

Pasco Sanitary Landfill Site Cleanup Overview

Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of
Certified Hazardous Material Managers
(EWCACHMM)

Chuck Gruenenfelder & Jeremy Schmidt
Site Managers

Erika Bronson
Public Involvement

Toxics Cleanup Program, Eastern Region



© Guy & Rodd/Distributed by Universal Uclick via CartoonStock.com



CARTOONSTOCK.com

Search ID: gra050226

SLOWLY, ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLY, FEELINGS
OF FUTILITY STARTED TO CREEP IN.

How the public
sometimes
perceives the
pace of
environmental
cleanup at
complex sites



Department of Ecology Regional and Field Offices



Topics for Today

- Site history
- Model Toxics Control Act
- Cleanup actions – past and ongoing
- Remediation progress and challenges
- Balefill fire recap
- Next steps
- Public participation



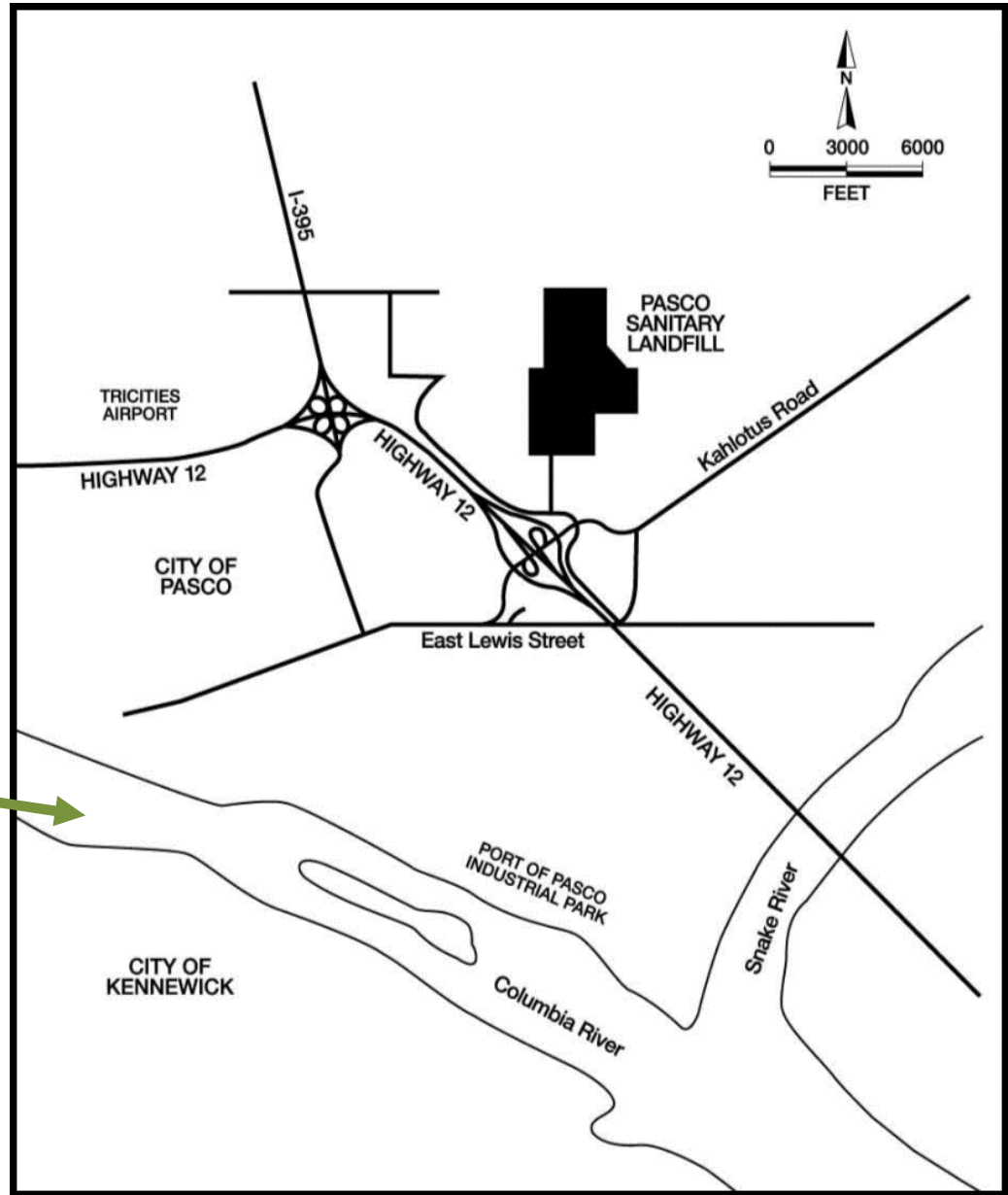


Pasco Landfill Site History

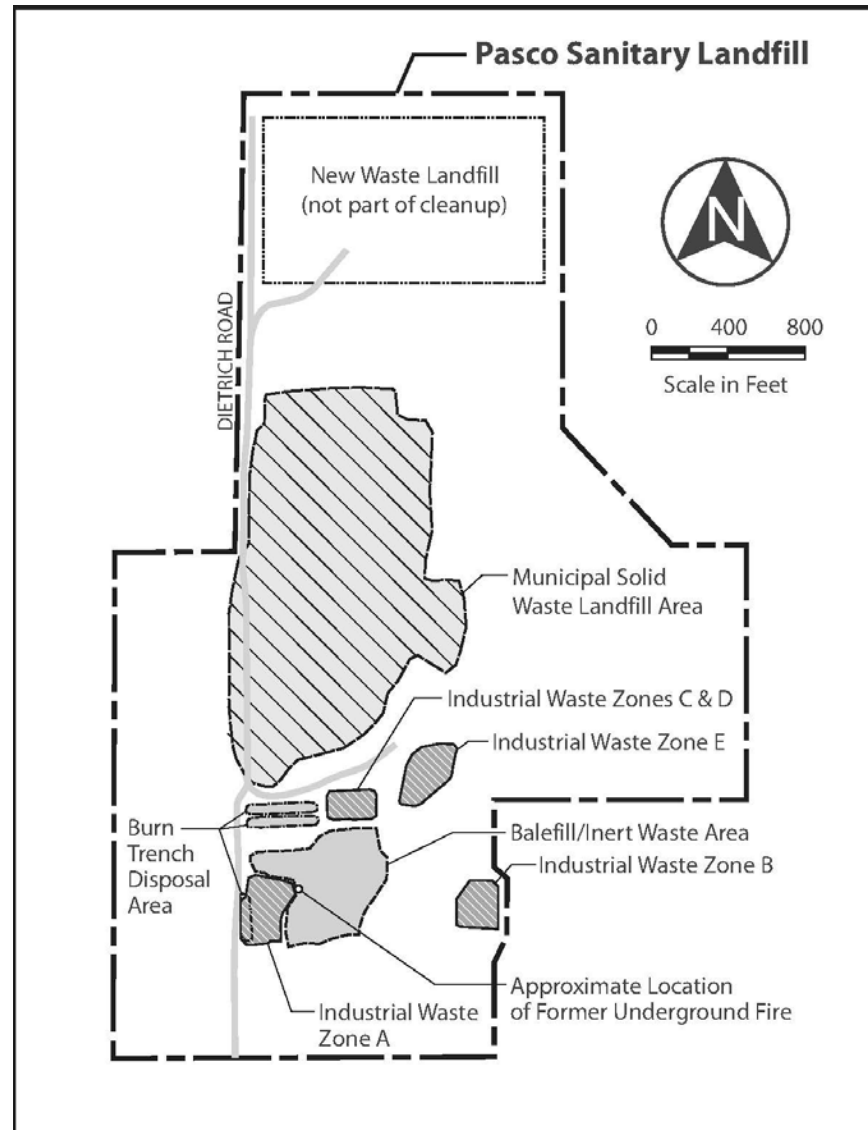
Site Location

Dietrich Road by intersections of Kahlotus Road and U.S. Highway 12

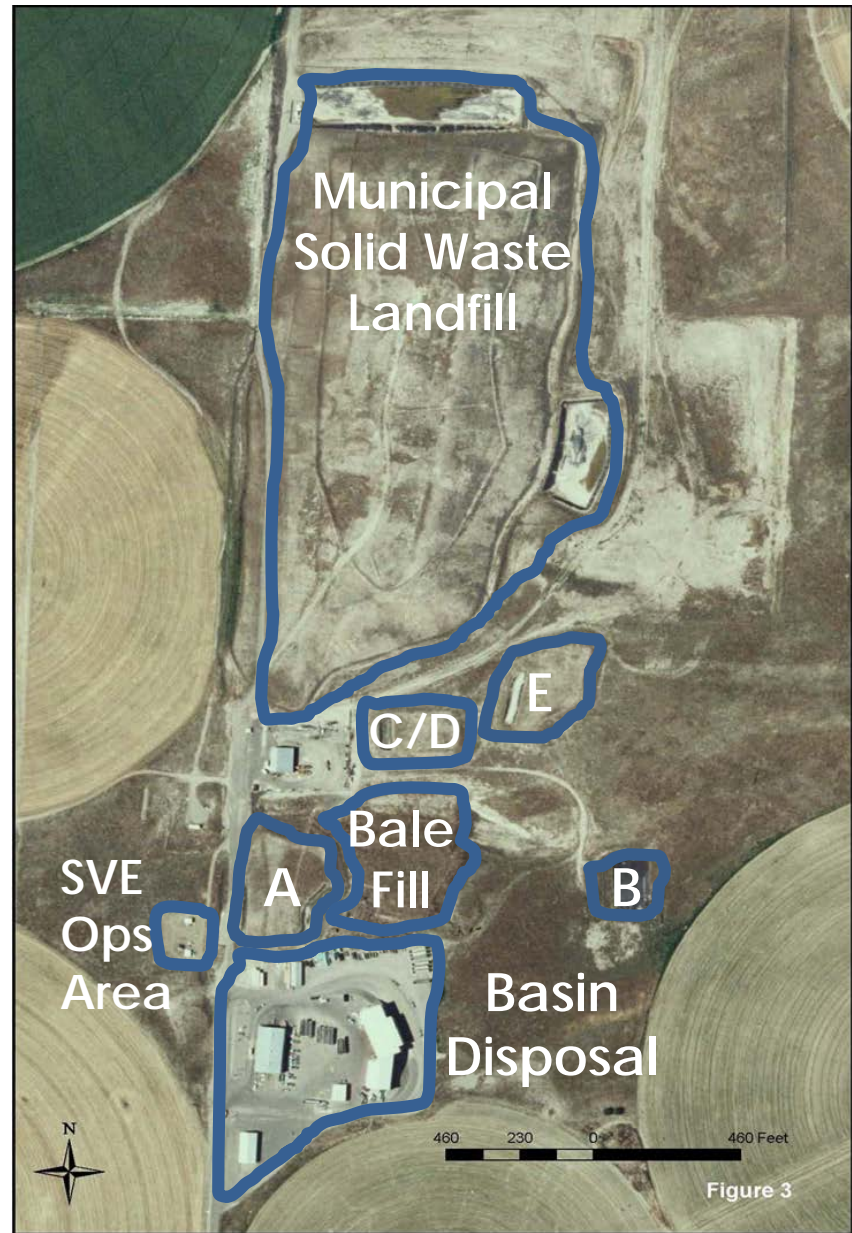
Columbia River



Site Map



Aerial View



SVE = Soil vapor extraction

What's in the neighborhood?

