, shallow well (VES-3) extraction
- STD Short-term, deep well (VES-4) extraction
- LTS Long-term, shallow well (VES-3) extraction
- LTD Long-term, deep well (VES-4) extraction
- N/A Not Applicable

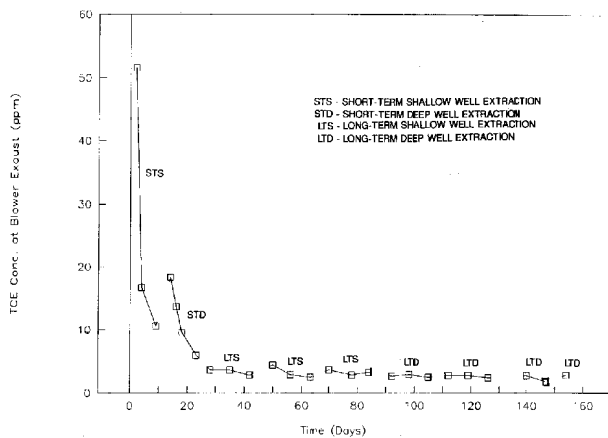


Figure 11. Summary of Long -and Short-Term Operations [6]

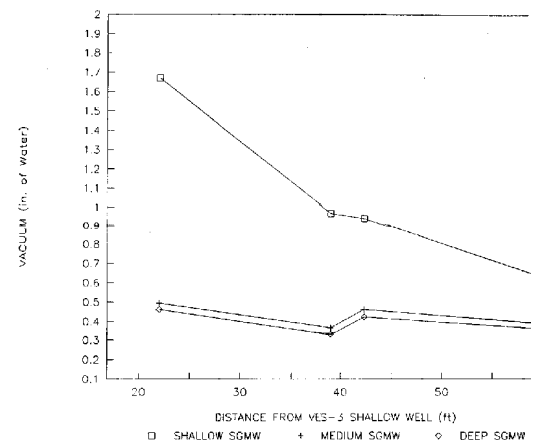


Figure 12. Shallow Extraction Well Vacuum Readings



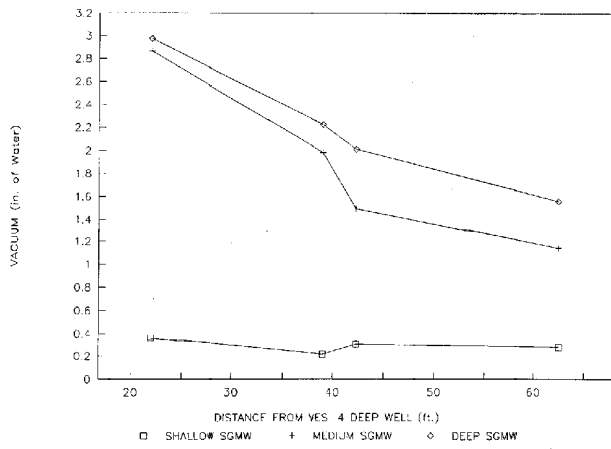


Figure 13. Deep Extraction Well Vacuum Readings [6]

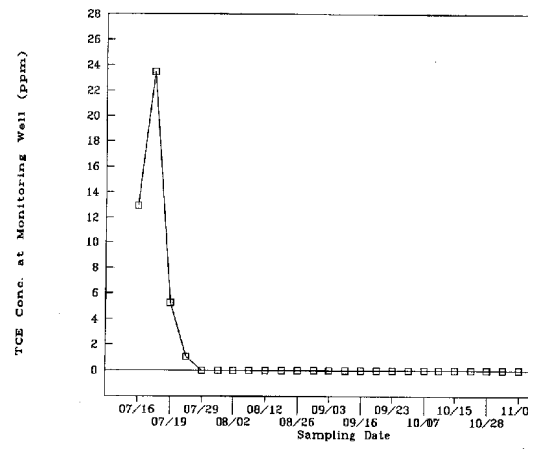


Figure 14. P-5A Shallow Monitoring Well [6]

