Techniques for Evaluating the In Situ Injection Process

Tree Sorrells

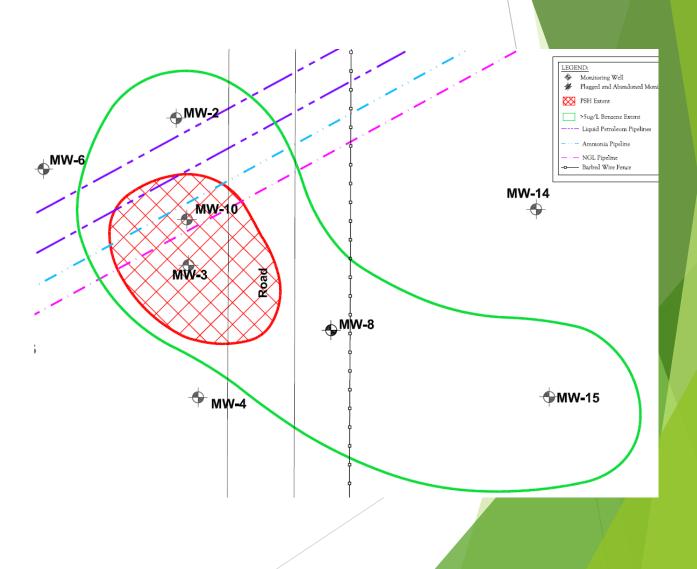
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Site Background

- Natural gas liquids (NGL) pipeline release in an agricultural field
- 19,000 square foot plume with ~3,500 square feet of phase separated hydrocarbons (PSH)
- Knew very little about the subsurface of the site before work began

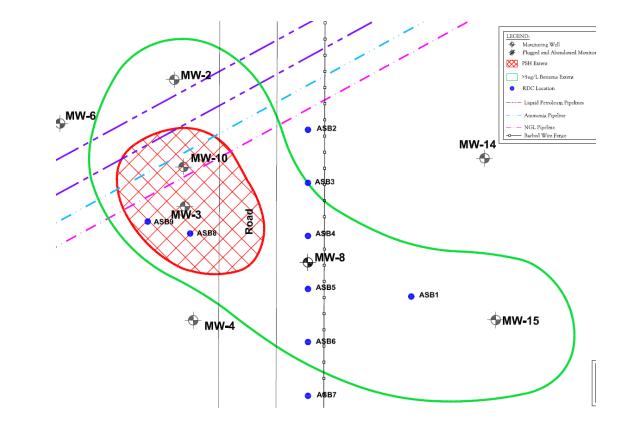


Remediation Plan

- Selection of product and installation technique was done by others
- Remediation Products Inc BOS-200®
 - Activated carbon product that is the consistency of flour
- Installed using Direct Push Technology (DPT)
 - Slurry High pressure & flow
 - Top down technique

Remediation Design Characterization (RDC)

- Not typical to have so little information
- Arrived on site & spent the first 2 days taking continuous soil and grab groundwater samples in 9 locations throughout the plume



RDC Results/Changes

Injection loadings were tailored to the varying concentrations found across the vertical treatment zone.

Realized that the vertical treatment zone is in sand and not clay like we had originally thought.

injection Depth	Loading	Soil Benzene Concentration (mg/Kg)	Final Product Loadings (pounds)
15 or 16	75	37.9	75
17 or 18	75	48.2	75
19 or 20	75	0.061	35
21 or 22	75	0.041	25

Injections Begin

Downgradient edge of plume

- Dissolved contamination only
- 10 foot triangular grid
- First injection point is directly adjacent to a monitoring well
 - ~5 feet from well based on grid spacing
- Finish first injection point and purge the nearby monitoring well looking for activated carbon
- No carbon

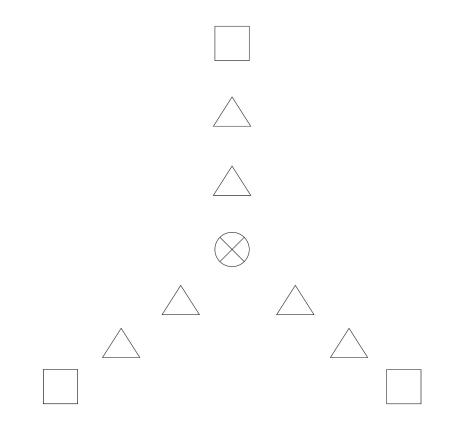
Injections Begin

- Decide to move to adjacent injection point that is ~5 feet from the monitoring well
- Finish injections in second point and purge well
- Still no carbon
- Complete 3rd injection point near well and purge to look for carbon
- Still no carbon
- Ask client for permission to take more soil cores



Continuous Soil Samples

- Took several continuous soil samples between the injection points and the monitoring well
- Broke each core apart and visually inspected for evidence of carbon
- Continuous soils were taken 1 foot and 3 feet from each injection borehole for a total of 6 sample locations
- Carbon is seen in the 1 foot cores but not the 3 foot



Monitoring Well or Hydropunch

Soil Core

Injection Point

Basic Procedure

- Continue to purge groundwater and take continuous soils
- Change 1 of the following each time:

Slurry Volume Grid Spacing Pump/Flow Rate Slurry Density Exit Velocity/Injection Tips

