



SOCIETY OF CONTAMINATED SITES APPROVED
PROFESSIONALS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Stage 14 – Anticipated Real World Impacts

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OVERVIEW



1. Anticipated impacts to Consultants
2. Anticipated impacts to Industry
3. Anticipated impacts to ENV
4. Predications for High Volume Receiver Sites (HVRS)
5. Boots-on-the-Ground Scenarios
6. Implications of Soil Vapour changes

Anticipated Impacts to Consultants

Challenges before March 1, 2023:

- Identifying projects and clients that will be impacted
- Communicating regulatory changes to clients
- Planning amidst uncertainty (e.g., sampling frequencies)
- Planning for sites where previous assessments of Schedule 2 activities are now outdated
- Being the bearer of bad news





Anticipated Impacts to Consultants



Challenges starting March 1, 2023:

- Limited driller availability & laboratory capacities?
- Rush requests for soil assessments (schedule pressure)
- Gathering the info required to prepare notifications
- Additional remedial excavations
- More background assessments (P4), site-specific standards (P2/27)
- More disposal at sea
- Being the bearer of bad news
- More work?





Anticipated Impacts to Industry



For Developers / Property Owners:

- Identifying impacted projects and planning accordingly
- Increased schedule
- Increased costs
- **Decreased soil disposal risks**

For Excavation / Trucking Contractors:

- Uncertainty during bidding
- Down-time resulting from unplanned receiver site change
- Delays caused by sporadic “contamination”
- Being the bearer of bad news
- **Decreased soil disposal risks**



Anticipated Impacts to Industry



For Clean Fill Receivers:

- Increased pressure to “pre-approve” soil
- Increased uncertainty regarding soil volumes
- Increased QEP due-diligence efforts / costs
- Pros and Cons of HVRS designation
- Increased certainty of soil chemical quality

For Contaminated Soil Receivers:

- Potential increase in material received



Anticipated Impacts to Industry: **Costs**



Hypothetical Excavation:

- Large shopping centre redevelopment, 5-level underground parkade.
- Approx. 500,000 m³ of soil requiring disposal.
- Based on Final Policy Paper frequency table, will require a total of 347 samples to be analysed (50 + 67 + 230).
- Up for debate, but assumed 70 boreholes, 5 samples per hole.



Anticipated Impacts to Industry: **Costs**



Estimated Costs:

- Consultant Fees → \$45,000
- Lab Fees → \$60,000.
- Driller/Locator → \$45,000.
- **Total Cost → \$150,000**

Assumes solid stem auger drilling. Need sonic?

→ Add another \$25,000



Anticipated Impacts to ENV



- Lots of questions
- New auditing & enforcement responsibilities
- Unlikely to encourage soil re-use or discourage “simple disposal”
- Potential unintended consequences:
 - Increase in NIR submissions?
 - Increase to development / housing costs?
 - Further incentivizes disposal at sea
 - Confusion for concerned citizens (soil movement from sites without Schedule 2 activities won't be registered)
- Increased transparency and certainty for the public



Predictions for HVRS



Assumptions:

- 1. Very few clean fill receivers currently accept Commercial / Industrial Quality Soil ($>RL_{HD}$)**
- 2. Significant costs to satisfy HVRS requirements:**
 - Soil Management Plan
 - Seasonal Groundwater Monitoring
 - Appropriate Containment
 - Record Keeping
- 3. HVRS are beneficial for limited soils:**
 - Soil from Schedule 2 sites; AND
 - Soil that is $>RL_{HD}$ but $<CL / IL$) – this ‘Goldilocks’ soil **not** common

HVRS 'Goldilocks' Metals

No Change from RHD to CL

- Antimony
- Arsenic
- Barium
- Beryllium
- Cadmium
- Chromium
- Cobalt
- Copper
- Manganese
- Molybdenum
- Nickel
- Selenium
- Silver
- Sodium ion
- Thallium
- Tin
- Uranium
- Vanadium
- Zinc