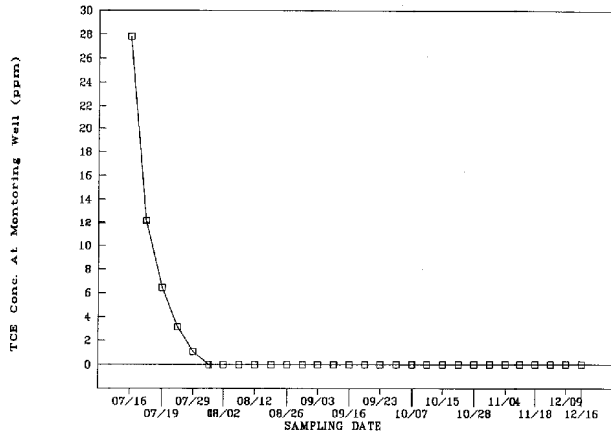


Figure 15. P-6A Shallow Monitoring Well [6]

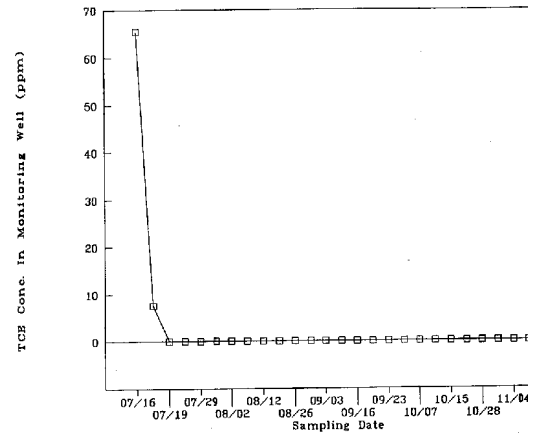


Figure 16. P-7A Shallow Monitoring Well [6]

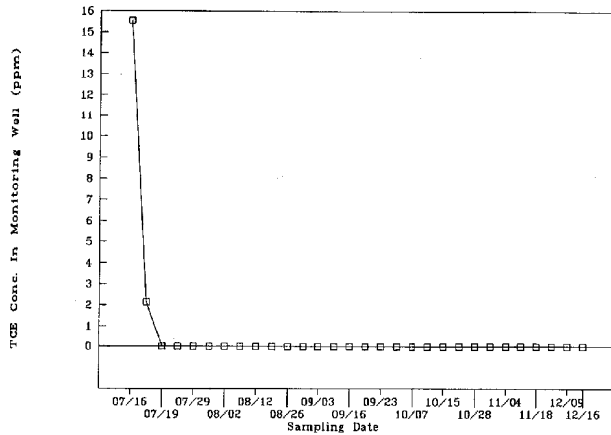


Figure 17. P-8A Shallow Monitoring Well [6]

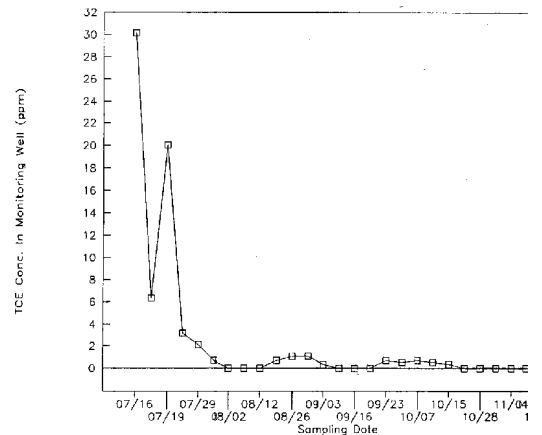


Figure 18. P-5B Medium Monitoring Well [6]

