#### Innovative Multiphase Extraction Design Operating above the Upper Flammability Limit (UFL).



**K KOMEX** 





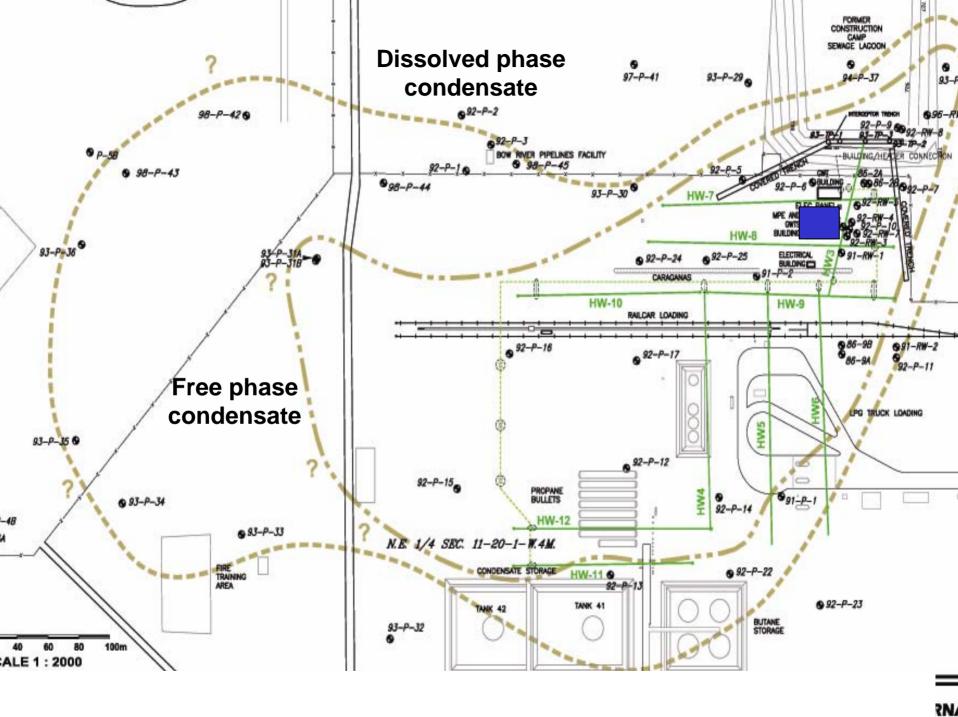
#### Stuart Torr. M.Eng. EIT

October 2005
SYSTEM DESIGN GROUP

#### Introduction

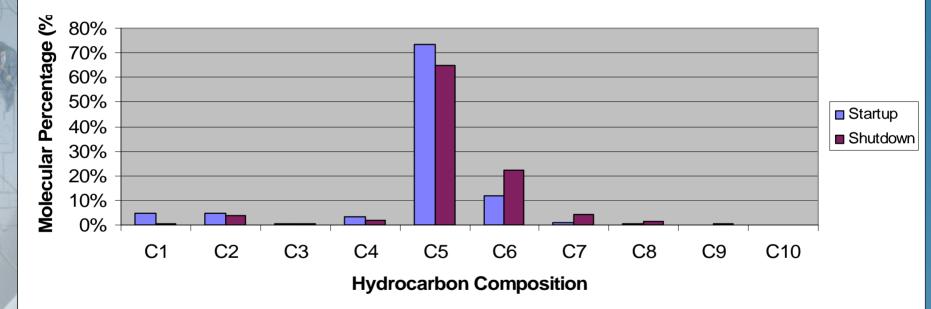
- Background
- Design Challenges
- Objectives
- Why UFL
- Safe Operating Conditions
- Pipe & Equipment Safety
- Operation Uncertainties
- Operational Regimes
- The Design