Zone A – 1973



Nearby transfer station



Agriculture



Local residents

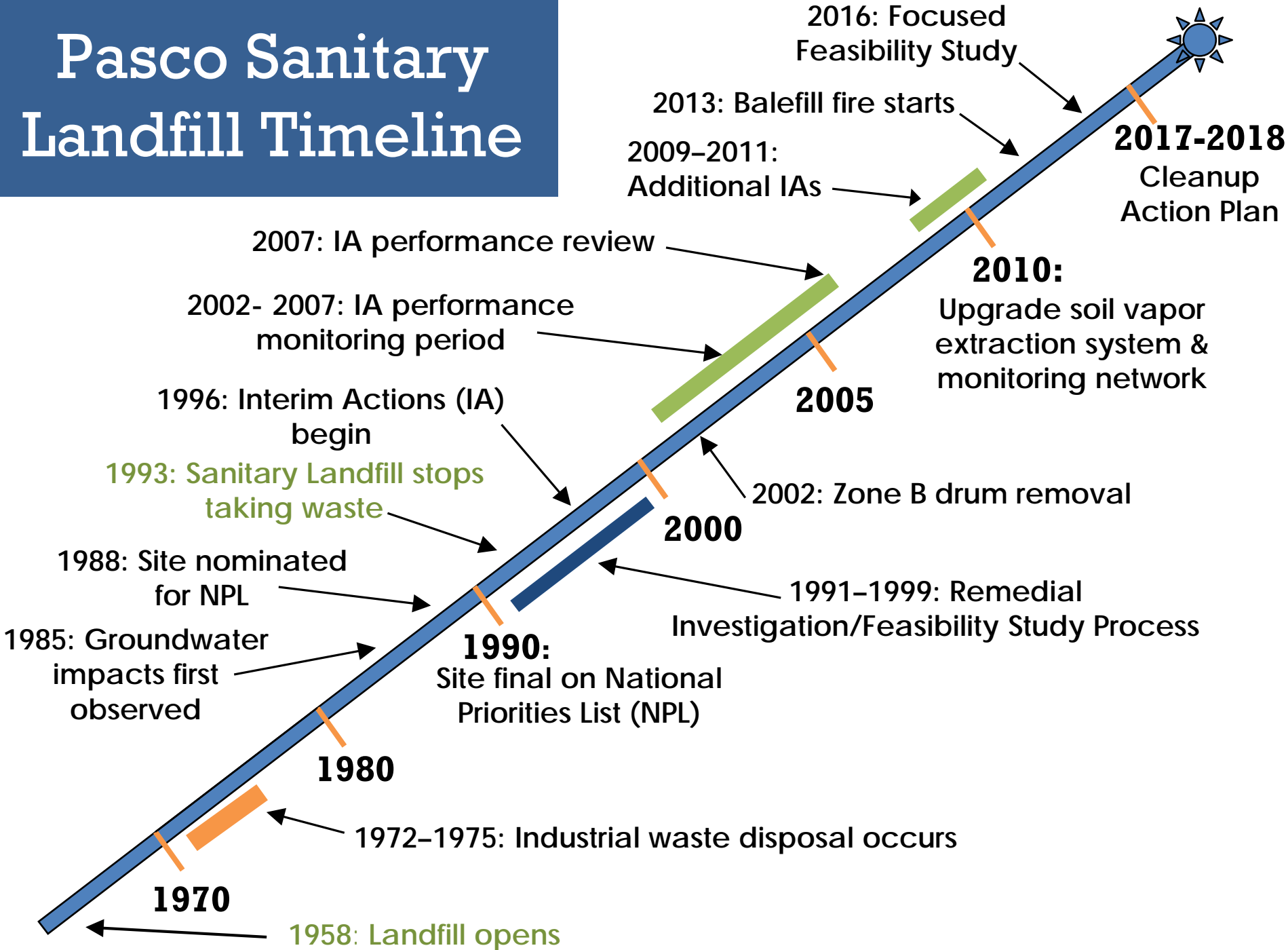


Site History & Features

- **Industrial Wastes (1972 – 1975)**
 - Zone A: 35,000 – 40,000 drums mixed industrial waste
 - Zone B: Herbicide wastes (~5,000 drums)
 - Zone C/D: Various sludges/resins (>3,000,000 gallons)
 - Zone E: Chlor-alkali wastes (~11,000 tons)
- **Municipal Landfill (1958 – 1993)**
 - Burn trenches (1958–1971)
 - Balefill and Inert Waste Area (1976–1993)
 - Septic tank wastes, sewage sludge (1976–1989)
- **Offsite Plume (1985 – present)**



Pasco Sanitary Landfill Timeline

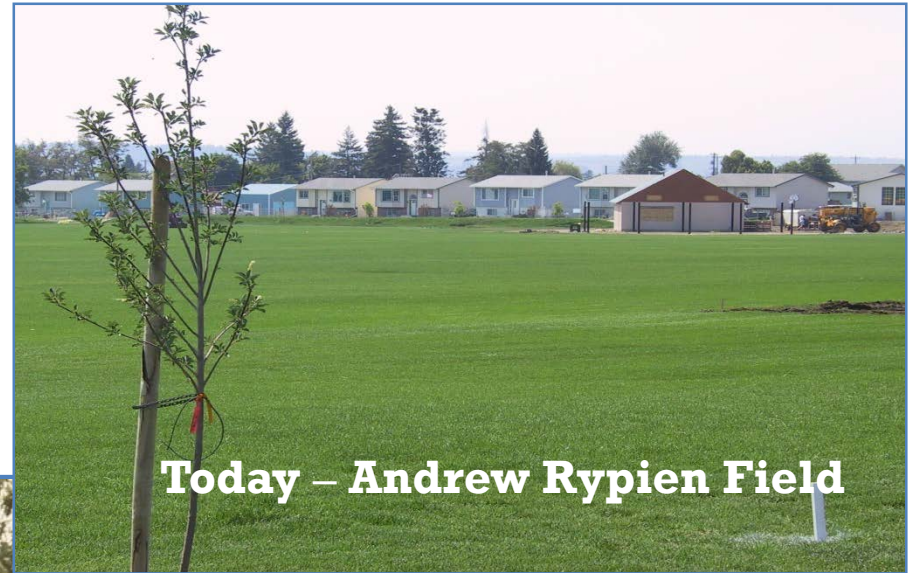




Model Toxics Control Act

Key Principles

- Polluter pays
- Permanent remedies
- Public participation



- Bias towards action
- Innovation



Regulatory Authority

Statute

- Passed as citizen's initiative in 1988
- Created a funding source generating **\$150 million per year** for environmental protection & cleanups
- Chapter 70.105D RCW



Rules

- WAC 173-340 (Cleanup regulation)
- WAC 173-204 (Sediment management standards)



RCW = Revised Code of Washington
WAC = Washington Administrative Code

What's a hazardous substance?

- Any substance that is a hazardous substance under federal superfund law
- Dangerous or extremely dangerous hazardous waste under state hazardous waste law
- Petroleum and petroleum products
- Other substances determined by Ecology by rule



What's a facility?

- Physical structures:
Buildings Pipelines
Landfills Ponds
Wells Vehicles
- Any site or area where a hazardous substance has been disposed of or otherwise come to be located



Who are Potentially Liable Persons?

- Current owner and operator with any ownership interest or exercises any control
- Owner and operator at the time of release
- Abandoned facilities: anyone who owned, operated or exercised control before its abandonment
- Persons who owned the hazardous substance and arranged for disposal, treatment or transport (generators)
- Persons who transported the hazardous substance (transporters)
- Manufacturers of hazardous substance that cause pollution when used according to their instructions



Pasco Landfill Potentially Liable Persons

- Advance Electroplating
- Basin Disposal Company
- Boeing Company
- Philip Environmental, Inc.
- Burlington Environmental, Inc.
- Chemical Processors, Inc.
- Resource Recovery, Inc.
- Burlington Northern, Inc.
- Carr Aviation
- Collier Carbon and Chemical
- Chempro of Oregon
- Crown Cork and Seal Company, Inc.
- E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Inc.
- Franklin County
- Freightliner Corporation, a Subsidiary of Daimler-Benz of North America Holding Company
- Georgia-Pacific Corporation
- Glidden Corporation, a Subsidiary of ICI Americas, Inc.
- Harbor Oil, Inc.
- ICI Canada, Inc.
- Intalco Aluminum Corporation
- James River Paper Company, Inc.
- Kalama Chemical Company
- Leonard and Glenda Dietrich
- Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company
- Morton Chemical Company
- National Service Industries, Inc.
- Pasco Sanitary Landfill, Inc.
- Franklin Land Recovery, Inc.
- Puget Sound Naval Shipyards
- The O'Brien Corporation
- Oregon Cutting Systems Division of Blount, Inc.
- PACCAR, Inc.
- Precision Castparts Corporation
- Piute Energy & Transportation Company
- PPG Industries
- Rhone-Poulenc Company
- Sandvik Special Metals
- Simpson Timber Company
- UARCO Incorporated
- United States Air Force
- United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
- United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
- Weyerhaeuser Corporation
- Wood Treatment Chemical Company



More than 30 PLPs!!

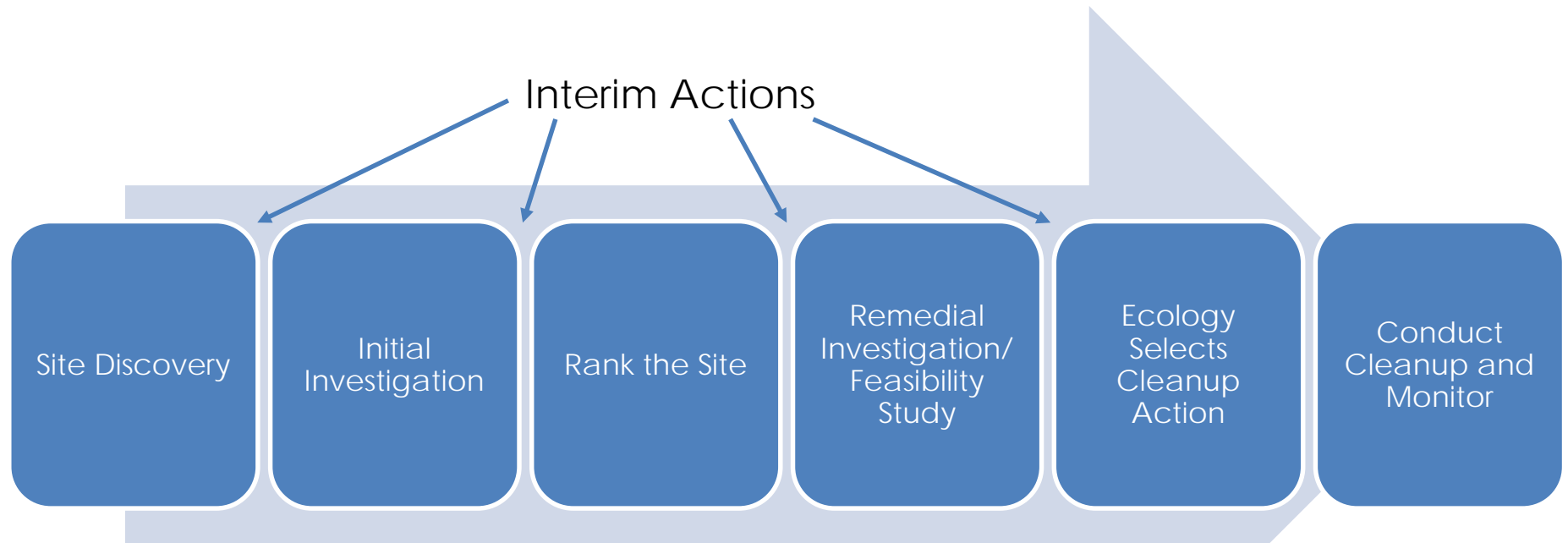
Nature of Liability

- **Joint and several:** One or all PLPs may be liable for entire cleanup
- **Strict liability:** PLPs are liable regardless of whose fault it was that pollution occurred

NOTE: Except in emergencies, Ecology must notify all PLPs and solicit comments on status before ordering action at a site



Steps in the Cleanup Process



If contamination is left on site:

- ✓ Institutional controls
- ✓ Financial assurance
- ✓ Monitoring
- ✓ Periodic reviews



Selecting a Cleanup Remedy

Threshold requirements

- Protect human health and the environment
- Comply with cleanup standards
- Comply with state and federal laws
- Provide for compliance monitoring

Other significant requirements

- Use permanent solutions to fullest extent practicable
- Provide reasonable restoration time frame
- Consider public concerns





Cleanup Actions: Past & Ongoing

RI/FS Findings & Recommendations

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) released from Zone A, the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, and potentially other sources
- Groundwater plume ~1.5 miles long
- Elevated VOCs in soil gas beneath Zone A
- No significant areas of soil contamination exist outside the waste zones
- Feasibility Study (2000) identifies a 5-yr Interim Action period to evaluate remedy performance



Contaminants

Broad suite, including:

- Volatile organic compounds
- Metals
- Herbicides
- Dioxins/Furans
- Semi-volatile organic compounds



Preliminary Groundwater Cleanup Levels Adjusted for Risk¹

INDICATOR ²	MTCA METHOD B FORMULA, ug/L		Preliminary Method B CUL, ug/L	Adjusted Method B CUL, ug/L ¹	Cancer Risk	nephrotoxicity	hepatotoxicity	neurotoxicity	hematotoxicity	Liver cell polymorphism	Other
	Carcinogen	Noncarcinogen									
VOCs				SEE KEY							
Benzene	0.795	32	0.795	0.79	9.93E-07						0.025
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.48	160	0.38	0.38	7.92E-07						0.002
1,1-Dichloroethene	NR	400	0.057	0.057			0.000				
cis-1,2-Dichloroether	NR	16	16	16					1.000		
Methylene chloride	5.83	480	5	5	8.57E-07		0.010				
Tetrachloroethene	20.8	48	0.69	0.69	3.32E-08		0.014				
Toluene	NR	640	640	615		0.961	0.961	0.961			
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	NR	16000	200	200			0.013				
Trichloroethene ³	0.54	4	0.54	2.5	4.63E-06						0.625
Vinyl chloride	0.029	24	0.029	0.079	2.72E-06					0.003	

METALS

Chromium III	NR	24000	100	100							0.004
Total Cancer Risk =					1.00E-05						
Total Hazard Index =						0.961	0.998	0.961	1.000	0.003	0.656

Note 1: These cleanup levels have been adjusted for ingestion risk only. Cleanup levels may need to be further reduced to account for overall site risk.

Note 2: This list of indicators is subject to addition based on the outcome of a fate and transport analysis that is yet to be completed.

Note 3: The Adjusted CUL for Trichloroethene was increased to the limit of 2.5 ug/L dictated by surface water (CWA) regulations.