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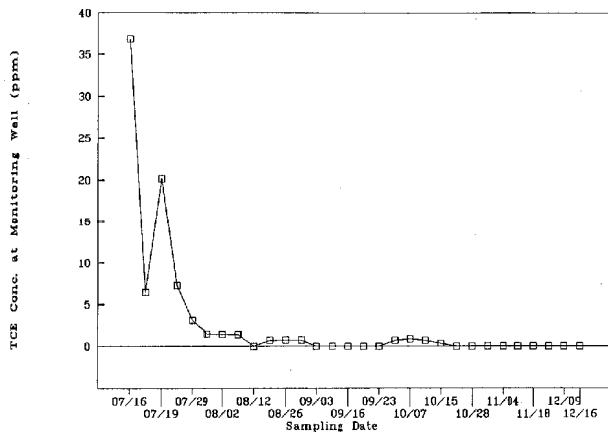


Figure 19. P-6B Medium Monitoring Well [6]

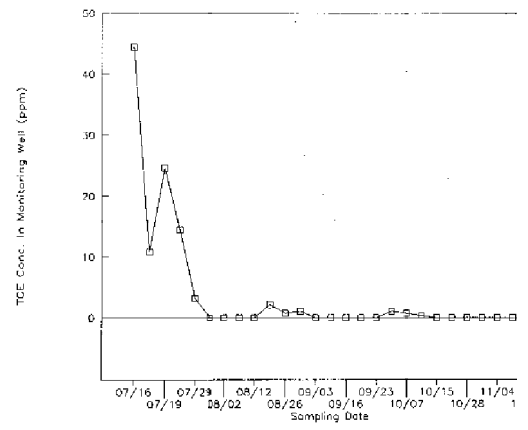


Figure 20. P-7B Medium Monitoring Well [6]

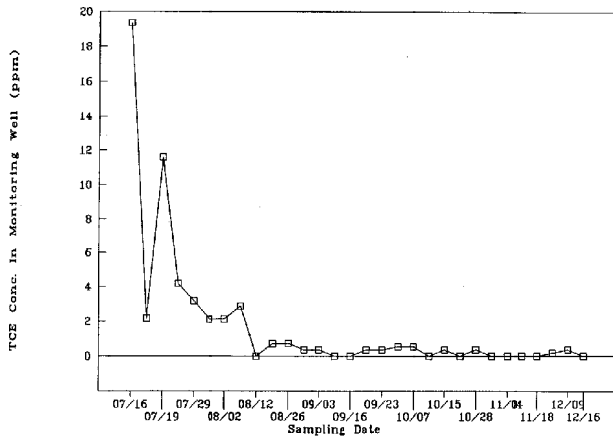


Figure 21. P-8B Medium Monitoring Well [6]

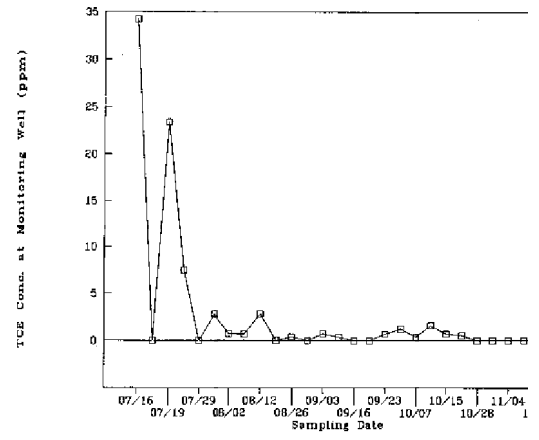


Figure 22. P-5C Deep Monitoring Well [6]

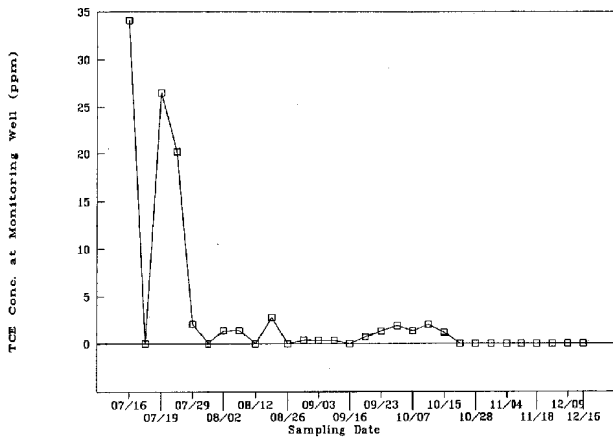


Figure 23. P-6C Deep Monitoring Well [6]