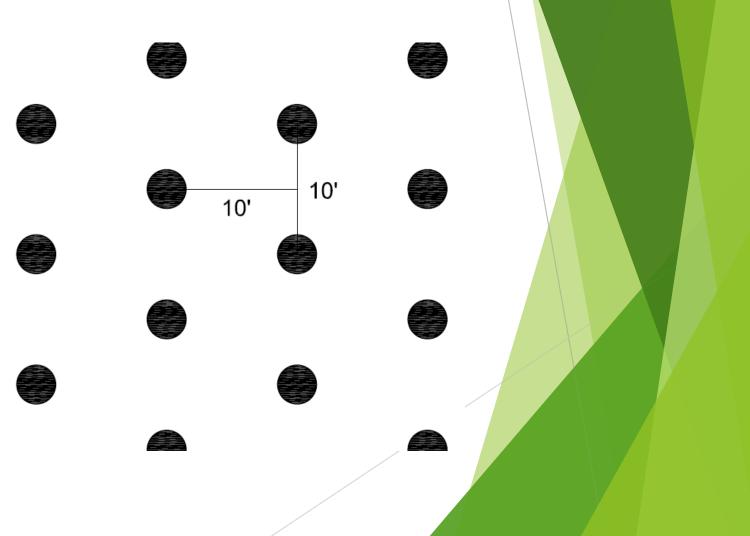
Volume

- Can be increased or decreased by ~25% without changing injection grid
- Started with 50 gallon shots
- Went as high as 60 gallons and as low as 30 gallons
 - Surfacing became an issue as we increased the volume



Grid Spacing

- Originally started with
 10 foot triangular grid
- Most of the site was completed using a 7.5 foot triangular grid
- One small area was done using a 5 foot triangular grid



Pump/Flow Rate

- Arrived on site with a pump capable of pumping at 35 gallons per minute
- Switched injection trucks out for a truck with dual pumps that was capable of pumping at 70 gallons per minute



Pounds of BOS-200®	Gallons of Water	Density (pounds/ gallon)]
25	50	0.50	
25	60	0.42	
25	40	0.63	
12.5	40	0.31	
12.5	35	0.36	
12.5	30	0.42	

Density

- Started with 25 pounds in 50 gallons
- Increased to 25 pounds in 60 gallons
- Surfaced
- Settled on 12.5 pounds in 30 gallons

Exit Velocity

- Dependent on the injection tip
- Had been experimenting with this on other sites
- Size & number of holes on tip
- Started with 6 point tip
- Ended with 9 point tip with 1/18" injection holes



Injection Tips

- 1. Our first custom tip for a project in flowing sugar sands
- 2. Holes are angled down to help combat surfacing - used on clay sites
- 3. Holes are at varying angles to increase distribution - used on sand sites
- 4. The original tip easily plugged



Successful Combination

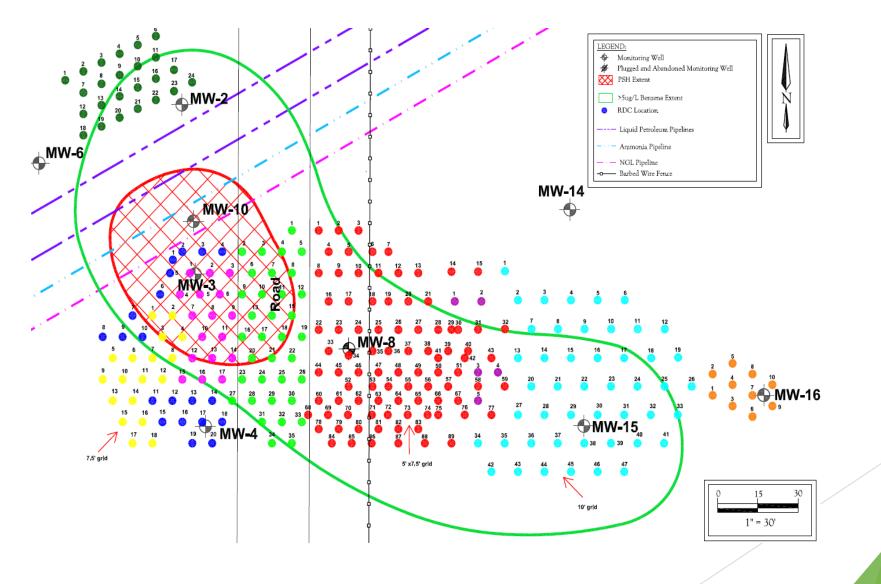
- Volume 30 gallon shots
- Spacing 7.5 foot grid
- Pump rate 70 gpm
- Density 0.4 pounds/gallon
- Exit velocity increased by using smaller holes

Not a Linear Process!

More Changes

- Client gave permission to perform the same procedure several times as we progressed through the installation
- ▶ In one area, testing indicated the ROI was not being met
- One more change:
 - The grid spacing was decreased to a 5 foot grid
- No changes were needed to the volume, density, exit velocity, or pumping rate.

Final Site Map



Final Result

Many changes were ultimately made to our approach to each job

- Ask questions about the lithology so we bring the right types of tips
- Adjust the volume, density, and flow to combat surfacing
- Monitor the groundwater for signs of impact
- Lack of surfacing may also be a clue that the ROI is not being achieved
- Take soils for more information