## Hydrocarbon Composition

HYDROCARBON COMPOSITION OF OFFGAS vs.TIME Pilot Test Data



#### Hydrogeological Impact

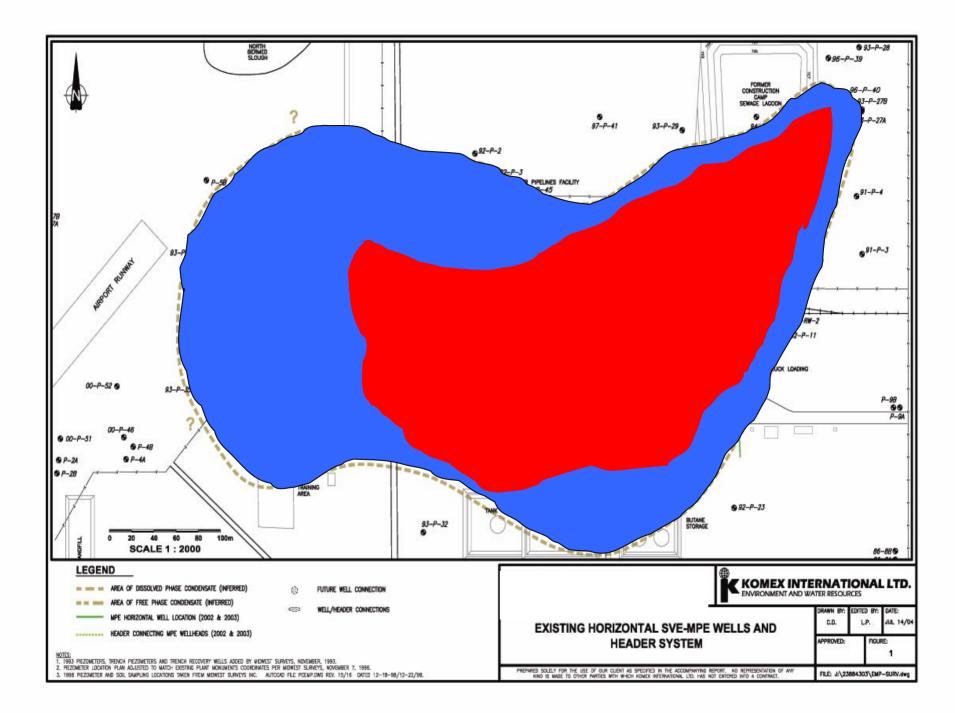
- Fine silty sand, water table 4 5 m deep
- Condensate lens near tank farms and rail yard, covers 600 m by 400 m area
- Measured product thickness in wells varies from 0.1 to 1.5 m
- •Hydrocarbon is clean cut, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>, and very volatile



#### **History of Remediation**

- Pilot Test vertical vs. horizontal SVE wells (1993)
- Installation of 4 horizontal SVE wells, seasonal (1994-97)
- Installation of recovery trench for plume control (1994-02)
- Testing of MPE, SVE, Incinerator (2001-02)
- Design-install expanded well & header system for MPE, fluid treatment, vapour incineration (2004-05)





#### **Design Challenges**

- Scale of Impact
- Volatility of product Pentane
- Safety within UFL operation
- Design and install within an active plant

## **Design Requirements**

- System constructed to client standards
- Minimize fuel gas usage
- Design for remote operation



## **Design Objectives**

- Multiphase system
- Horizontal wells to cover free phase
- Maintain >120% UFL
- Building safety
- Operational Safeguards in design
- Integrate the MPE and GWTS
- Remote Operation



# Why Design the system for operation in the UFL?

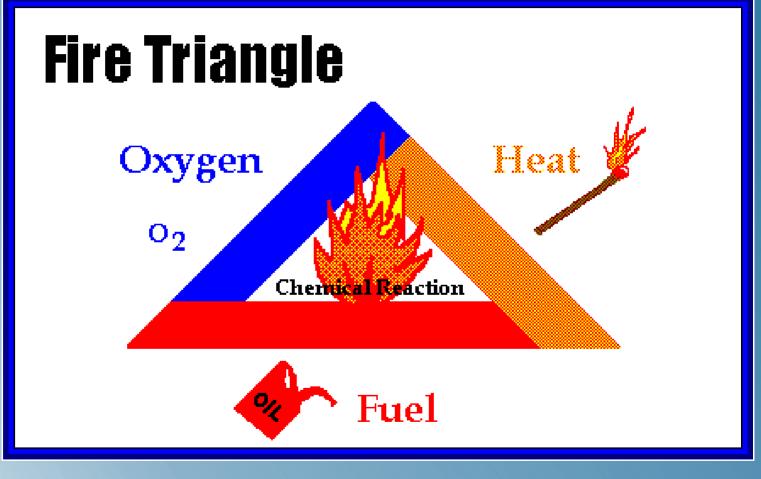
- To accelerate remediation of site
- Good solution because of the high volatility of product
- Prevents operation in explosive conditions that result in safety issues
- Required to ensure safe operational conditions in piping from wells to incinerator

#### **Operation Uncertainties**

- O<sub>2</sub> values in actual soil
- Representation of O<sub>2</sub> values in pilottest
- Long term trends (pilot tests only over a few months)
- Pressure required for liquid recovery
- Hydrocarbon concentrations



#### **The Fire Triangle**



#### **Operational Regimes:**

#### Three ways to operate safely:

- 1. Below LFL (Lower Flammability Limit), or
- 2. Above UFL (Upper Flammability Limit) and/or
- 3. Below LOC (Limiting O<sub>2</sub> Concentration)