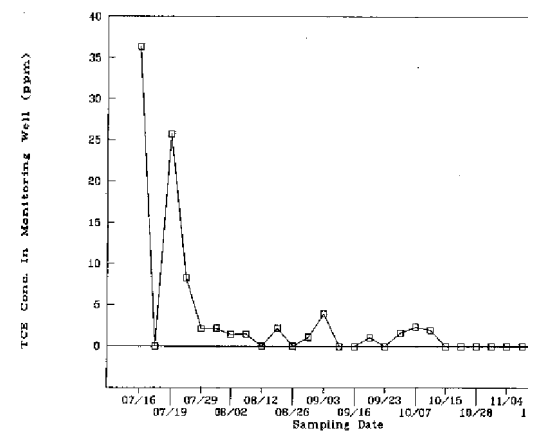


Figure 24. P-7C Deep Monitoring Well [6]

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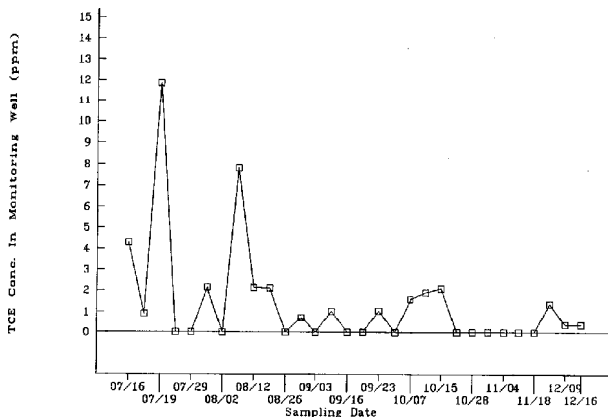


Figure 25. P-8C Deep Monitoring Well [6]

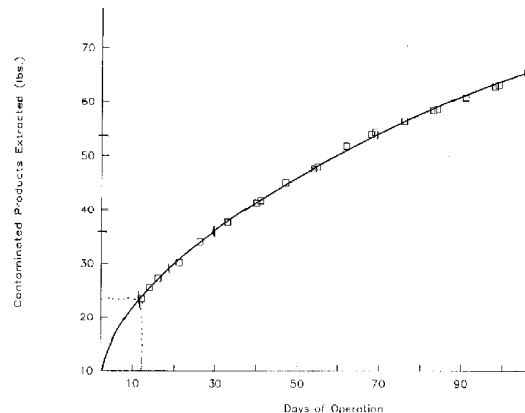


Figure 26. Total Mass TCE Extracted [6]

- Table 7—TCE and Tetrachloroethene Concentrations Detected by Laboratory Analysis in VES-3 and VES-4.
- Table 8—TCE and Tetrachloroethene Concentrations Measured Onsite in VES-3 and VES-4.
- Table 9—TCE and Tetrachloroethene Concentrations Measured Onsite in the Shallow, Medium, and Deep Monitoring Wells After the 48-Hour Test.

Table 6. Phase I On-Site GC Results for the Soil Gas Monitoring Wells [5]

| Soil Gas Monitoring Well | Trichloroethen Concentration (ppm) | Tetrachloroethen Concentration (ppm) |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| P5-A | 1.400 | 0.020 |
| P5-B | 0.680 | <0.015 |
| P5-C | 0.600 | <0.015 |
| P6-A | 3.600 | 0.030 |
| P6-B | 0.790 | 0.050 |
| P6-C | 1.300 | 0.020 |
| P7-A | 5.400 | 0.020 |
| P7-B | 0.670 | <0.015 |
| P7-C | 0.390 | 0.060 |
| P8-A | 0.300 | <0.015 |
| P8-B | 0.070 | <0.015 |
| P8-C | 0.360 | <0.015 |

NOTE: These concentrations were measured prior to the start of the 48-hour test.