KEY											
Adjustable for cancer risk											
Adjustable for non cancer risk											
Surface Water regs applicable											
Can't go higher (SW kicks in)											
Can't go higher (MCL kicks in)											

Reasonable Maximum Exposure Scenarios

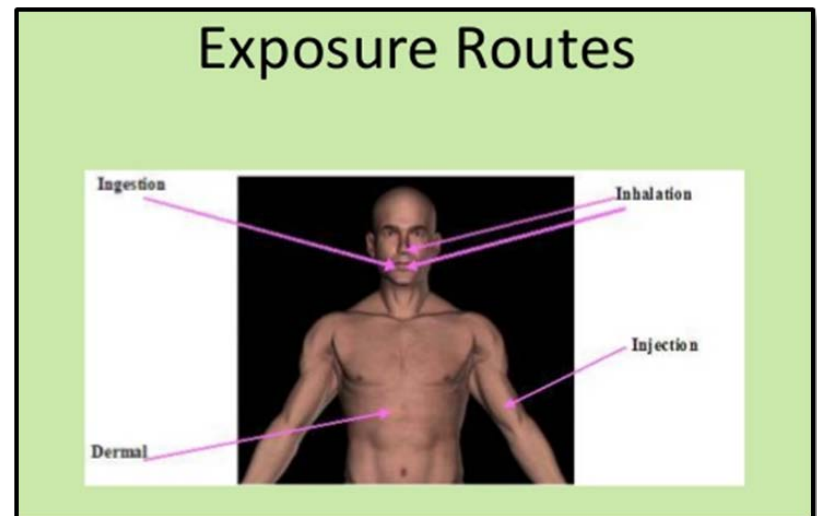
Groundwater

- Residential ingestion
- Domestic consumptive use

Soil

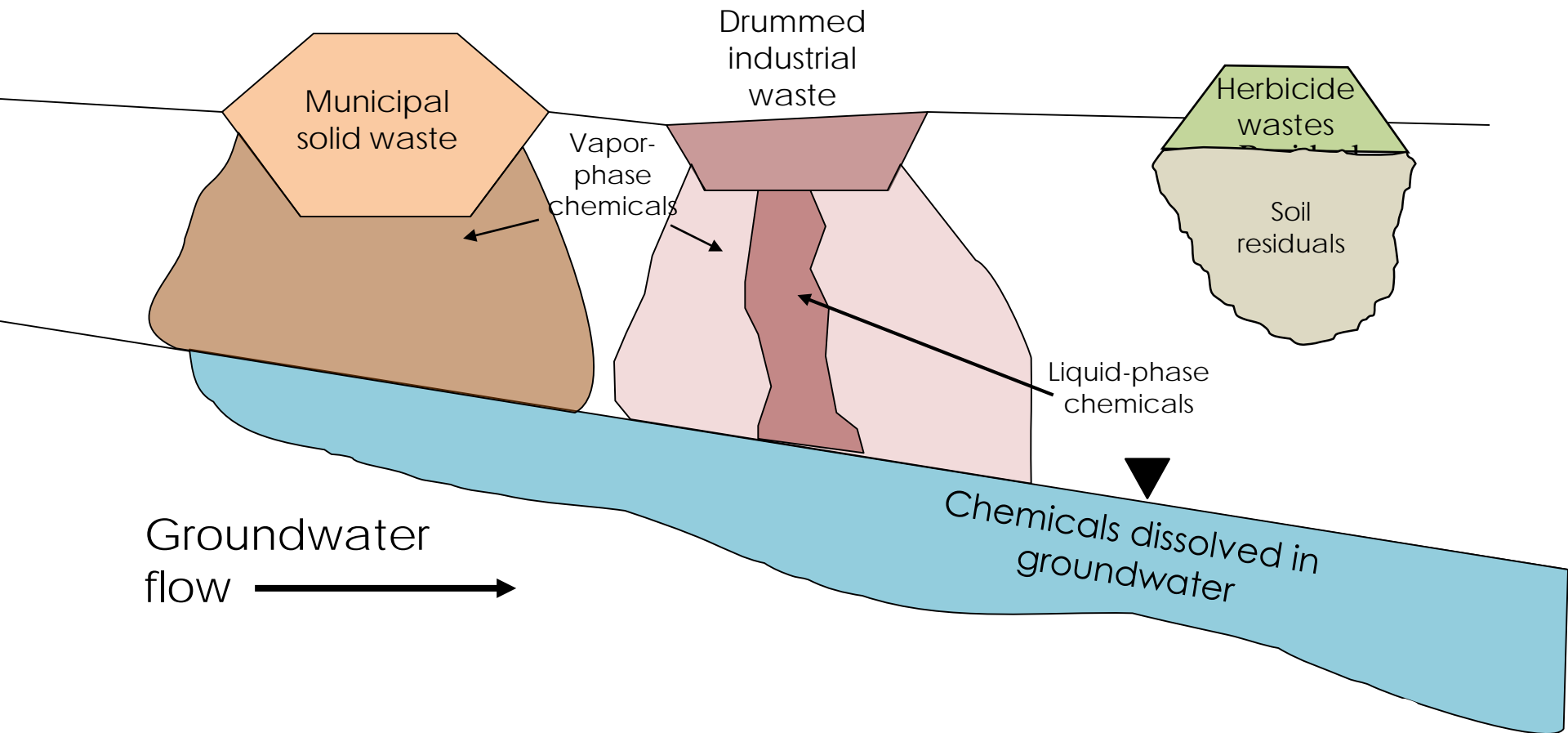
- Industrial worker
- Incidental ingestion, dermal contact, vapor inhalation

These exposure routes were used for remedial alternative selection and cleanup level development



What's happened here?

Simplified Conceptual Site Model

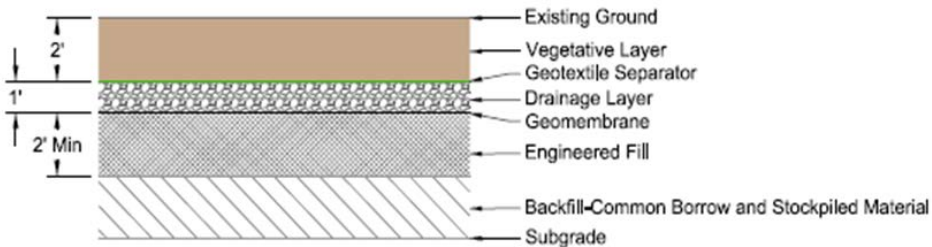


Interim Action Installation RCRA C Cover Systems



Zone A Cover System Test Pit

Protective multi-layer covers installed at all industrial waste disposal areas and the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill



1 RCRA Cap Cover System
SCALE: 1" = 5'



RCRA = Resource Conservation & Recovery Act

Site-wide Institutional Controls



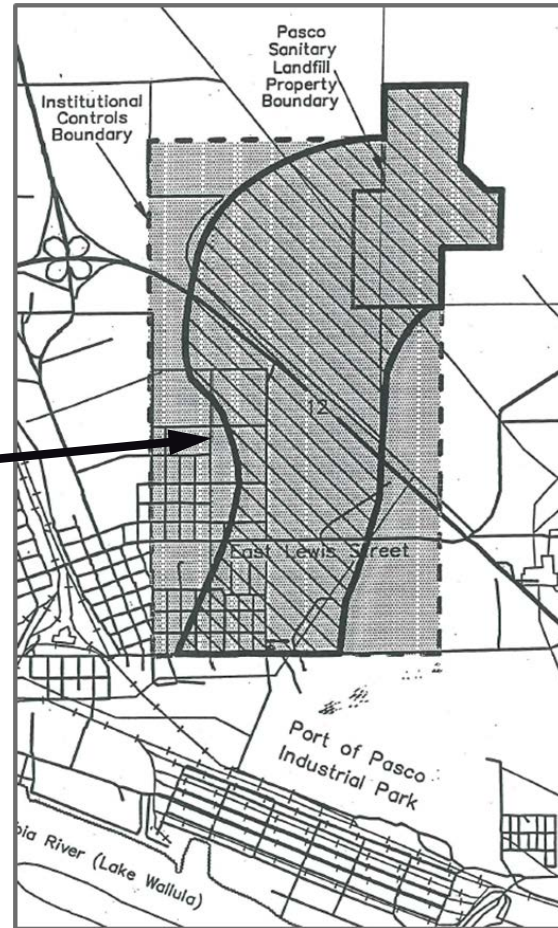
- Fencing, gating and signage
- Deed restrictions on landfill-related parcels
- Groundwater protection area (City of Pasco ordinance) to restrict groundwater use
- City water provided to some residential well users



Institution Controls: Restricted Groundwater Use

City of Pasco
Ordinance (2001)

Groundwater
Protection Area



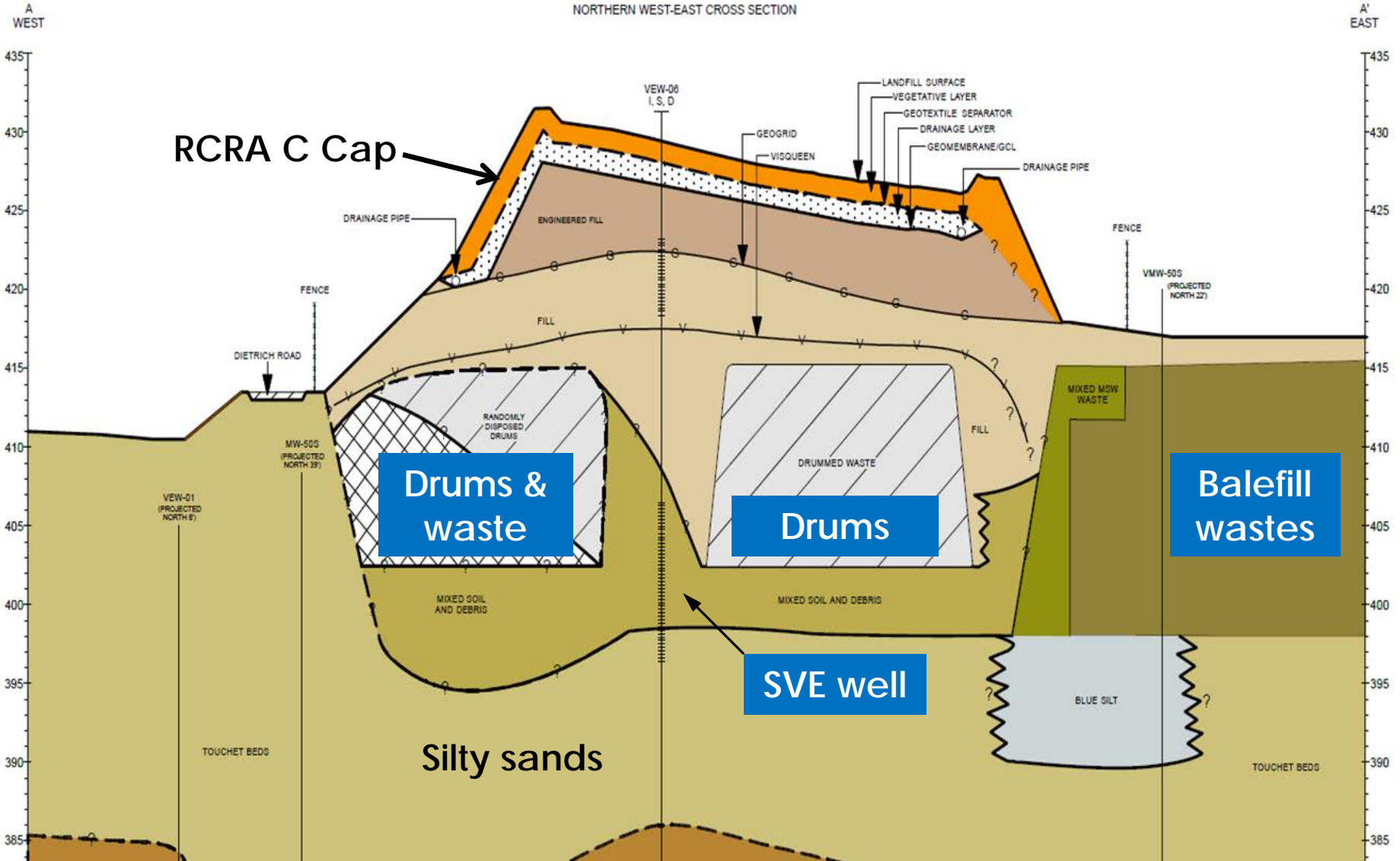
Zone A Industrial Waste Repository Area



SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Zone A

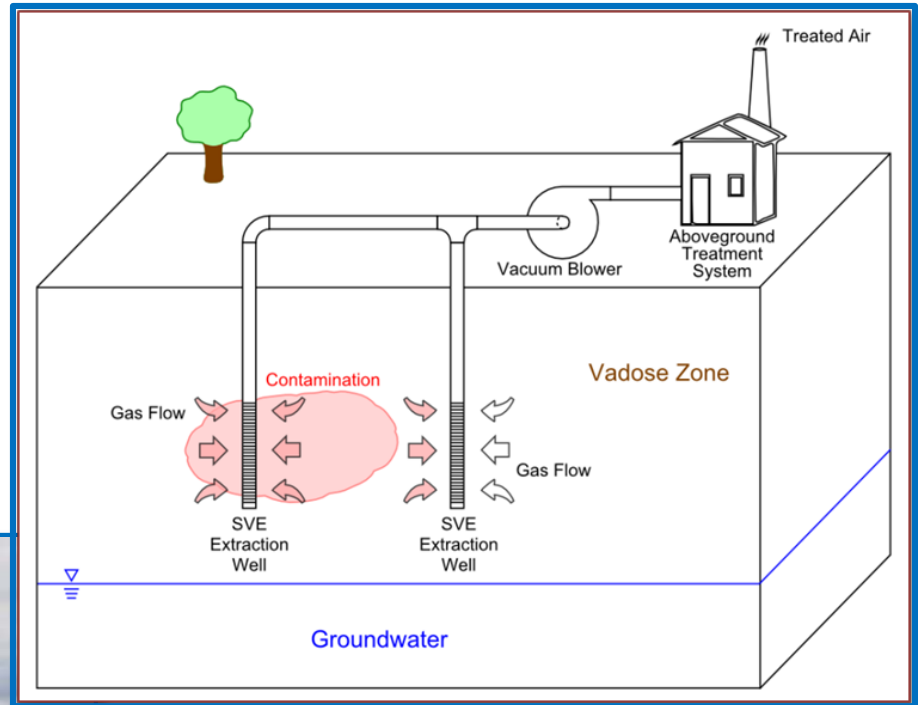
NORTHERN WEST-EAST CROSS SECTION



RCRA = Resource Conservation & Recovery Act

SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Zone A Soil Vapor Extraction System