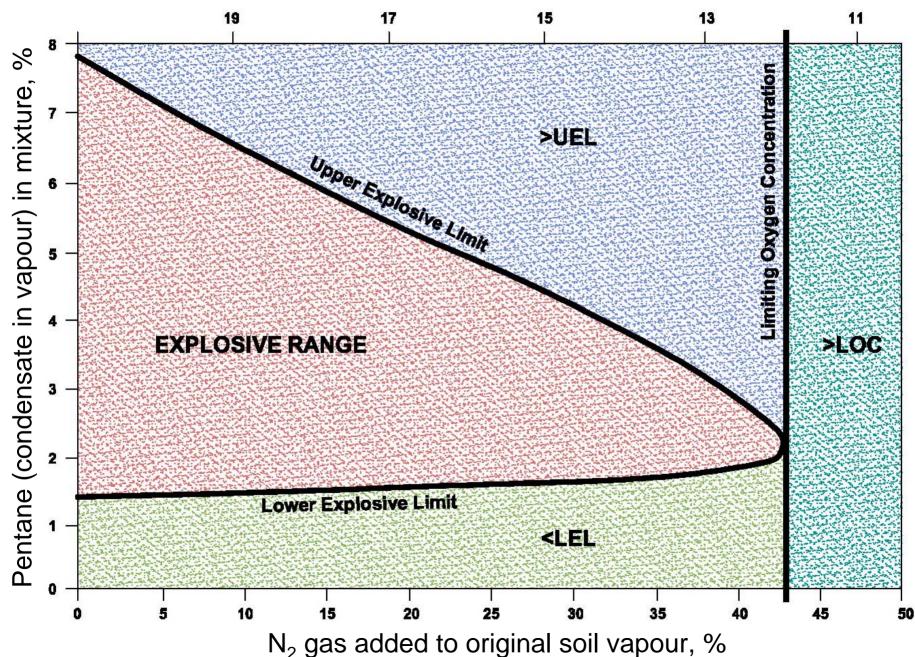


### Safe Operating Conditions UFL

- Upper Flammability Limit (UFL)
  - Concentration above which a fuel will
     not maintain combustion
  - UFL for pentane: 7.8% vol. (air @ STP)
  - UFL for methane: 15% vol. (air @ STP)
- Range can be extended by adding fuel gas at front end of piping



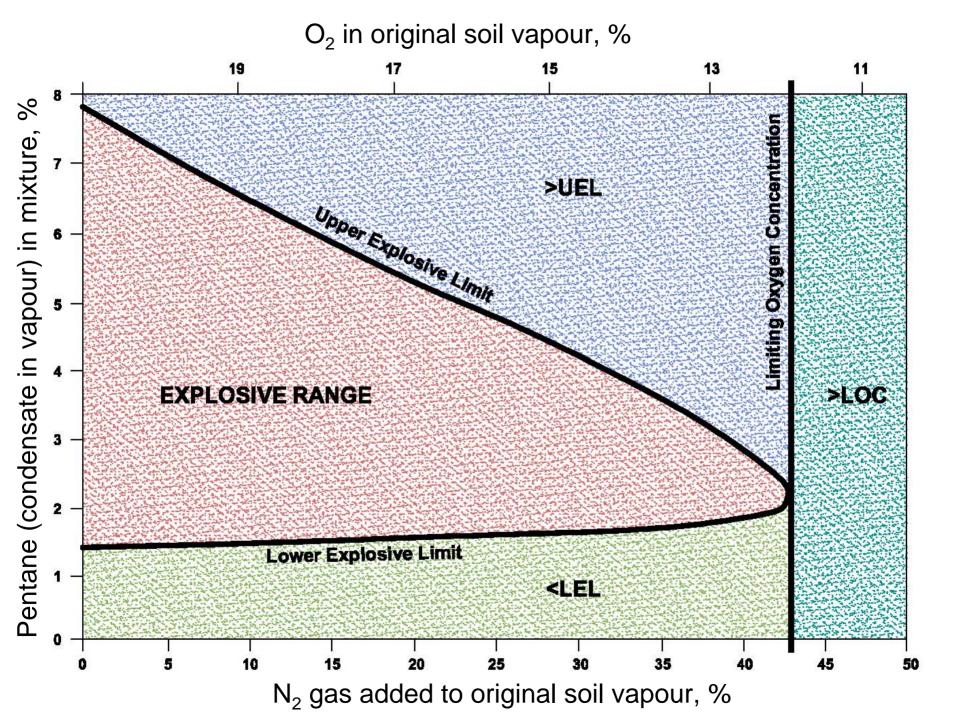
#### $O_2$ in original soil vapour, %



## Safe Operating Conditions LFL

- Lower Explosive Limit (LFL)
  - Concentration below which a fuel will
     not maintain combustion
  - LFL for pentane: 1.5% vol. (air @ STP)
- Range can be extended by adding air as diluting agent at front end of piping