Table 7. Phase II SUMMA Canister Results for the Vapor Extraction Wells During the 48-Hour Test Run [5]

| Vapor Extraction Well | Time (hours into run) | Trichloroethen Concentration (ppm) | Tetrachloroethen Concentration (ppm)* |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| VES-3 | 0.5 | 2.410 | 0.005 |
| VES-3 | 16 | 4.150 | 0.005 |
| VES-3 | 32 | 4.410 | <0.010 |
| VES-3 | 47.5 | 3.940 | <0.010 |
| VES-4 | 0.5 | 0.945 | 0.003 |
| VES-4 | 16 | 1.800 | <0.010 |
| VES-4 | 32 | 0.752 | <0.010 |
| VES-4 | 47.5 | 0.703 | <0.010 |

*Detection limit varies according to required sample dilution.

Table 8. Phase II On-Site GC Results for the Vapor Extraction Wells During the 48-Hour Test Run

| Vapor Extraction Well | Time (hours into run) | Trichloroethen Concentration (ppm) | Tetrachloroethen Concentration (ppm) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| VES-3 | 0.5 | 4.300 | <0.015 |
| VES-3 | 4.75 | 1.400 | <0.015 |
| VES-4 | 0.5 | 2.000 | <0.015 |
| VES-4 | 47.5 | 0.380 | <0.015 |



Table 9. Phase III On-Site GC Results for the Soil Gas Monitoring Wells [5]

| Soil Gas Monitoring Well | Trichloroethen Concentration (ppm) | Tetrachloroethen Concentration (ppm) |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| P5-A | 0.160 | <0.015 |
| P5-B | 0.180 | <0.015 |
| P5-C | 0.230 | <0.015 |
| P6-A | 0.230 | <0.015 |
| P6-B | 0.240 | <0.015 |
| P6-C | 0.090 | <0.015 |
| P7-A | 0.430 | <0.015 |
| P7-B | 0.760 | <0.015 |
| P7-C | 0.320 | <0.015 |
| P8-A | <0.015 | <0.015 |
| P8-B | 0.020 | <0.015 |
| P8-C | 0.310 | <0.015 |

TCE concentrations in the vapor extraction, vapor monitoring wells, and in the blower exhaust decreased to non-detectable or low levels during the SVE system's 1991 operation. According to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Program Manager, the remedial action ended after completion of the 1991 operation periods because the reductions in TCE concentrations detected in the SVE system's exhaust at the end of the study remained low and relatively consistent after rapidly decreasing during the short-term operating period. As shown in Table 5, TCE concentrations in soil vapors collected from the vapor monitoring wells were reduced from concentrations measured as high as 65 ppm at the start of the system's operation to concentrations less than 1 ppm measured at the end of the operating period. The largest quantity of TCE was extracted during the short-term operation of the shallow vapor extraction well (VES-3).

The rate of extraction of TCE by the SVE system during the 1991 operation decreased over time. As shown in Figure 26, approximately 35 pounds of TCE were removed in the first 30 days of operation, compared with approximately 10 pounds of TCE removed during the last 30 days of operation. According to the vendor's project/construction manager, approximately 1,000 pounds of GAC were used to treat the exhaust air from the blower, and approximately 70% of this GAC

was used during the system's operation. This estimate is based on the assumption that GAC will typically adsorb approximately 10% of its total weight in contaminants and approximately 70 pounds of TCE were extracted over the course of the system's 1991 operation. [11]

Results of the SVE system's 1993 48-hour verification program test, shown in Tables 6 and 9, indicate that TCE concentrations in the vapor monitoring wells were less than 6 ppb prior to the start of the test and decreased to less than 1 ppm after completion of the test. Soil vapor samples collected from the shallow (VES-3) and deep (VES-4) vapor extraction wells during the 48-hour test are shown in Tables 7 and 8. These results indicate the largest concentrations of TCE, up to 4.4 ppb were detected in the shallow vapor extraction well (VES-3).