SVE wells

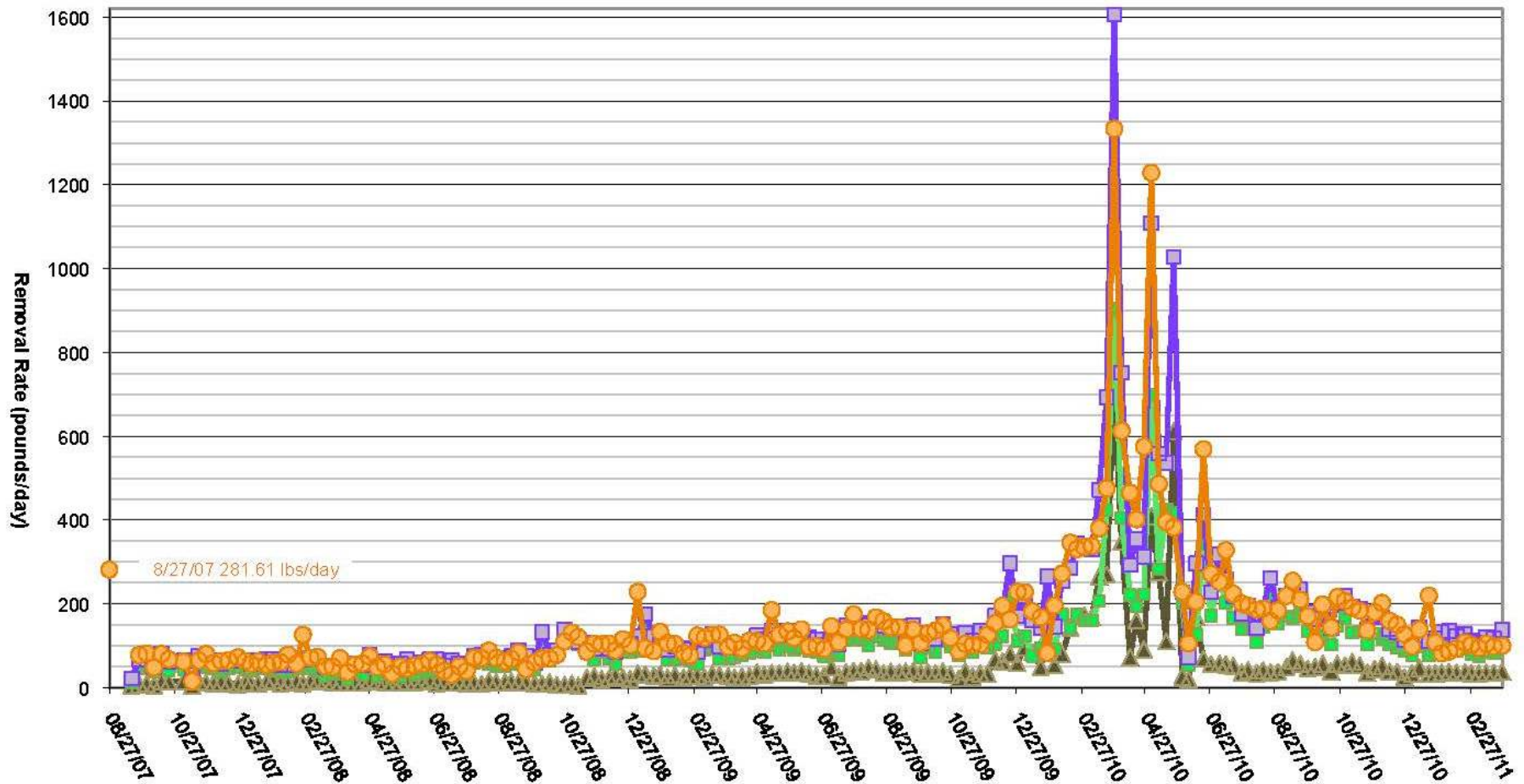


Condensate collection

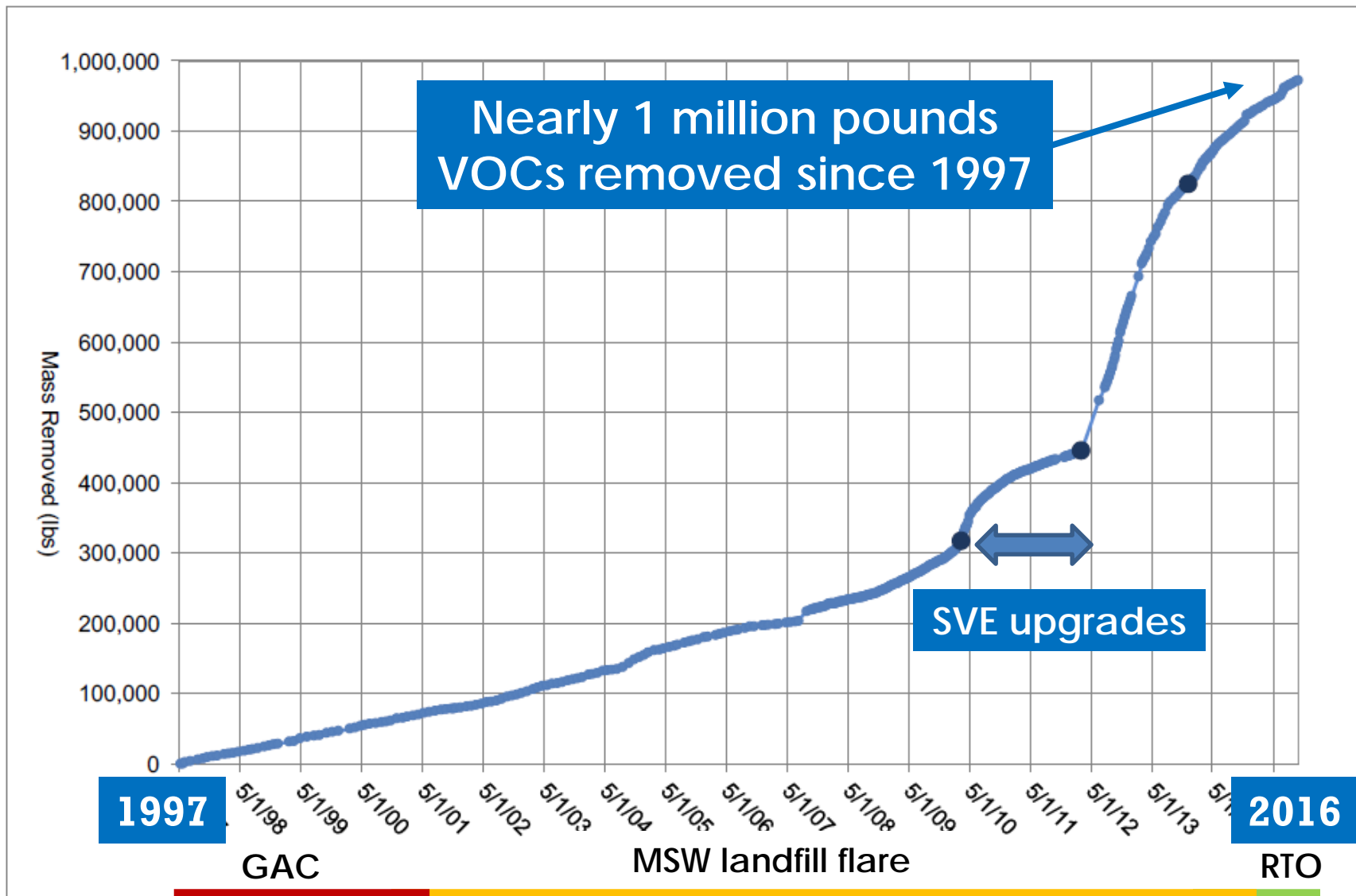


Zone A Soil Vapor Extraction Rates 2007–2011

Volatile organic compound capture in current system as high as 1,600 pounds/day, currently near 200 pounds/day



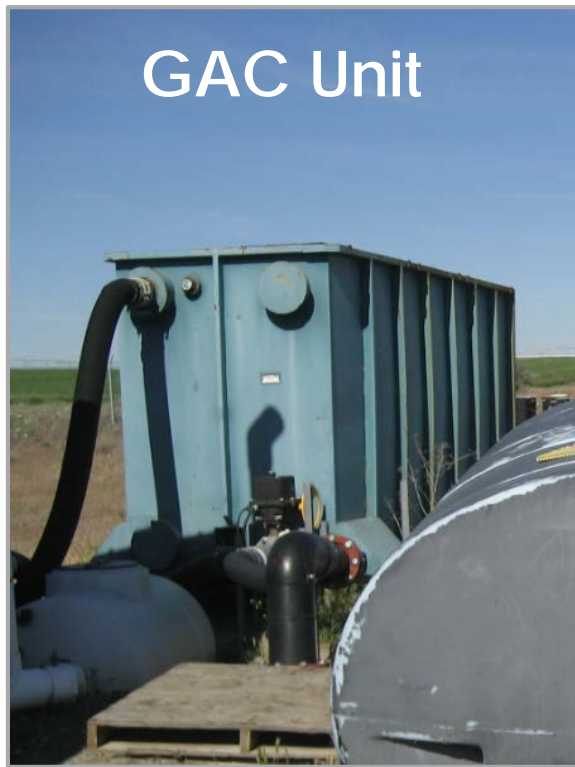
Zone A VOC Removal by SVE



GAC = Granular activated carbon
MSW = Municipal solid waste
RTO = Regenerative thermal oxidizer

VOC = Volatile organic compounds
SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Zone A Soil Vapor Treatment Methods



GAC = Granular activated carbon
MSW = Municipal solid waste

RTO = Regenerative thermal oxidizer

Zone B Industrial Waste Repository Area



SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Zone B Timeline

- **1972-1975:** Herbicide manufacturing waste disposed; other wastes also present
- **2000:** Interim Action Agreement requires drum removal
- **2002:** Drums removed - some residual soil contamination left behind
- **2013:** Highly protective, multi-layer Resource Conservation & Recovery Act C Cover installed
- **Present:** Ongoing cover inspection and groundwater monitoring