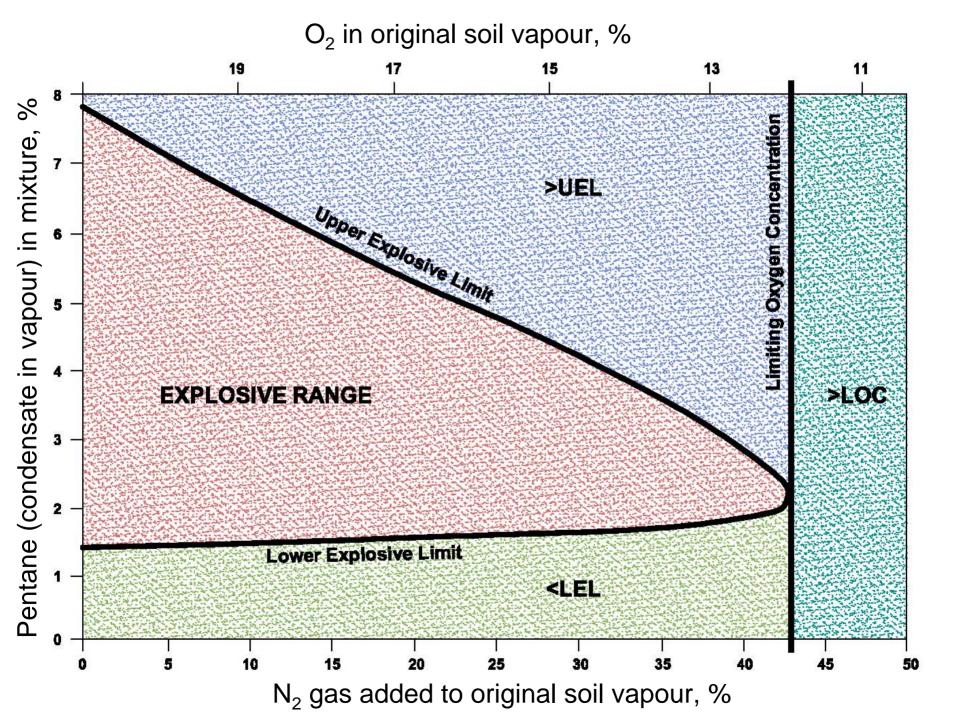




## Safe Operating Conditions LOC

- Limiting O<sub>2</sub> Concentration (LOC)
  - Concentration of O<sub>2</sub> below which combustion cannot occur
  - Minimum O<sub>2</sub> concentration for methane and pentane: 12%
- Range can be extended by adding N<sub>2</sub> as diluting agent at front end of piping





