Using 3D Groundwater Visualization to Support Project Management

Application of Leapfrog Hydro at the Puchack Well Field Site.

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EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

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Site Location



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Puchack Conceptual Site Model

Puchack Conceptual Site Model





- Goal: Reduce the level of chromium in the groundwater to meet New Jersey's Groundwater standard for *total* chromium (70 ug/l)
- Method: Reduce the Cr⁶⁺ to trivalent chromium (Cr³⁺) through injection of an *unspecified* reducing agent into the areas of groundwater contamination



The PRPs Response "We Didn't Do it"

- Financial records proved the company could not have purchased enough chromate to have caused the plume.
- There are other sources of CrVI in the area, including a sewer pipe and a landfill.
- EPA's data do not show a link between the middle aquifer and the lower aquifers.



Puchack Conceptual Site Model

Puchack Conceptual Site Model



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C:WMSIG/S/Puchack/ProjectalChromium_Contoura.mxd



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Pennsauken Township, New Jersey

Question #1

How could we have better shown the PRPs that there is a link between their property and the groundwater plumes?



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General Design Approach



Full Scale Design/Implementation

Divided Groundwater Cleanup into Two Phases

Phase 1, upgradient portion with higher Cr concentration
Underlies commercial properties.

Phase 2, remaining portion

- Underlies residential properties.



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USPuchack/Projectr/Figure_1-2_Construction_Sequence.mxd







How can we demonstrate how well (or poorly) the remedy's first phase worked?



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Phase 2 Pilot Study

Can horizontal well screens resolve our logistical issues?

- Need to properly locate the screens
- Lactate needs to discharge evenly over screen length





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Well Installation "The Plan"

- Drill 850 foot pilot hole using a gyroscopic steering tool.
- Chase pilot hole using a "knock-off" drill bit and a large diameter drill rod – guidance through magnetic transmitter
- Well material inserted inside drill rod, bit sacrificed and drill rod removed.



Well Installation "The Reality"

- The Gyroscopic steering tool (GST) was amazingly accurate
- Changes in formation material increased the risk of losing the GST; - switched to the knock-off bit/magnetic transmitter before completing the pilot hole
- The magnetic transmitter was at the maximum range of functionality final screen off target area by about 50'



Planned Vs Actual Well Location



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Variable Slotted Screen



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Phase 2 Pilot Study - Total Injection Quantities

Period of Injection	Total 60% Sodium Lactate Injected (gallons)	Total 60% Sodium Lactate Injected (pounds)
July 15, 2015 – August 5, 2015	22,132	246,329

Note: Density of 60% sodium lactate is 11.13 pounds per gallon.

Phase 2 Pilot Study Performance Round 1 COD Concentrations



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Question #3

How can we be confident we're installing the horizontal wells in the optimal locations?



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Seeing in 3D Might Help



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Groundwater communication between aquifers



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Lower Aquifer

How could we have convinced the non-technical PRPs that there is a link between their property and the groundwater plumes?

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Topography and Chromium >70 μg/L

5-1k ug/L 1000

Plunge +12 Azimuth 013

Question #1 How could we have better shown the PRPs that there is a link between their property and the groundwater plumes?

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Pre-treatment Cr ⁶⁺> 70 ug/L

Question #2 How can we demonstrate how well (or poorly) the remedy's first phase worked?

Post-treatment Cr ⁶⁺> 70 ug/L





Pre-treatment Cr ⁶⁺> 1000 ug/L

Question #2 How can we demonstrate how well (or poorly) the remedy's first phase worked?

Post-treatment Cr ⁶⁺> 1000 ug/L





Cross-sectional view of remaining Cr⁶⁺ plume



Question 3: How can we be confident we're installing the horizontal wells in the optimal locations?



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Considering 3D visualization?



- Robust dataset
- Sufficient hydrogeologic information from well logs
- Complicated aquifer system (e.g. multiple aquifers, fractured bedrock)
- Multiple/co-mingled contaminant plumes



Leapfrog Hydro Viewer





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Extras

Extent of CR⁺⁶ >70 µg/L for Middle Aquifer with Middle Potentiometric Surface Map



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Extent of CR⁺⁶ >70 µg/L for Intermediate Sand with Intermediate Potentiometric Surface Map



Extent of CR⁺⁶ >70 µg/L for Lower Aquifer with Lower Potentiometric Surface Map