Zone B Removal Action
February 5, 2002



Zone B Removal Action
February 4, 2002



Zone B Removal Action
February 21, 2002



Zone B Removal Action
February 28, 2002

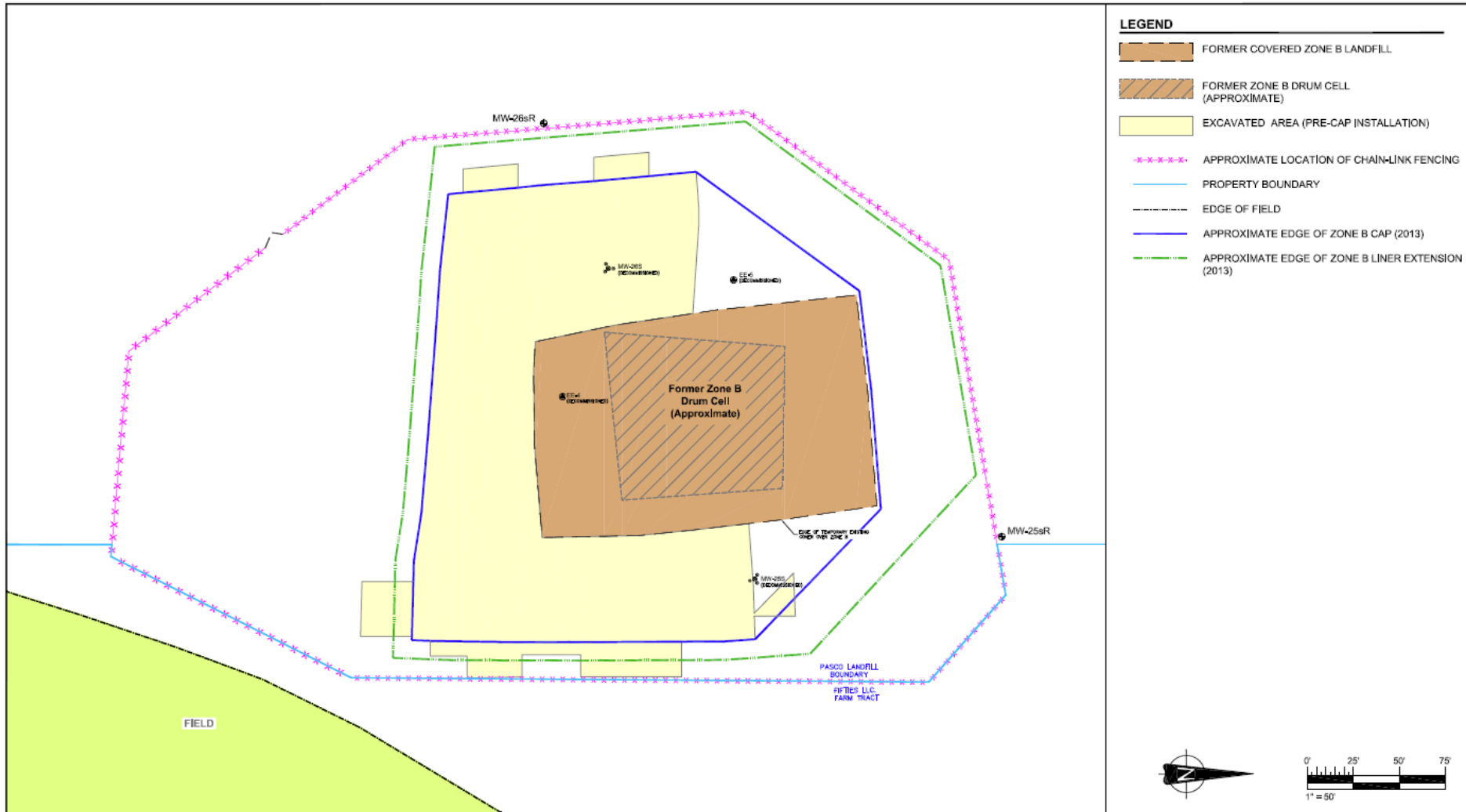


Zone B Removal Action
March 19, 2002



Zone B Interim Cover System
after Drum Removal

Zone B: New Cover Footprint



Courtesy of AMEC



Zone B Multi-Layer Cover System
May 2013



New Zone B cover is about 1 acre

Zone B Cover System
June 2013

Zone C/D & E Industrial Waste Repository Areas



SVE = Soil vapor extraction

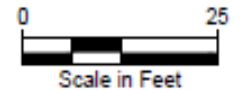
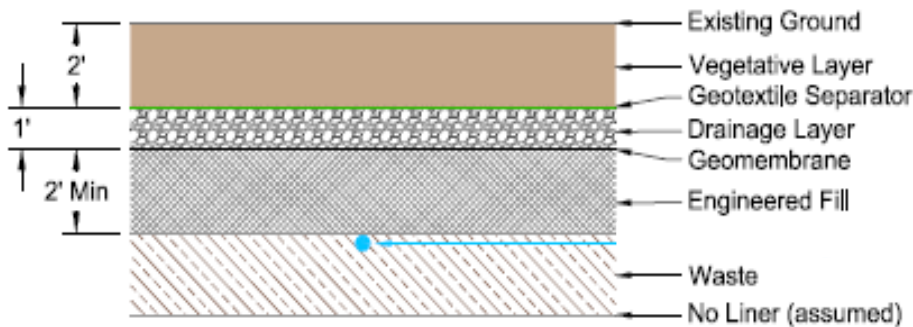
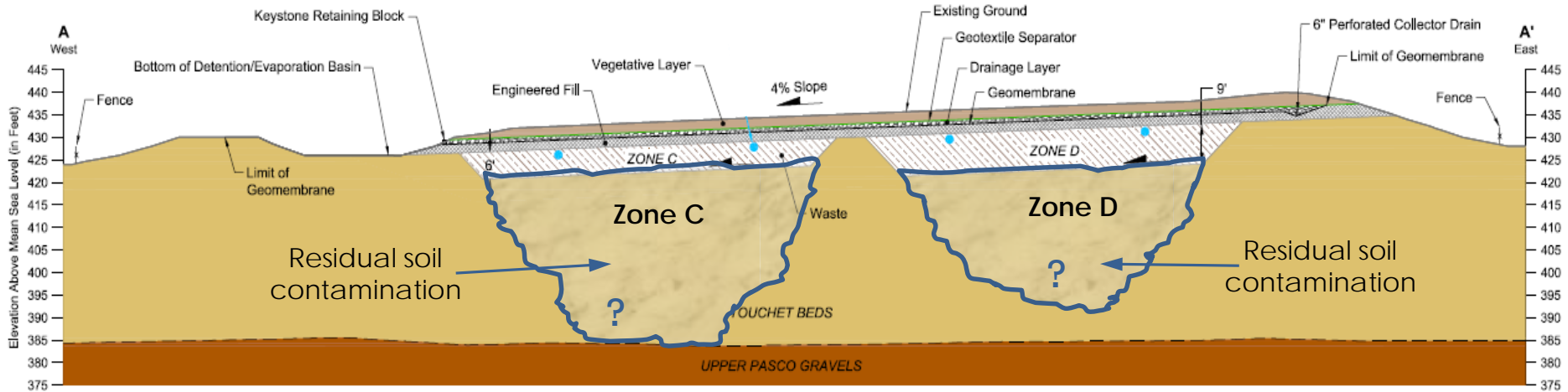
Zone C/D & E Repository Areas

- Interim Action Resource Conservation & Recovery Act C Covers in place
- Waste materials relatively stable
- Limited contaminant migration from source zone
- Localized groundwater impacts from volatile organic compounds

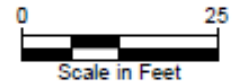
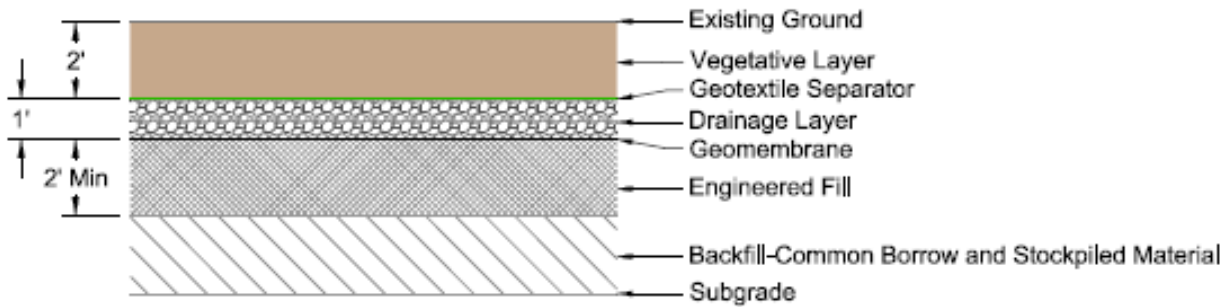
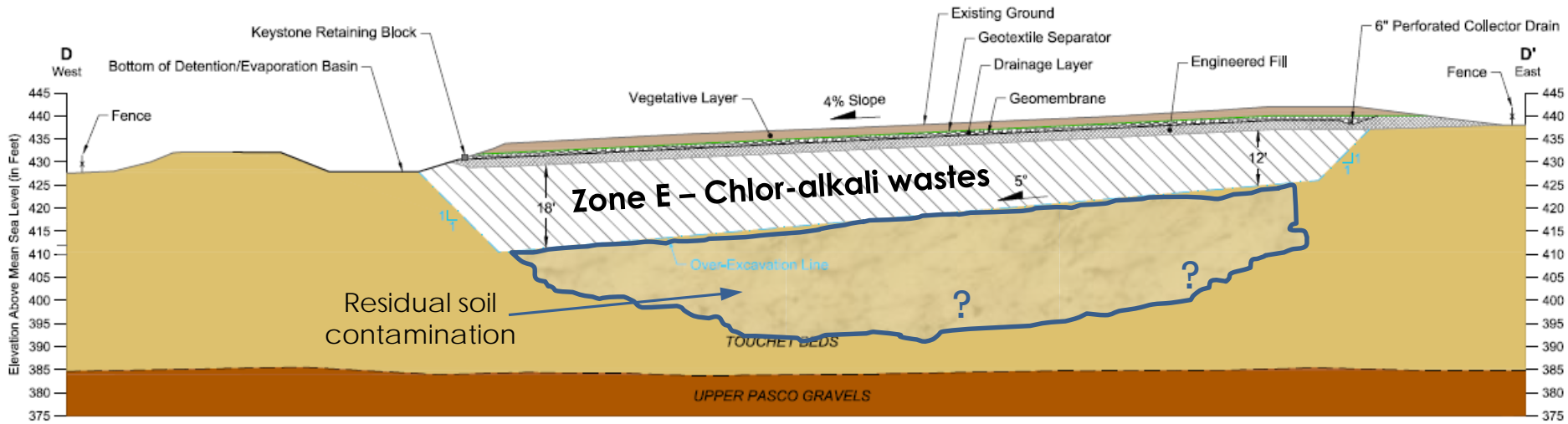


Zone C/D Vapor Monitoring

Zones C/D Cross Section



Zone E Cross Section



Courtesy Anchor QEA

Municipal Solid Waste Landfill



SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Municipal Solid Waste Landfill & Flare Unit Cleanup Actions

- Protective cover system in place
- Landfill gas extraction wells active
- Recent flare upgrades to enhance performance
- Flare no longer treats Zone A SVE vapors
- Management of declining methane levels
- Routine groundwater monitoring