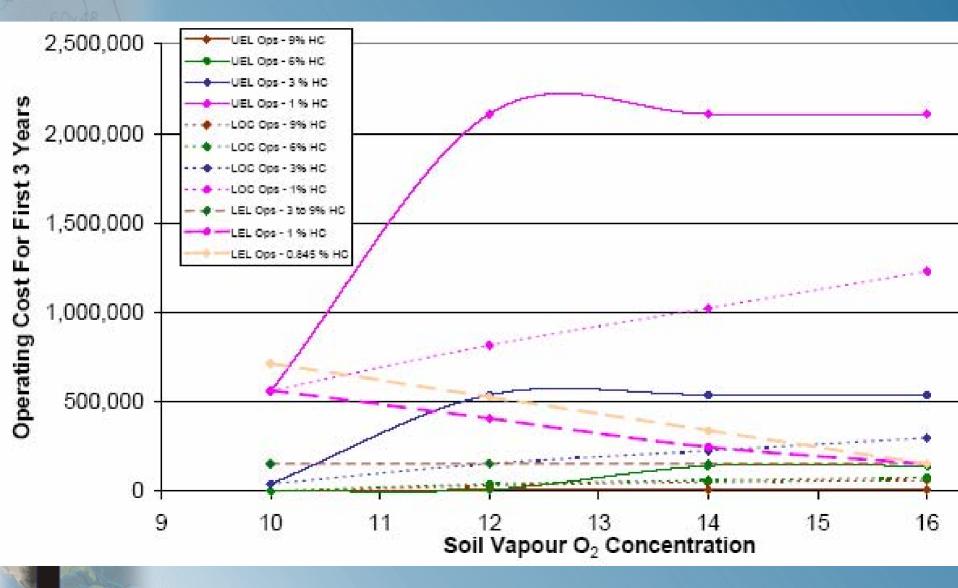
#### Pipe & Equipment Safety

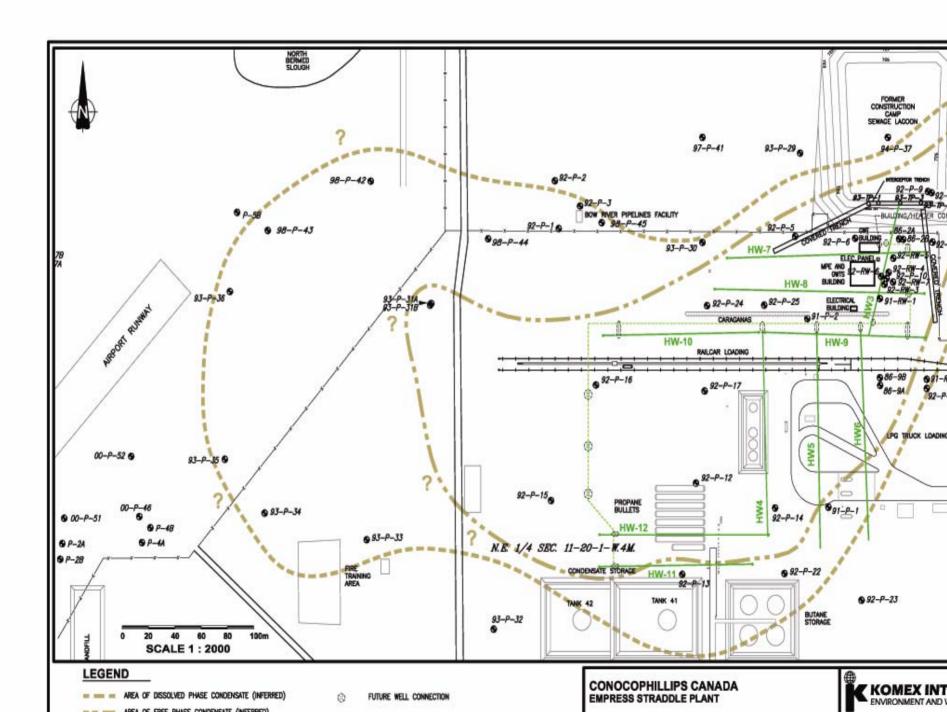
- Design controls:
  - Prevent flammable conditions within piping header
  - Use grounded stainless steel piping to dissipate static
  - Use rupture plates to mitigate any detonation
  - Use flame arrestor at Incinerator to contain flame