The SVE system's 1991 results shown in Table 5 are illustrated in Figures 14 through 25. Figures 14, 15, 16, and 17 indicate that the SVE system was effective in reducing TCE concentrations within the short-term operation period to nondetect levels for all four shallow monitoring wells. Intermittent flow operation in the shallow vapor monitoring wells did not cause a rebound in the soil gas concentrations in later recovery periods. Figures 18 through 21 and 22 through 25 illustrate concentrations with respect to time in the medium and deep vapor monitoring wells. As with the shallow region, the TCE concentrations in the medium and deep vadose zones decreased to levels at or near nondetect. The small increases in TCE concentrations shown in these figures during the initial part of the long-term operating period's recovery phases is due to the reduced permeability of the soil, and possibly deep vadose zones.

While extracting vapors from the shallow vapor extraction well (VES-3) during the 1991 operating period, vacuum measured at the medium and deep soil vapor monitoring well remained relatively constant, independent of their distance from the shallow extraction



well, as shown in Figure 12. A similar effect occurred during extraction from the deep vapor extraction well (VES-4). Figure 13 shows the vacuum at the shallow soil vapor monitoring wells remained relatively constant independent of their distance from the deep extraction well. These results indicate that the lower permeability of the clay layer found between 32 and 38 feet BGS in the Motor Pool Area was an effective barrier to soil vapor flow. The lower permeability of the clay layer prevented the shallow vapor extraction well from effectively influencing the deeper region, and vice versa.

The vacuum data collected during the initial portion of the treatment application indicated that capping the Motor Pool Area with an asphalt surface was not necessary since a

sufficient zone of influence was created with any surface seal. For example, vapor monitor well P-5A was 62.5 feet away from the shall extraction well, and 0.6 inches of water col vacuum was measured in this well.

A review of the soil vapor data for each of th clusters of monitoring wells indicates that th performance of the SVE system was impacte the particle size distribution and permeability the geologic media. The results for the inter ate vapor monitoring wells show that the re air permeability within the clay layer may ha impeded the effectiveness of the SVE syste (compared with the results for the shallow we in terms of reaching and maintaining a nonde level for TCE. The deep wells show results sir to those for the intermediate wells.

Performance Data Completeness

Performance data for TCE include results for samples of the untreated vadose zone soil and soil gas, vapor within the vapor extraction and vapor monitoring wells, and the SVE system's exhaust. Spent GAC from the SVE system was not sampled. In addition, because

untreated soil samples showed no detectabl concentrations for TCE, no post-treatment so or soil gas sampling was performed. Typical operating conditions are known for the SVE system's 1991 and 1993 operating periods.

Performance Data Quality

Analytical QA/QC procedures included use of trip blanks for charcoal tube samples. No

exceptions to the QA/QC protocol were identified by the vendor.

TREATMENT SYSTEM COST

Procurement Process

The U.S. Army was responsible for the site management during this treatment application and paid the associated costs. The U.S. Army retained Woodward-Clyde Consultants to manage the planning, design, implementation, operation, and reporting of the treatment application. [8] Two negotiated delivery orders were established between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Woodward-Clyde Consultants. Delivery Order 0003 covered the preparation of pre-pilot study plans, including an architectural/engineering firm (AE) Laboratory Quality Control

Plan, an AE Quality Control Sampling Plan, a Site Safety and Health Plan, a Pre-Pilot Study Investigations Plan, and a Pilot Study Progr Document (Implementation Document); and covered associated field investigation activiti [12] Delivery Order 0004 covered the procu ment, installation, and operation of the pilot s vapor extraction system and preparation of a study report. [13 and 14]

The Final Implementation Document (Refere 2), developed under Delivery Order 0003, pr sented estimated total costs of \$214,500 to



install and operate the SVE pilot system. These treatment cost estimates were disaggregated in Reference 2 into a total capital cost estimate and a total operating cost estimate, as shown in Tables 10 and 11. Elements of the total capital cost estimate presented in Table 11 were obtained from actual costs of similar systems or from vendor quotes. [2]

The actual total costs provided by the vendor for procuring, installing, and operating the SVE pilot system, as well as preparing the pilot study report are shown in Table 12.