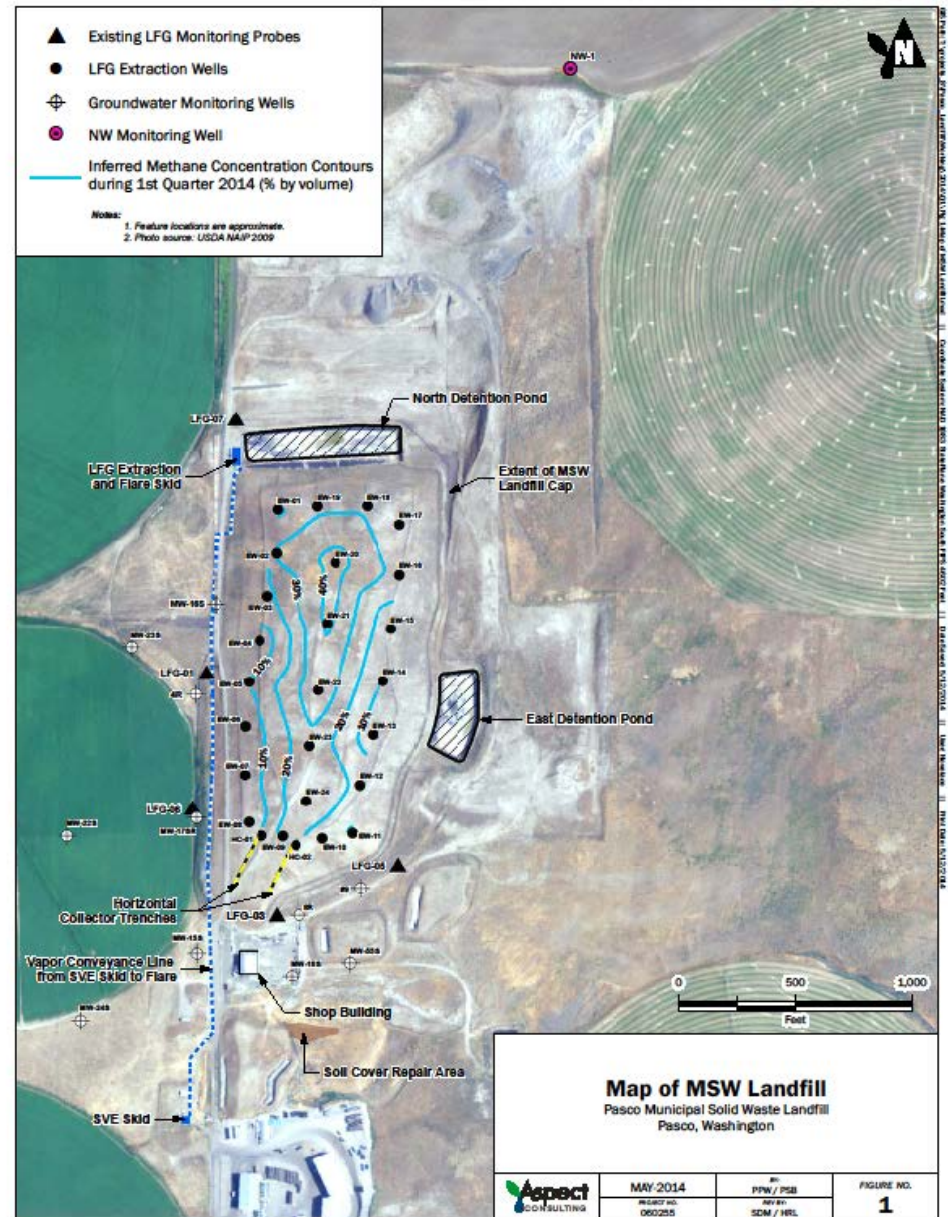


SVE = Soil vapor extraction

Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Gas Control System



Gas extraction well



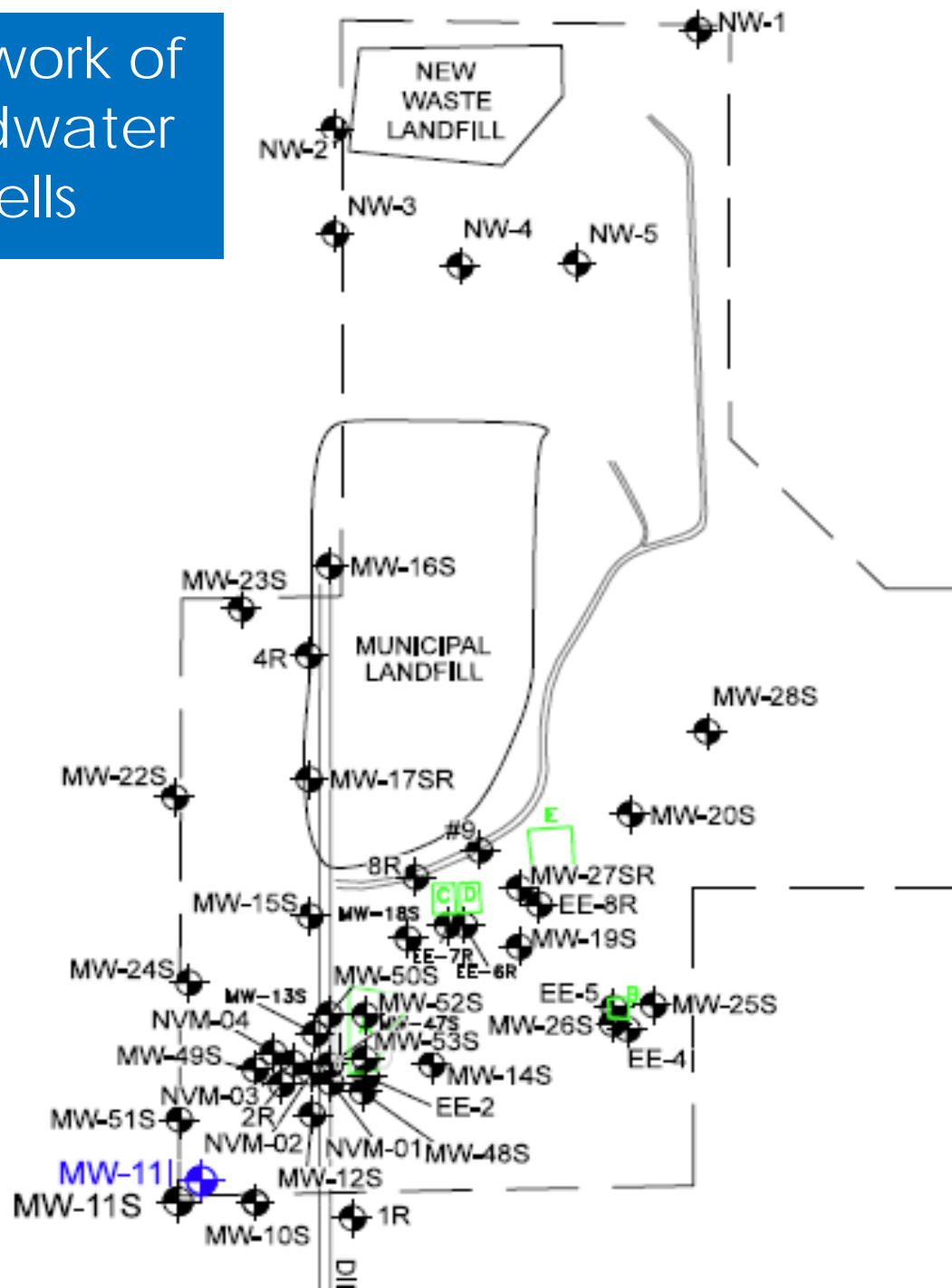
Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Flare Unit



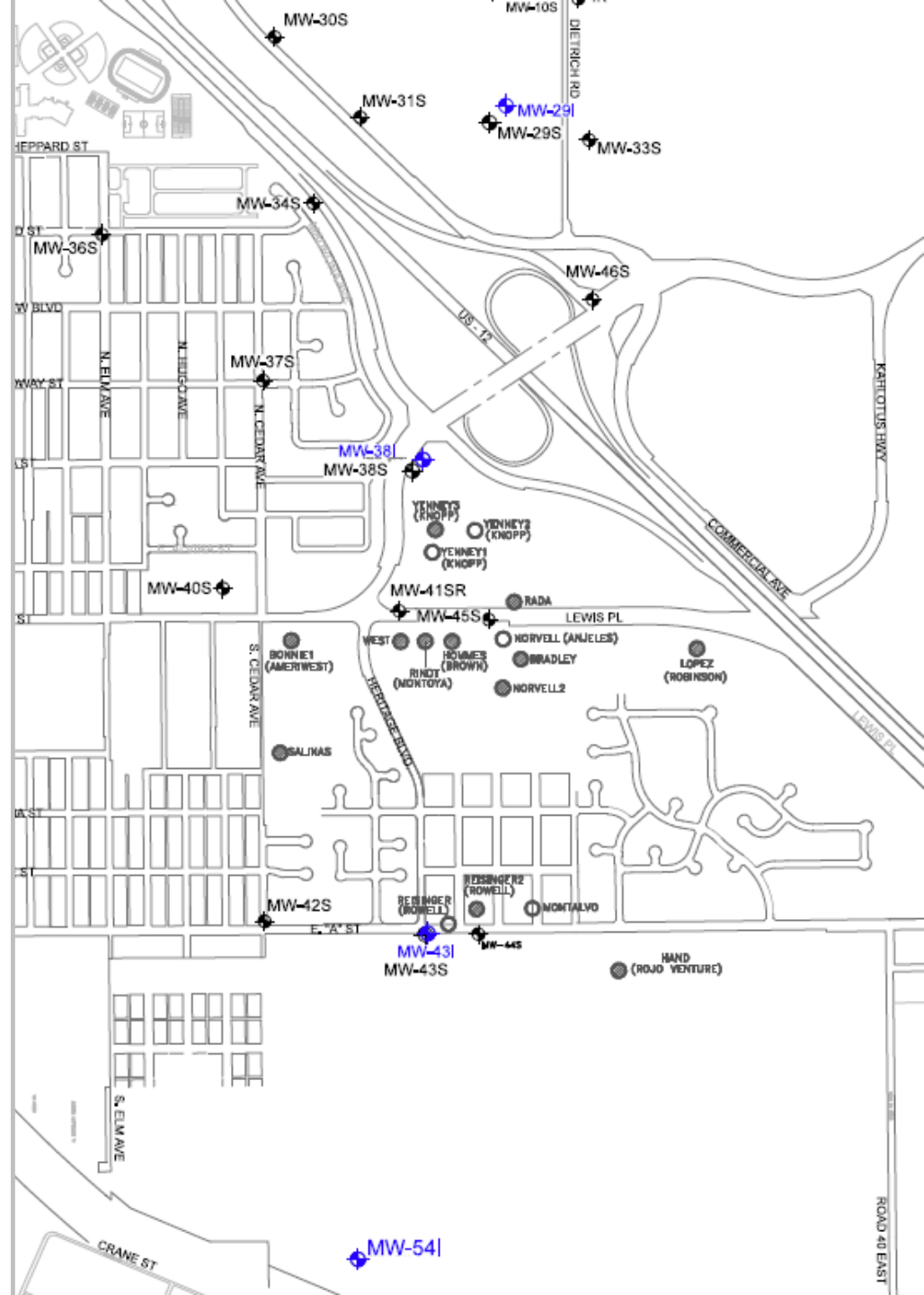
Flare unit currently
treats landfill gas



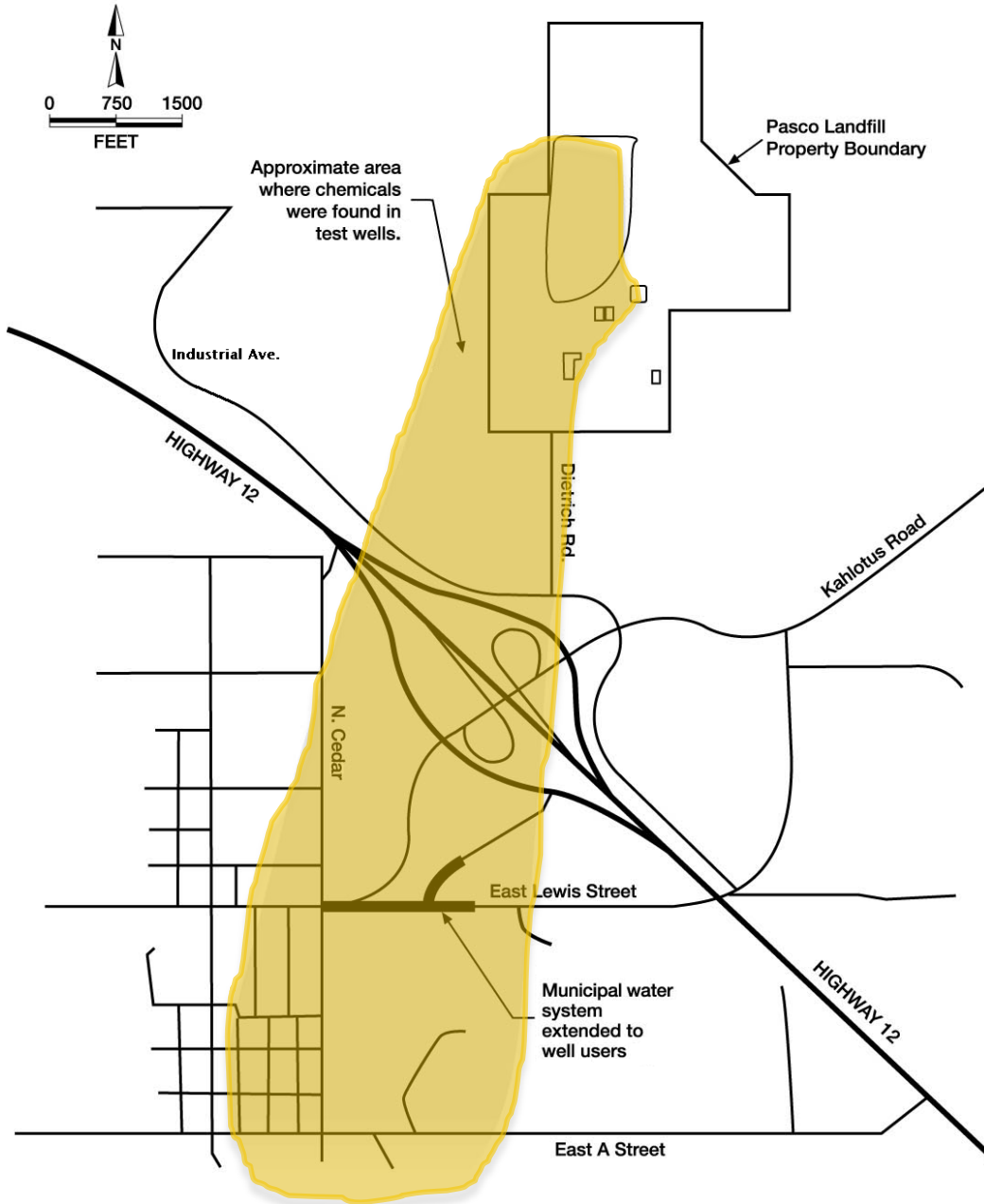
On-property Network of Site-wide Groundwater Monitoring Wells