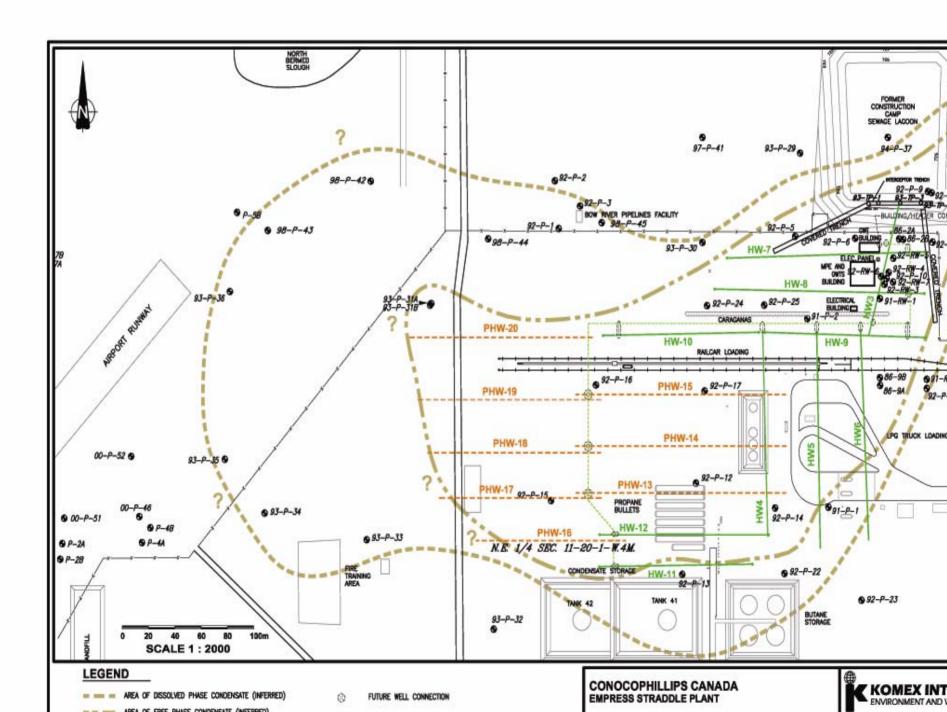
### **Operational Regimes**

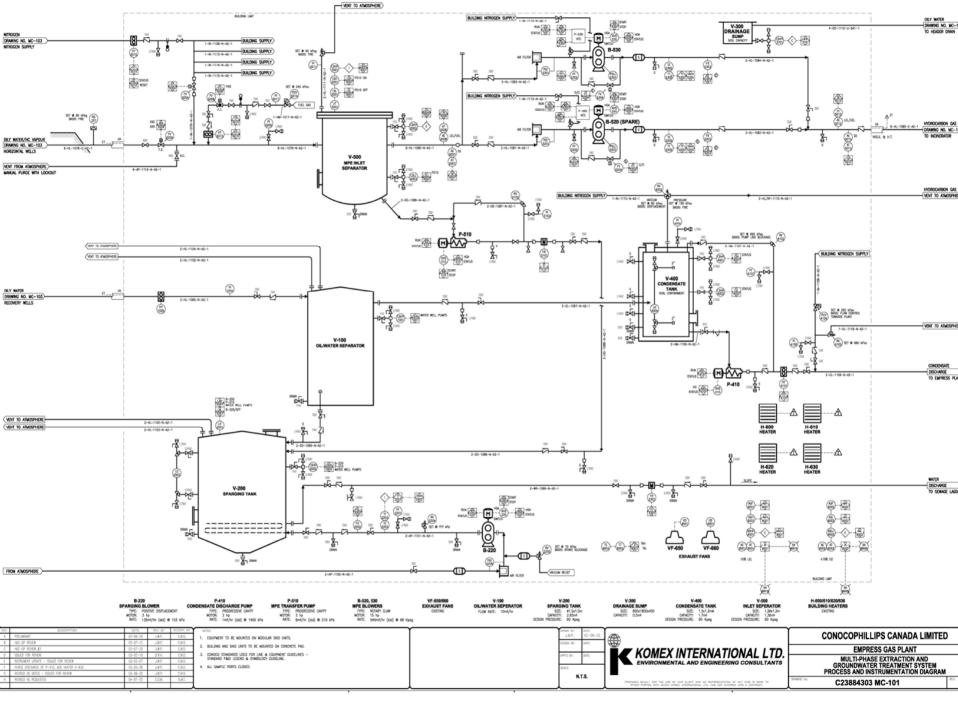
- Stepwise progression through operational regimes with changing soil conditions
  - 1. UFL or LOC operation with incineration
  - 2. LFL operation with incineration
  - 3. LFL operation with venting
- High concentrations in soil vapour: above UFL is most economical
- Low concentrations in soil vapour: below LFL is most economical

#### **Fuel Gas Cost Evaluation**

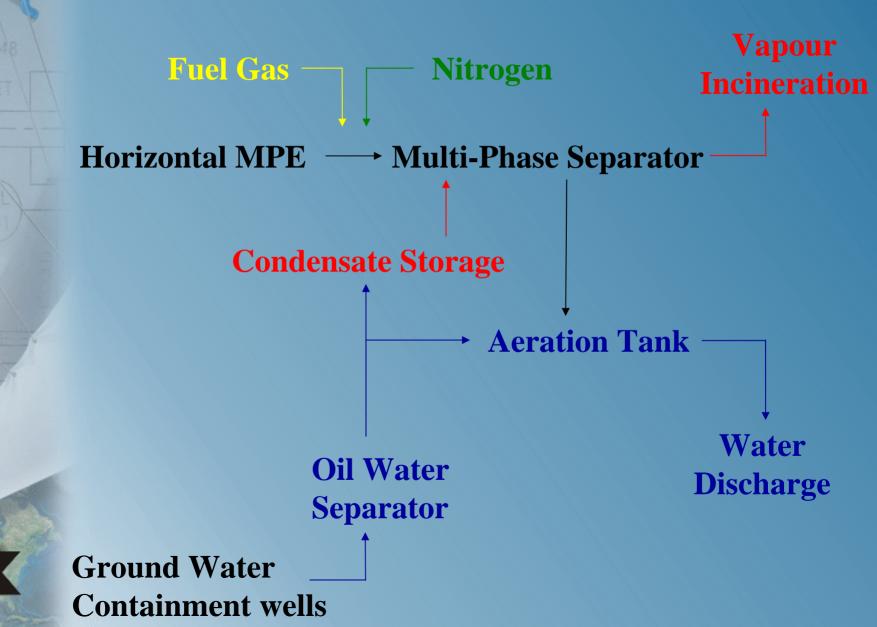












#### **Design Summary**

#### **MPE System**

- Flowrate capability of two blowers:
- 1020 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (600 acfm)
- Vacuum: -68 kPag (32 kPaa)
- 12 Horizontal Wells existing
- System designed to handle 8 wells additional for future expansion