Change from RHD to CL

- Aluminum
- Boron
- Iron
- Lead
- Lithium
- Mercury
- Strontium
- Tungsten



HVRS 'Goldilocks' PAHs



No Change from RHD to CL

- Anthracene
- Benz(a)anthracene
- Benzo(b+j)fluoranthenes
- Benzo(k)fluoranthene
- Dibenz(a,h)anthracene
- Fluoranthene
- Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene
- Naphthalene
- Phenanthrene
- Pyrene

Change from RHD to CL

- Acenaphthene
- Benzo(a)pyrene
- Chrysene
- Fluorene
- 1 and 2-methylnaphthalenes
- Quinoline



HVRS 'Goldilocks' Hydrocarbons/VOCs



No Change from RHD to CL

- VPH
- Benzene
- Ethylbenzene
- Toluene
- Xylenes
- Styrene
- Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)
- Trichloroethylene (TCE)
- Carbon tetrachloride
- Cis/trans-1,2-dichloroethylene (DCE)

Change from RHD to CL

- LEPH
- HEPH
- MTBE
- Tetra-ethyl lead
- Vinyl chloride



Predictions for HVRS



- Few clean fill receivers will seek HVRS designation
- Disposal costs will increase for $>RL_{HD}$ soil from Schedule 2 sites
- Majority of $>RL_{HD}$ soil will continue to be disposed to contaminated soil facilities (this trend may actually increase)



Boots-on-the-Ground Scenarios



1. Owner/Contractor is slow to select receiver sites

- Delay for notification at outset

2. Unplanned receiver site change during project

- Delay for notification mid-way through excavation



Boots-on-the-Ground Scenarios



3. Owner not aware of requirements during design/tender

- Delay for soil assessment and notification at outset
- Costs for soil assessment and associated delays
- Discussions/disagreement about the responsible party (costs)



Boots-on-the-Ground Scenarios



4. Sub-Contractor Capacity Limitations

- Driller availability – proceed with excavator (in lifts)?
- Laboratory turnaround delays
- = Moderate cost and schedule impacts



Boots-on-the-Ground Scenarios



5. **Unexpected contamination identified**

a) Localized spill or zone of poor quality fill

- NIR, remedial excavation, closure sampling (all rush)
- Moderate cost and schedule impacts

b) Sporadic/widespread background metals at depth

- Statistical assessment (TG2) if effective
- Physical remediation = significant cost impacts
- Site-Specific Standards (P2/27) = cost and schedule impacts, uncertain outcome, uncertain acceptance by receivers



Soil Vapour Implications



Recap - When is soil vapour assessment required?

- When chlorinated VOCs are detected in soil.
- When any (volatile) substance concentration in soil exceeds RL_{LD} standards.

How much soil will be affected due to vapour contamination?

- Reviewed drilling investigations completed in last 12 months and selected the following for further evaluation.



Soil Vapour Implications

Case Study 1

- Strip mall on Vancouver Island with active gas station
- Four vapour probes installed
- All four vapour probes had raw exceedances for at least one parameter, most had several.
 - 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene
 - 1,3-butadiene
 - Benzene
 - Naphthalene
 - VPH
- Soil was non-detect in all four boreholes



Soil Vapour Implications

Case Study 2

- Industrial property in Fraser Valley, currently office use
- Three vapour probes installed
- One of three vapour probes had raw exceedances for:
 - Benzene
 - VPH
- Soil sample from pertinent borehole was non-detect
- So now what....delineate raw vapour hits?



Soil Vapour Implications

Case Study 3

- Tire change facility on Vancouver Island (formerly auto repair)
- Two vapour probes installed
- Both vapour probes had raw exceedances for at least one of:
 - 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene
 - Benzene
 - VPH
- Soil samples from both boreholes were non-detect

Soil Vapour Implications

Case Study 4

- Strip mall in Metro Vancouver with active dry cleaner
- Five vapour probes installed
- Four out of five vapour probes had raw exceedances for at least one of:
 - TCE
 - PCE/PERC
 - VPH
- Soil samples from all boreholes were non-detect



Soil Vapour Implications



What to take away from all this?

- Raw vapour hits are common, particularly for VPH and benzene → drill related?
- Use soil quality exemption wherever possible
- Many sites already have vapour data → possible to reassess?
- Unclear how to deal with isolated raw vapour hit → delineate?
- Leave as much time as possible between drilling and sampling

Q&A / Discussion

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