In order to standardize reporting of costs across projects, costs provided by the vendor were categorized according to the format for

Table 10. Estimated Total Capital Cost [2]

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Mobilization/Demobilization | | \$600 | |
| Wellhead Installation (VES-3 and VES-4) | | 6,800 | |
| Monitoring Well Installation (3 wells) | | 12,000 | |
| Mechanical Installation | | 27,700 | |
| Blower | \$5,500 | | |
| Activated Carbon | 14,000 | | |
| Inlet Separator | 500 | | |
| Instrumentation | 2,200 | | |
| Piping & Valving | 1,300 | | |
| Insulation | 200 | | |
| Installation | 4,000 | | |
| Electrical Installation | | | 2,900 |
| NEMA 1 Motor Starter | 650 | | |
| Cable THW #10 AWG | 100 | | |
| Conduit 3/4-inch RGS | 150 | | |
| Installation | 2,000 | | |
| Shed | | | 7,000 |
| | Subtotal | \$57,000 | |
| | 25% Contingency (approx.) | 14,300 | |
| | | \$71,300 | |
| | 15% Contractor OH&P (approx.) | 10,700 | |
| | TOTAL ESTIMATED COST | \$82,000 | |

Table 12. Actual Total Treatment Cost as Provided by the Vendor [15]

| Activity | Cost (dollars) |
|---|----------------|
| Well and Monitor Probe Installation | 35,753 |
| Soil Vapor Extraction System Installation | 39,450 |
| Soil Vapor Extraction System Operation | 65,368 |
| Pilot Study Report Preparation | 19,647 |
| Project Management | 22,587 |
| Total for Delivery Order 0004 | 182,805 |

an interagency Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), as shown in Table 13. The WBS specifies 9 before-treatment cost elements, after-treatment cost elements, and 12 cost elements that provide a detailed breakdown of costs directly associated with treatment. Table 13 presents the cost elements exactly they appear in the WBS, along with the specific activities, and unit cost and number of units of the activity (where appropriate). As shown on Table 13, RMA incurred SVE installation and operation costs of \$74,600, which corresponds to \$1,100 per pound of contam

Table 11. Estimated Total Operating Cost [2]

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Electrical Power | \$3,500 |
| 50,000 KWH @ \$0.07/KWH | |
| Carbon Changeout | 5,000 |
| 2,000 lbs @ \$2.50/lb | |
| Chemical Analysis | 32,600 |
| 272 samples @ \$120/sample | |
| Technician | 26,000 |
| 520 hours @ \$50/hr | |
| Field Sampling Equipment and Supplies | 12,100 |
| Miscellaneous Equipment and Supplies | 1,000 |
| Data Analysis and Report Preparation | 35,000 |
| | Subtotal |
| | \$115,200 |
| | 15% Contingency (approx.) |
| | 17,300 |
| | TOTAL ESTIMATED COST |
| | \$132,500 |

Table 13. Actual Total Treatment Cost—Interagency Breakdown Structure [15]

| Cost Element | Cost |
|--|---------|
| Mobilization and Preparatory Work - AE project management and mobilization (lump sum) | 23 |
| Monitoring, Sampling, Testing, and Analysis - Monitoring wells (probes) and associated piping (3 @ \$5,958) | 17 |
| Laboratory Analytical Costs (lump sum) | 29 |
| Air Pollution/Gas Collection and Control - vapor wells and associated piping (2 @ \$8,938) | 17 |
| Soil Vapor Extraction - installation and operating costs, including GAC treatment (excludes laboratory analytical costs) (lump sum) | 74 |
| Other - pilot study report (lump sum) | 19 |
| Total Contract Award Amounts Reported by the Vendor | 182,805 |



nant removed (70 pounds removed) and \$2.20 per cubic yard of soil treated. The number of cubic yards of soil treated at Rocky Mountain Arsenal is an estimate based on the radius of influence of the extraction wells; the actual amount of soil treated is not available at this time for comparison with the estimate.

The treatment costs shown in Table 13 are based on contract award amounts reported by the vendor. [15] As Tables 12 and 13 illustrate, individual cost elements may be presented in different ways. (The difference in actual total treatment costs presented in Tables 12 and 13 is attributed to rounding.)