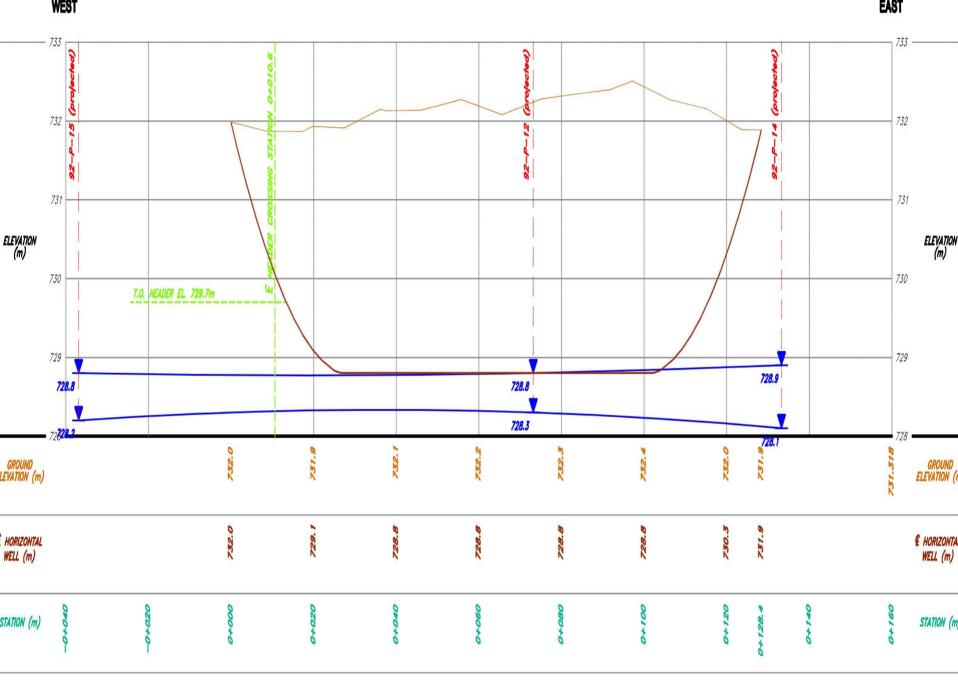
#### **Groundwater Containment**

- 5 wells installed to prevent offsite migration (6m x 200m Trench)
- 25 l/m design flowrate