Off-property Network of Groundwater Monitoring & Residential Wells

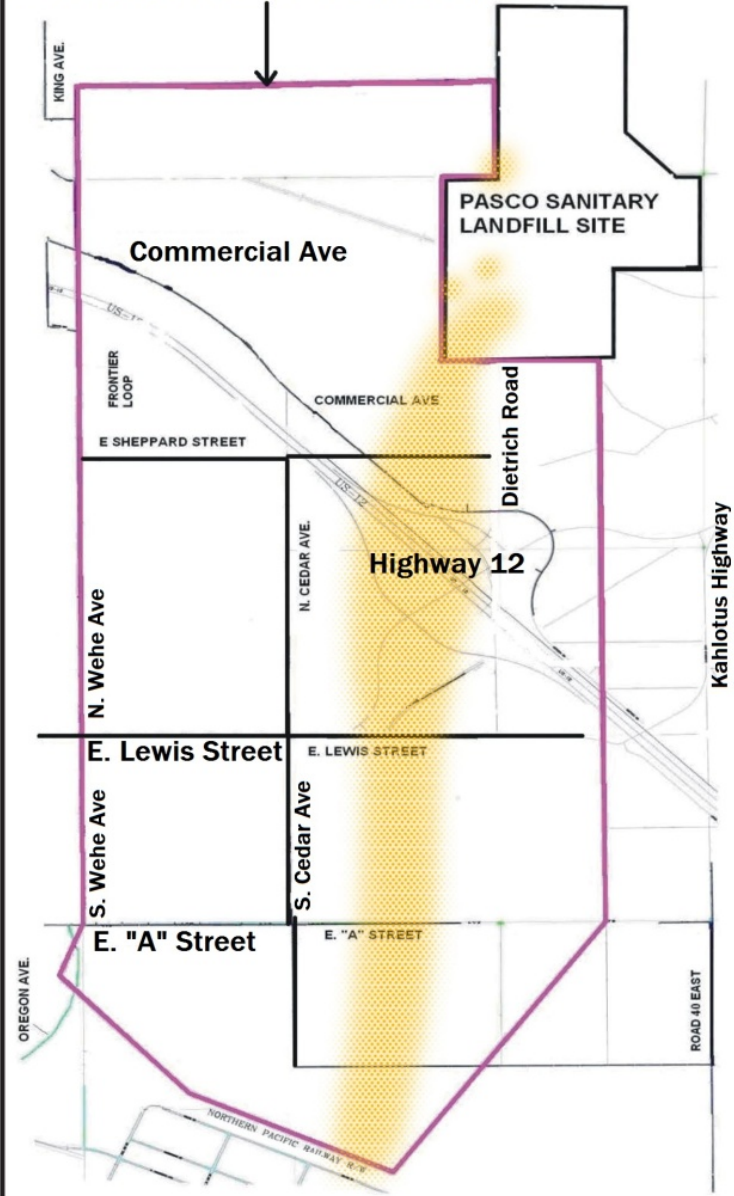


1997



2012

Groundwater Protection Area

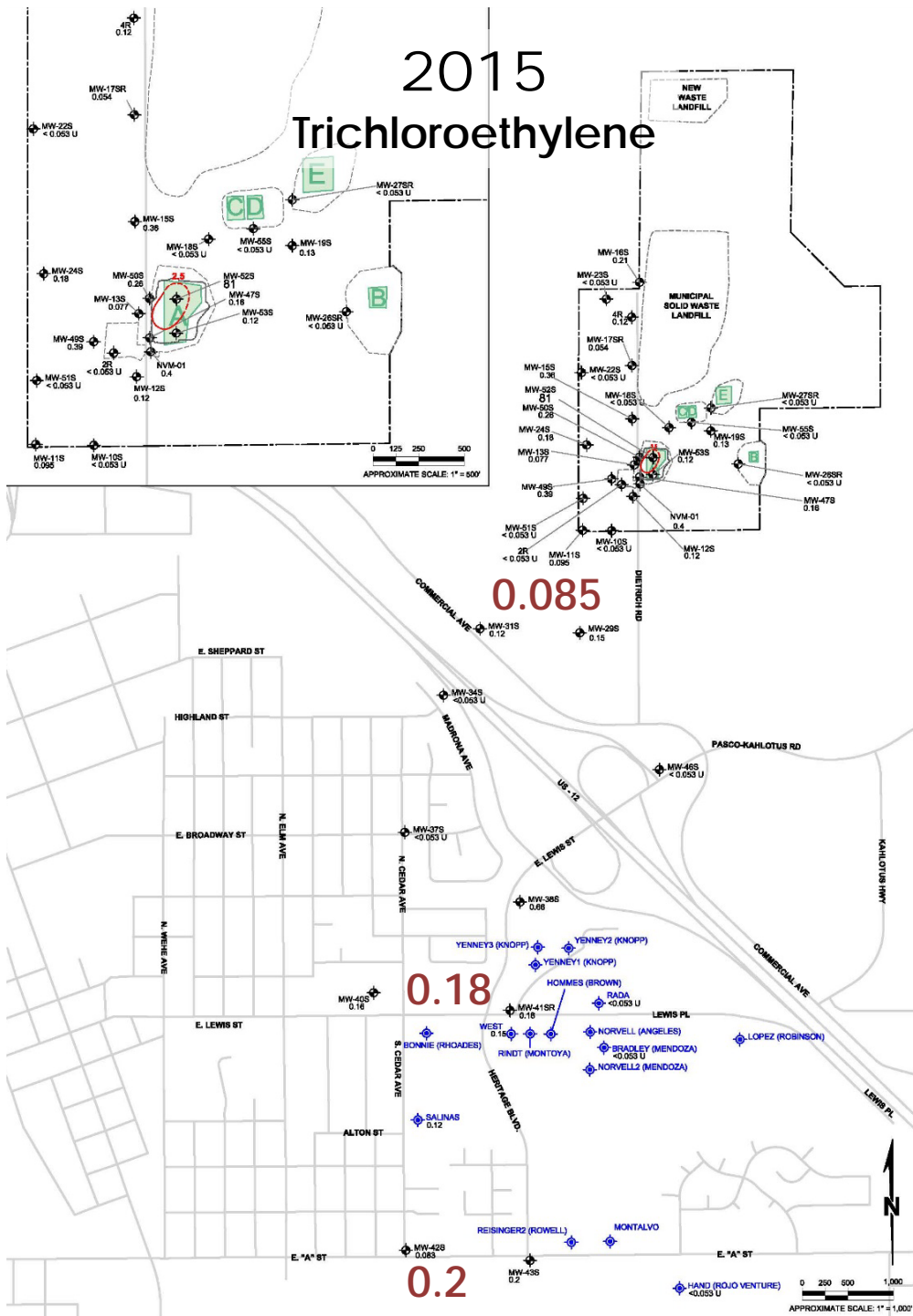


Groundwater Protection Area

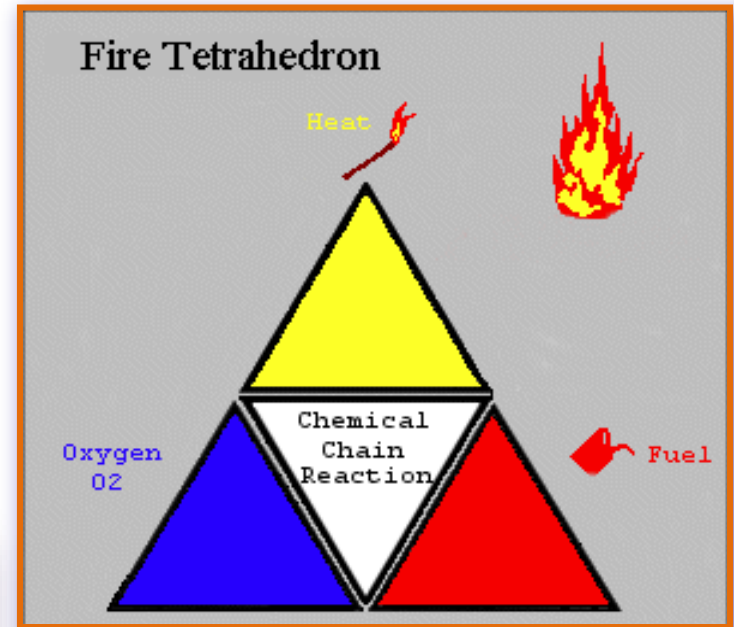
2012



2015 Trichloroethylene



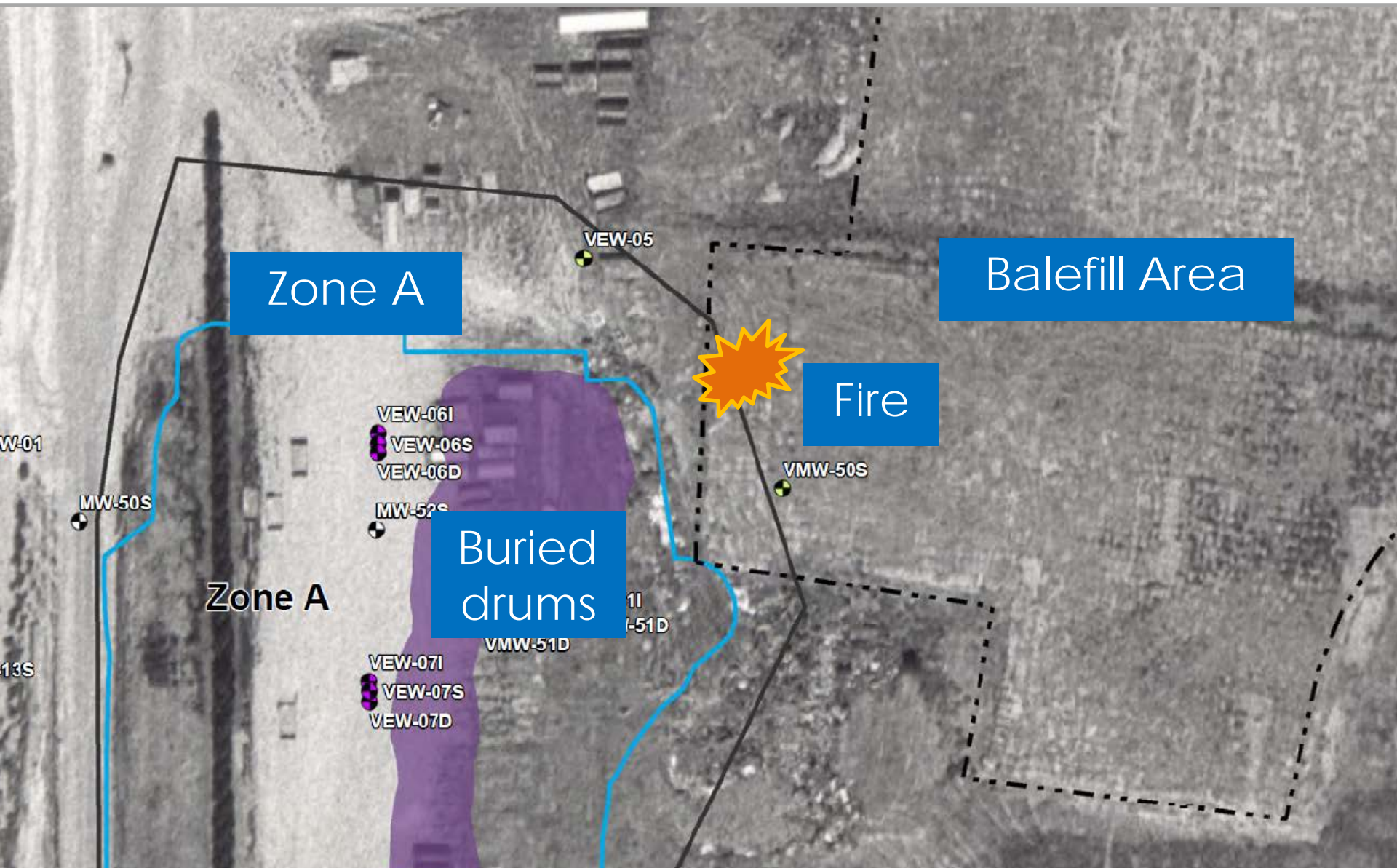
But how does MTCA handle a landfill *fire*?



© Can Stock Photo

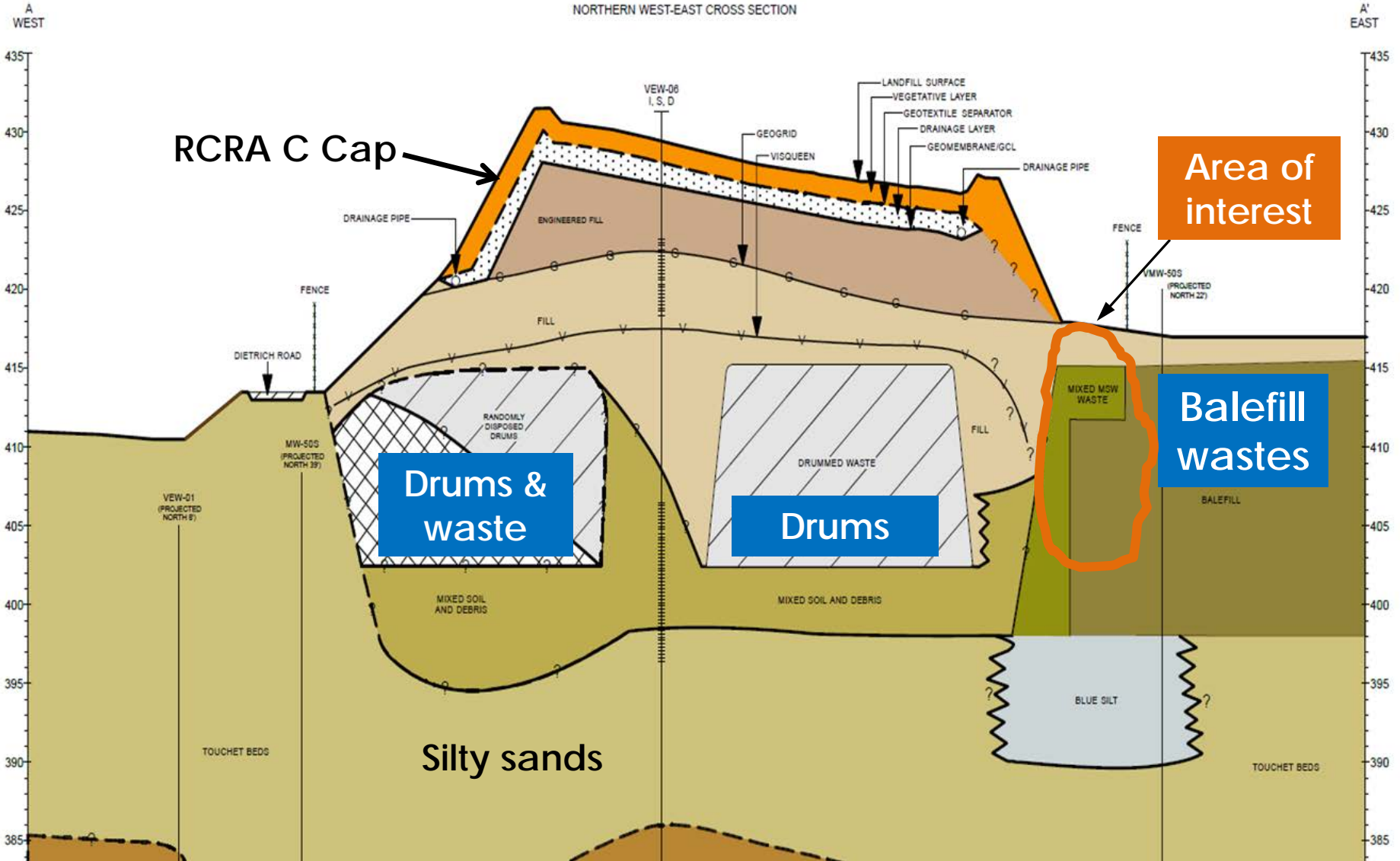


Balefill Area Underground Fire November 2013



Zone A

NORTHERN WEST-EAST CROSS SECTION





Balefill Area Underground Fire
Looking east from Zone A

Geoprobe Temperature Evaluation

How **BIG**?



How
HOT?



