

### Tier 2 Pathway Elimination and Guideline Modification for Remediation Certificate Application

### **Remediation Technologies Symposium 2017**

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## **PRESENTATION OVERVIEW**

### • Site Details

- Previous Site Assessments
- Conceptual Site Model
- Tank Farm Excavation
- Exposure Pathway Evaluation and Tier 2 Guideline Derivation
- Assessment Results and Conclusions
- Remediation Certificate Application



## **SITE DETAILS**

- Industrial property first developed and utilized in 1970's
- Historical activities:
  - Trucking terminal
  - Maintenance shop
  - Farm equipment storage and retail
  - Oilfield equipment storage and retail
  - Tank farm
    - 1 historical Underground Storage Tank (UST)
    - Up to 23 historical Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs)
      - Petroleum hydrocarbon (PHC) compounds (drilling and hydraulic fracturing fluids)



## **SITE DETAILS**

### • Most recent activity:

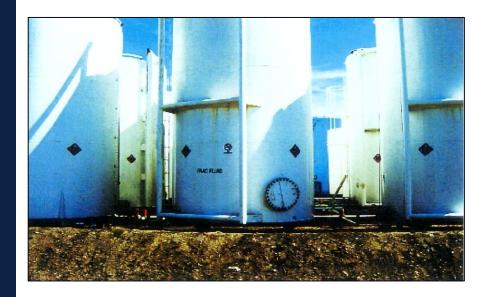
- Truck yard (maintenance and storage)
- Oilfield equipment storage
- Tank farm (PHC compounds, transfer of fluids)
- Surrounding Land Use
  - North: industrial (recycling facility)
  - West: industrial (county road and maintenance yard)
  - East: industrial (continuation of truck yard)
  - South: commercial (motel and highway)
- The most sensitive land use (commercial) property boundary is more than 30 m from the area of impact; therefore the industrial land use is applicable.



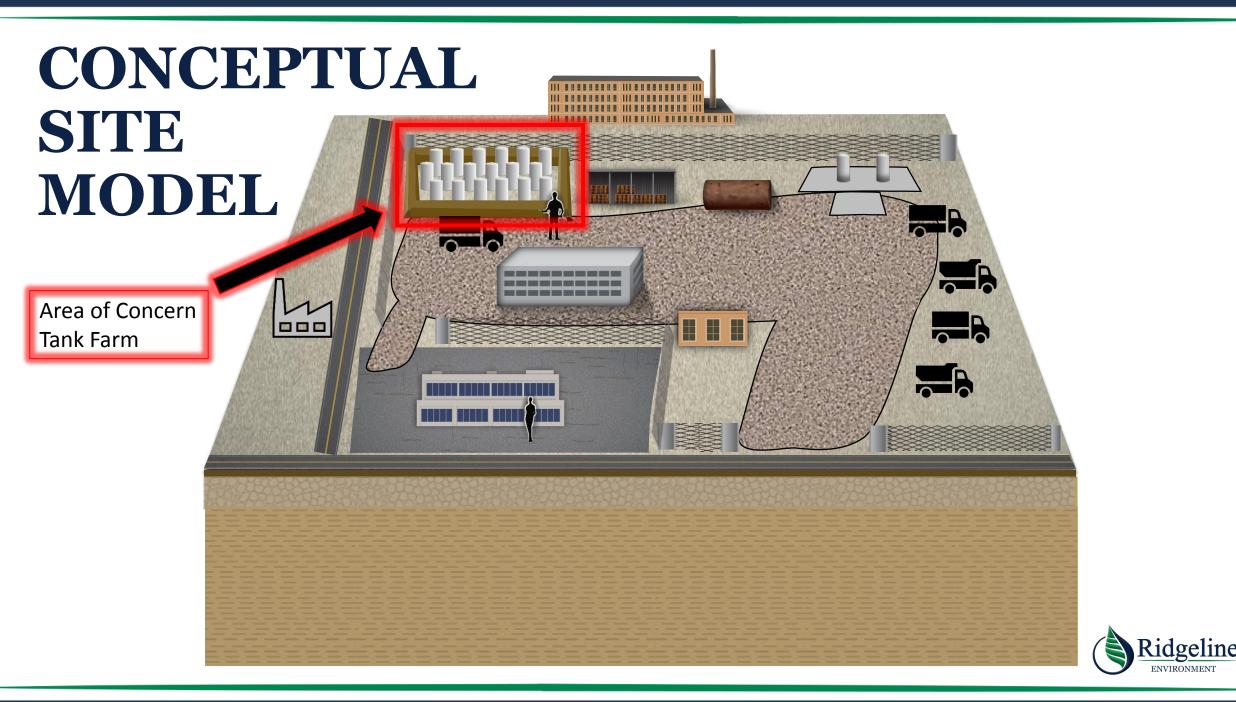
## **PREVIOUS SITE ASSESSMENTS**

### Phase 1 Findings

- No record of environmental actions/enforcement
- No history of oilfield development (wells, pipelines, facilities)
- Aerial photos confirm site history and development
- No record of reported spills. Minor stains evident at loading areas
- Primary APEC- bermed tank farm in NW corner