#### Horizontal Well Install



- Screen: 304SS wire wrap (0.010"slot size)
- Casing: 304SS



PHW-12 HORIZONTAL WELL



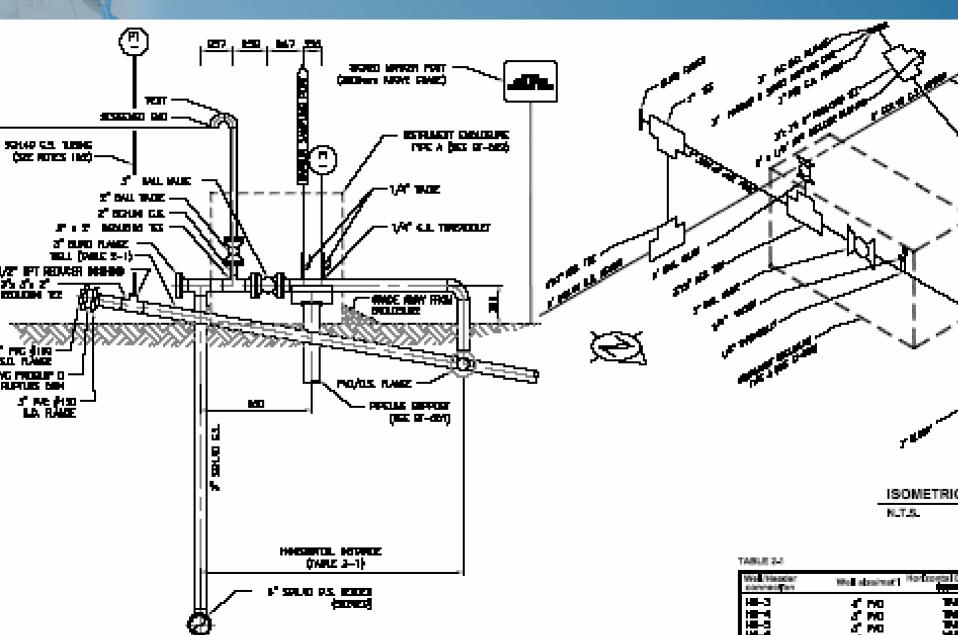








#### **Horizontal Wellhead**



## System Installation

JLG LIFT

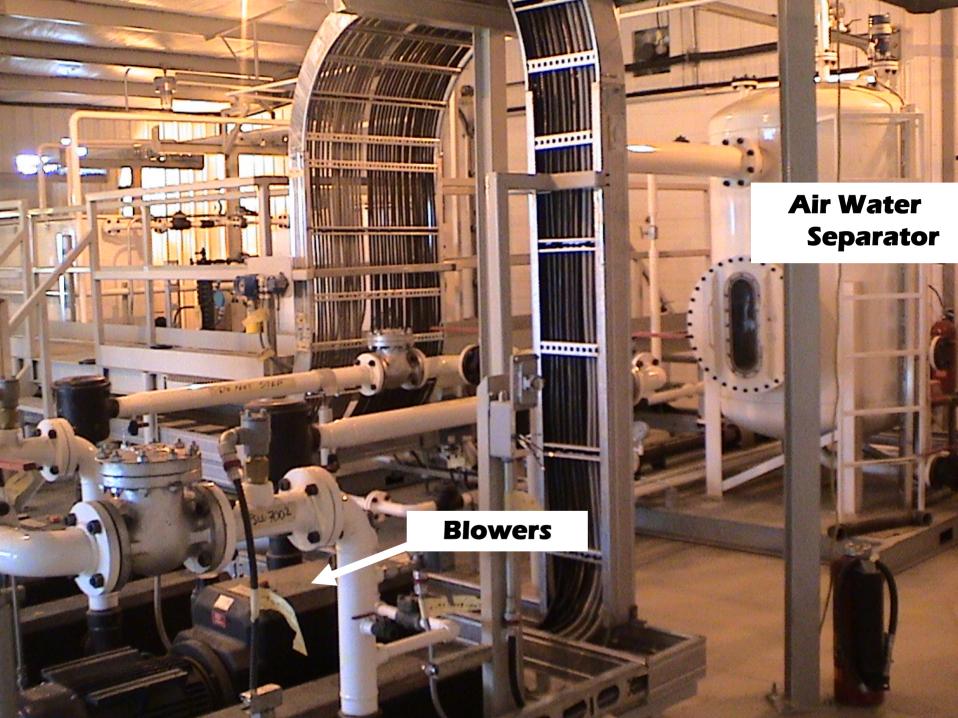
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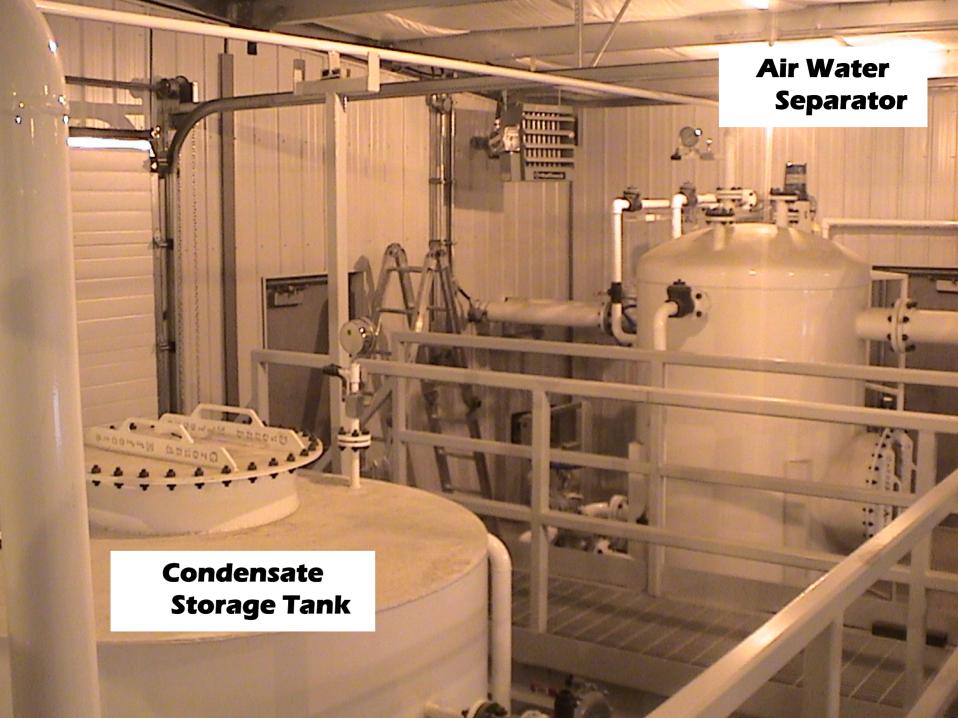
#### Fuel Gas / Flow Control Valves

#### ystem Inlet

Fuel Gas / Nitrogen Control Valves

#### Air Water Separator







#### In-line Gas Analyzers

C-11-7052. 14-052

**Blowers** 



ffec

PD Pump

### **Sparging Blower**

- 100 1000

### **MCC Building**

PROCOD

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### **Oil Water Separator**

Riv -



### Groundwater Extraction Trench

### Summary

- UFL Operation ideal for light
   product
- Large impact and light product required to maintain UFL cost effectively
- Horizontal wells a better solution for capture of large plume
- System likely in operation in UFL for 2-5 yrs, LFL for longer period

# Thank you



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