The actual total treatment cost of \$182,800 for procuring, installing, and operating the SVE pilot system, as well as preparing a pilot study

report was approximately 15% less than the \$214,500 total of the capital and operating cost estimates provided by the vendor, as shown in Tables 10 and 11. Factors that contributed to the actual total cost being lower than the estimated total cost include: 1) the contractor's mobilization and demobilization costs were less than originally anticipated because the contractor was concurrently engaged in other projects at the RMA; 2) the shed's actual cost was less than the estimated cost; 3) electrical power costs were paid by RMA and not the contractor, as was assumed in the original estimate; and 4) GAC changeout was not required during the system's operation, as was assumed in the original estimate. (GAC used in this application is currently located at the RMA.)

Cost Data Quality

Cost data represent actual contract award costs incurred for this project and thus accurately portray the costs for this treatment application.

OBSERVATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

Cost Observations and Lessons Learned

- The actual total treatment cost for procuring, installing, and operating the SVE pilot system, as well as preparing the pilot study report was \$182,800. This was approximately 15% less than the preliminary cost estimate provided by the remediation contractor. Factors contributing to the actual cost being lower than the estimated cost included lower construction and system operating costs.
- The Rocky Mountain Arsenal Program Manager identified the possible elimination of the GAC treatment of exhaust vapors as a method of potentially reducing costs of soil vapor extraction in future applications. This avenue was not pursued for this project because of regulatory considerations.
- Approximately \$74,600 of the total costs were for activities directly related to treatment. This value does not include costs for disposal of carbon. The \$74,600 for treatment activities corresponds to \$2.20 per cubic yard of soil treated (for 34,000 cubic yards of soil); the soil treated contained relatively low levels of contaminants.



- TCE levels in the soil vapor at this site were reduced within 5 months of system operation from levels up to 65 ppm to levels of less than 1 ppm.
- Approximately 70 pounds of TCE were recovered during this cleanup action.
- The clay layer inhibited the downward movement of TCE through the vadose zone. The majority of the TCE, approximately 66%, was extracted during operation of the shallow vapor extraction well.
- The results of the pilot study indicate that TCE concentrations in the SVE system's exhaust at the end of the 1991 operating period were low and relatively constant, and a full-scale system was not required for the Motor Pool Area.

Other Observations and Lessons Learned

- This treatment application was completed based solely on soil vapor data collected from soil gas surveys and the SVE system's extraction and monitoring wells.
- Because VOCs were not detected during soil sampling, soil gas surveys were used to delineate the TCE source areas and plume location.
- In lieu of soil data, soil gas and soil permeability studies provided data on the vadose zone parameters at this site. The data provided by the permeability studies was necessary for the SVE system design and contributed to the successful treatment application at this site.
- A 48-hour test completed two years after the treatment application was used to assess the longer-term effectiveness of the SVE system. The 48-hour test indicated little rebound TCE concentrations, with TCE levels measuring <6 ppm in vapor monitoring wells at the start of the 48-hour test, and decreasing to <1 ppm at the end of the 48-hour test.
- According to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Program Manager, groundwater concentrations of TCE have dropped steadily since completion of the pilot study.



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 4. Letter from James D. Smith, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, to Radian Corporation. March 1994.
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 13. Letter from Woodward-Clyde Consultant to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District. May 1991.
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 15. Cost information for soil vapor extraction at the Motor Pool Area (OU-18), Rocky Mountain Arsenal. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. July 1994.
 16. Letter from Woodward-Clyde Consultant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Technology Innovation Office. July 1994.

Analysis Preparation

This case study was prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Technology Innovation Office. Assistance was provided by Radian Corporation under EPA Contract No. 68-W3-0001.



COST AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

Soil Vapor Extraction
at the
Rocky Mountain Arsenal Superfund Site
Motor Pool Area (OU-18)
Commerce City, Colorado



Prepared By:

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
Technology Innovation Office*

March 19

Notice

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