#### PARSONS

# Enhanced In-Situ Bioremediation and Solar-Irrigated Phytoremediation to Treat a High Salinity PCE Plume

Jim Leu, Dan Griffiths, Linda McGlochlin, Michael Schulman, and Kevin Garon



April 2019

# Agenda

- Site Background
- Pilot Studies
- Full-scale Remedy Implementations
- Lessons Learned/Summary

# Site Map

- Shallow Water Table
  - 8 12 ft bgs
- High TDS
  - 1,000 2,000 mg/L
  - Salty
- Tidal Effect
- Main COCs
  - CFCs
  - CCl<sub>4</sub>
  - Organo-lead
  - 1,2-DCA
  - PCE



- Surficial Aquifer
- Upper Aquifer
- Lower Aquifer



# **PCE Concentrations – Plume 3 Surficial Aquifer**

- Plume 1
- Plume 2
- Plume 3



# **Pilot Test: Phytoremediation**

- Plant Tissue Sampling and Analyses
  - Collected 36 eucalyptus and willow tree tissue samples
  - Data indicated PCE uptake occurs in eucalyptus trees, but willow uptake may require further study



Eucalyptus globulus



Tree core sample collection



Wood analyzed for VOCs

# **Pilot Test: Phytoremediation**



### **Pilot Test: Enhanced Bioremediation**





Adding emulsified oil in source area



### **Pilot Test Results**



# Full Scale: Remedy Selection – Plume 3 Surficial Aquifer



#### PARSONS

10

### **Full Scale: Remedy Selection**



# Substrate/Bioaugmentation Injection

- 15 injection wells
  - Treatment Area C 10 injection wells
  - Treatment Area D 5 injection wells
- Substrate Injection 37,770 gallons
  - Newman Zone HRO 1,860 gallons
  - Newman Zone QR 310 gallons
  - Neutral Zone pH Buffer 1,350 gallons
  - Makeup water 34,250 gallons (MW-31)
- Bioaugmentation Injection
  - KB-1 Culture 1 liter/well
  - Makeup water 1 gallon (MW-31)
  - Push water 30 gallons (MW-31)
  - Anaerobic conditions 30 days later
    - D0 < 1 mg/L</p>
    - Negative ORP
    - Neutral pH





Totes of Substrate

![](_page_12_Picture_3.jpeg)

Injection Trailer and Manifold

![](_page_12_Picture_5.jpeg)

Well Injection

# **Phytoremediation Layout**

- Two solar-powered irrigation stations
  - Wetland irrigation station
  - Upland irrigation station
- Seven zones phytoremediation
  - Wetland 2 zones of eucalyptus trees
    1 zone of willow trees
  - Upland 4 zones of eucalyptus trees

![](_page_13_Figure_7.jpeg)

# **Full Scale: Phytoremediation**

Five type of eucalyptus trees planted

- Salt tolerant species
- Propagated from seeds by Cal Poly
- Delivered to the site for planting

![](_page_14_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_6.jpeg)

Upland Debris Area

#### Planting Spec

- Grid 15ft x 15ft
- Depth 10 ft Upland

3 ft for Wetland

- Diameter 1.5 ft
- Import Soil with 10% Municipal Compost

![](_page_14_Picture_14.jpeg)

# **Solar-Powered Irrigation Station**

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

Wetland Irrigation Station and Drip Emitters

- Upland Irrigation Station
  - 1,100 gal storage tank MW-32 groundwater
  - Power submersible pump in MW-32 and transfer pump to irrigation network
- Wetland Irrigation Station
  - 2,600 gal storage tank import water due to salty GW
  - Power transfer pump to irrigation network

![](_page_15_Picture_9.jpeg)

Upland Irrigation Station Setup

![](_page_15_Picture_11.jpeg)

# Phytoremediation 2015 - 2018

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

# **EISB Performance Monitoring Well Results**

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### PARSONS

## **Phytoremediation Performance Monitoring Well Results**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

# **MNA Performance Monitoring Well Results**

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

# **EISB Injection Challenges/Lessons Learned**

- Slower than expected injection rates resulted in minor substrate spoilage and lower injection efficiency
  - Shallow groundwater level
  - Less permeable
- Expand manifold to maintain minimal (~4 gpm) injection rate required for injection pump to maintain prime.
- High pressure direct injection

# **Phytoremediation Challenges/Lessons Learned**

- Hand watering required weekly before full-scale implementation
- More effort involved in weeding and mowing than anticipated
- Salinity of one onsite well was high elected to truck in water
- Salt tolerant eucalyptus trees E. Robusta and E. Occidentalis
- Solar panel attracts vandalism
- Irrigation stops after two years of operation
- High tree survival rate

- Successfully applied pilot studies to demonstrate sustainable technologies worked
- Phytoremediation was successfully installed and enhanced by solar power and site groundwater irrigation system
- High tree survival rate
- EISB successfully implemented with lessons learned
- COCs reduced significantly in treatment zone wells
- Microbes and volatile fatty acid concentrations still high in certain wells 3 years after the injection

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

Enhanced In-Situ Bioremediation and Solar-Irrigated Phytoremediation to Treat a Salty PCE Plume