Installing Dedicated Thermocouples



Phase 1: Cover & Smother



Phase 2: Liquid Carbon Dioxide Injection

June 26 & 27, 2014



Carbon Dioxide Refusal & Short-Circuiting

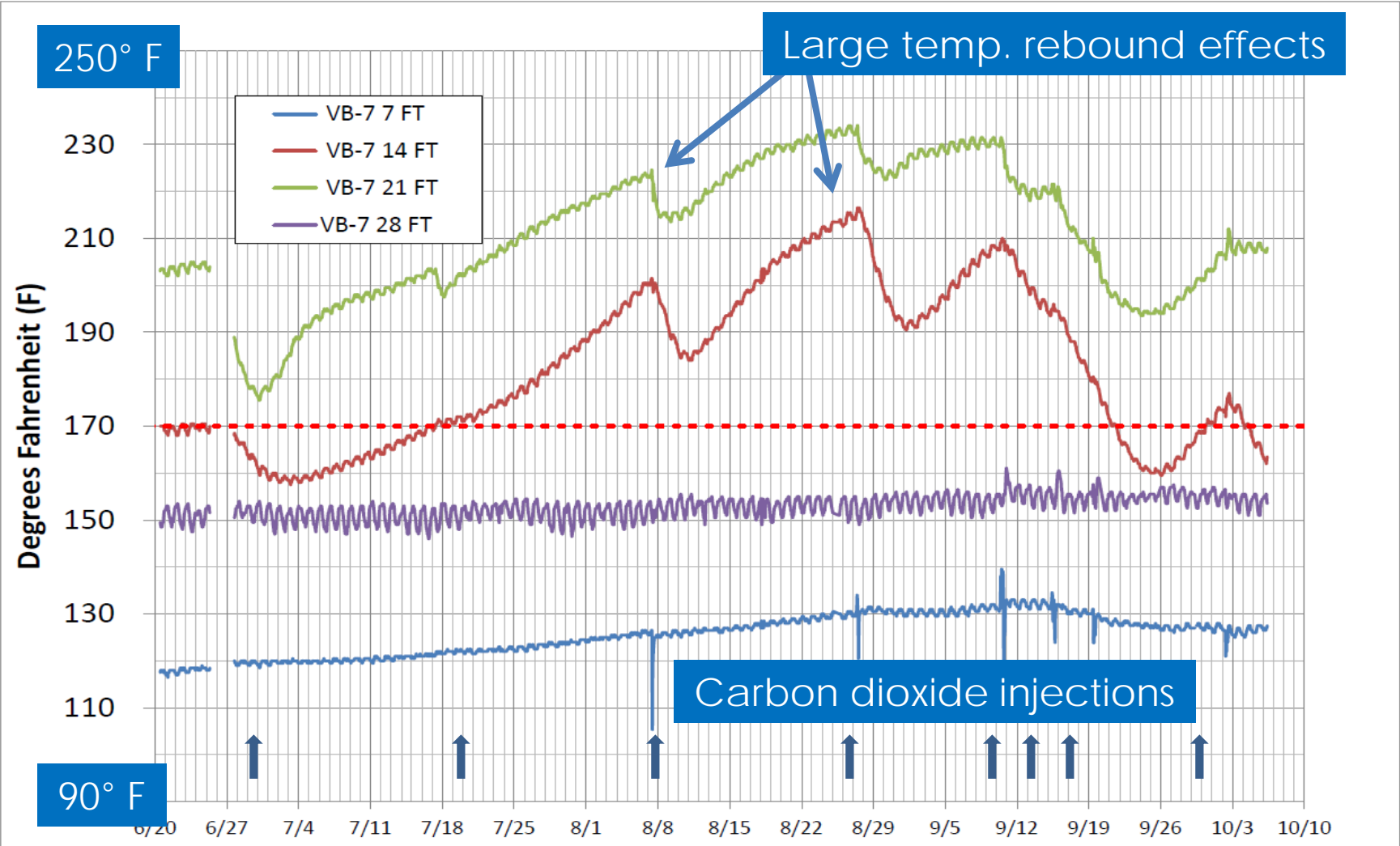


Injecting liquid carbon dioxide until probe won't transmit it or short-circuiting occurs



Example Temperature Response to Carbon Dioxide Injection

Station ID VB-7 ALL DEPTHS

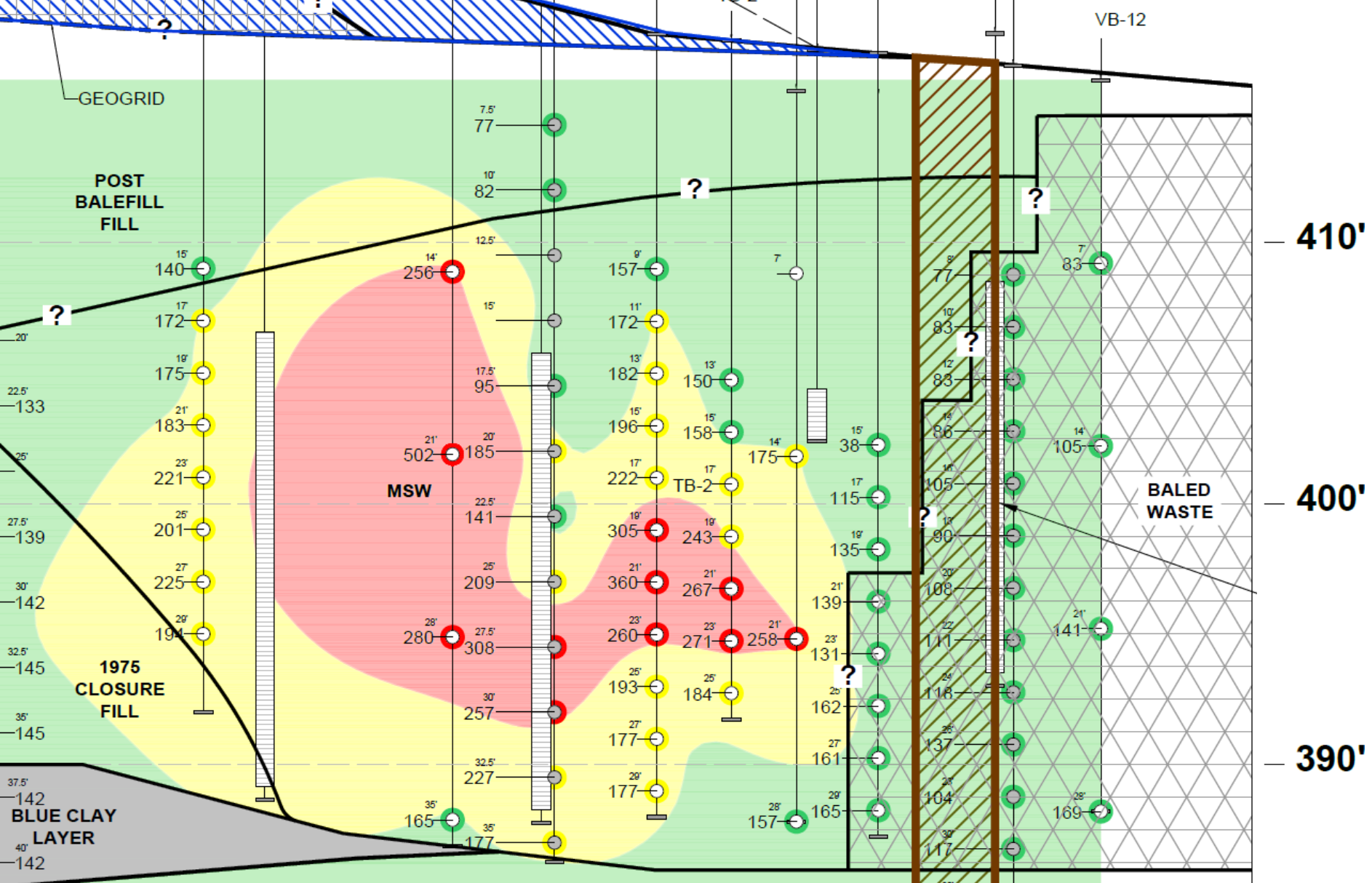


----- Subsurface temperature greater than 170°F is one indicator of possible subsurface combustion (FEMA 2002).

Carbon Dioxide Injections

- 21 injection events (June 2014–March 2015)
- Quantity of liquid carbon dioxide injected per event 5,000 to 23,000 pounds (6–15 probes per event)
- Total quantity injected: 255,000 pounds
- Carbon dioxide residence time ~1 week or less
- Oxygen intrusion and uneven gas dispersion appears to limit overall effectiveness





Snapshot of temperature conditions after injections

Phase 3: Final Fire Extinguishment Actions



Soil-Cement-Bentonite Protection Barrier

Area of Elevated Temperatures

Cement-Bentonite Wall

WEST WALL
NORTH WALL
SOUTH WALL
EAST WALL

Zone A Landfill

Balefill Area

Dietrich Road

Courtesy of AECOM



Excavate Cement-Bentonite Wall around Fire Perimeter



Interior Cement-Bentonite Wall
Quench & Mix Operations

Interior Cement-Bentonite Wall Slot Cut & Trench Excavation Plan

60428541_05.ai

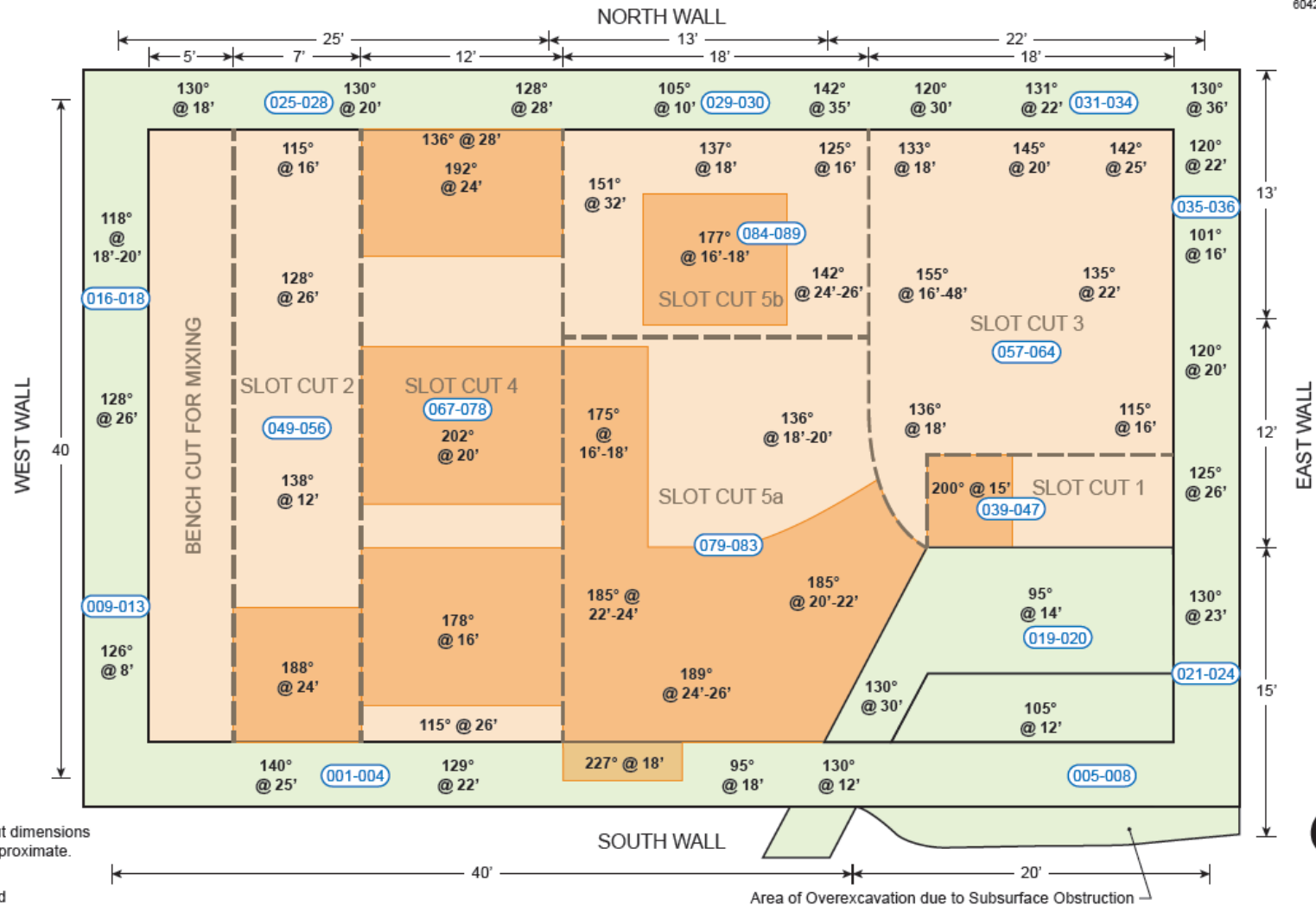


Figure 5
Locations and Depths of Maximum Temperature Measurements

Soil-Cement- Bentonite Barrier Wall in Zone A





Next Steps & Public Participation

Remaining Steps toward Cleanup

1. Focused Feasibility Study (in progress)
2. Draft Cleanup Action Plan
3. Ecology selects preferred cleanup option
4. Negotiate Legal Agreement with potentially liable persons
5. Design and implement Final Remedy

30-day public review period
for each draft document



Public Participation in Cleanup Decisions

--The Key to Community Acceptance--



- No backroom deals!
- Public Participation Plan
- Public notices, meetings & formal hearings
- Public Participation Grants available for community groups



Effective Public Comments

1. Review all documents available for public comment
2. Before drafting comments, contact Ecology or other technical experts listed on the fact sheet
3. Be specific when writing comments
 - Could they be interpreted multiple ways?
 - Explain your reasoning with examples
 - Refer to document pages, paragraphs, etc.
4. Ensure Ecology could enact your ideas within the framework of existing laws

TIP: Coordinate your comments with others!



The Art of Commenting: How to Influence Environmental Decisionmaking with Effective Comments

By Elizabeth D. Mullin

The Art of Commenting 2nd Edition

How to Influence Environmental
Decisionmaking With Effective Comments



Project Contacts

Ecology

Chuck Gruenenfelder

Ecology Project Manager

(509) 329-3439

charles.gruenenfelder@ecy.wa.gov

Erika Bronson

Public Involvement

(509) 329-3546

erika.bronson@ecy.wa.gov

Potentially Liable Persons

Barbara Smith

Pasco Landfill Representative

(206) 343-0250

barbara@harrisandsmith.com