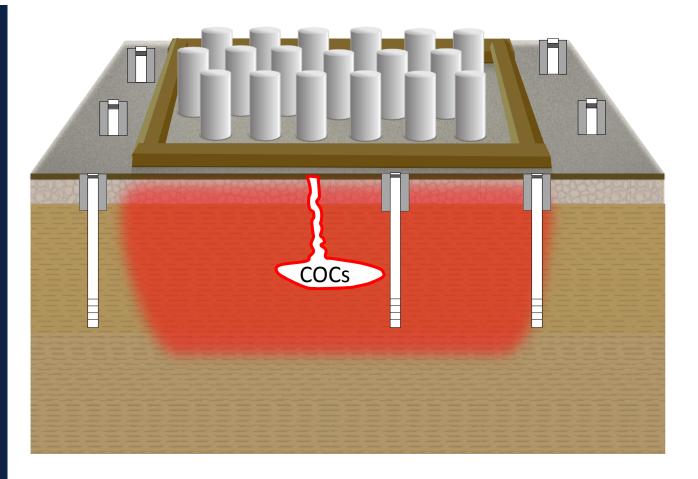




## **PREVIOUS SITE ASSESSMENTS**

### Phase 2 Results

- Tank Farm Area Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylenes (BTEX), petroleum hydrocarbon (PHC) fractions F2 and F3, arsenic, nickel, electrical conductivity, pH
- Complete investigation of the area not possible due to the presence of earthen berms, ASTs, above ground piping and surface water within the berms

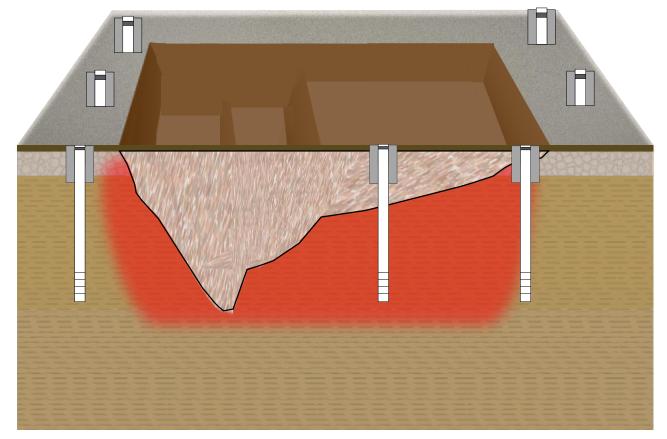




### **TANK FARM EXCAVATION**

- Decommissioning commenced in 2013
- Visible hydrocarbon product during removal of pilings
- Excavation reached approximately 34 m x 20 m







## TANK FARM EXCAVATION

- Ridgeline retained to conduct confirmatory sampling of excavation
  - Elevated BTEX and PHC F1 F4, naphthalene, phenanthrene concentrations
    > Alberta Tier 1 guidelines
  - Salinity and metals < Tier 1 guidelines
- Feasibility of further excavation unlikely due to on-site infrastructure
- Development of Tier 2 Guidelines required







## **EXPOSURE PATHWAY EVALUATION**

### Governing Exposure Pathways for Tier 1 Guidelines

- Domestic Use Aquifer
  - BTEX and PHC F1 F4
  - Available Tier 2 Adjustments?
    - Pathway exclusion
      - > 5 m undisturbed or unfractured fine-grained material with hydraulic conductivity < 1.0 x 10<sup>-7</sup>

• Freshwater Aquatic Life

- Naphthalene and Phenanthrene
- Available Tier 2 Adjustments?
  - Pathway exclusion
    - > 300 m to nearest surface waterbody
  - Guideline modification calculations
    - < 300 m to nearest surface waterbody

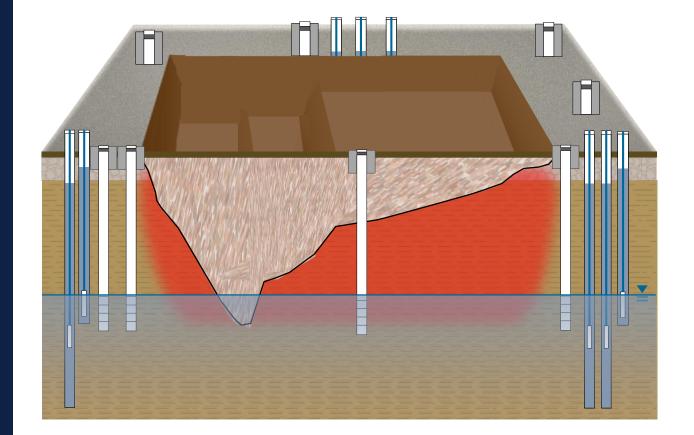
## **TIER 2 FIELD WORK**

#### Available information

- Geological/soils lithology to 5.5 mbg (previous assessments)
- Groundwater not available

#### Field Scope

- Advance boreholes to install monitoring wells and delineate impacts
  - 3 shallow monitoring wells
    - 10.5 12.0 mbg
    - determine if DUA present within zone of COCs
  - 5 deep monitoring wells
    - 19.5 22.5 mbg
    - determine if DUA present beneath zone of COCs
  - Additional boreholes for delineation to 13.5 mbg



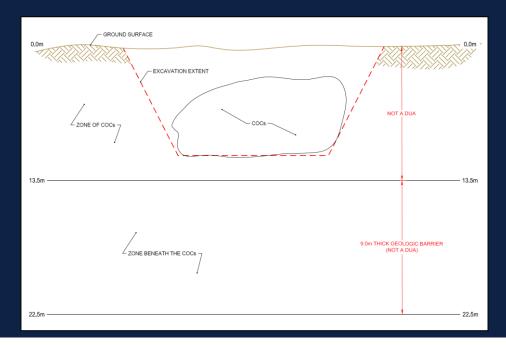
### LITHOLOGY AND GROUNDWATER

### • Lithology

- Fine grained geologic material beneath tank farm (to 22.5 mbg)
- Groundwater
  - Hydraulic Conductivity
    - Zone of COCs (to 13.5 mbg) –1.28 x 10<sup>-9</sup> m/s to 8.80 x 10<sup>-8</sup> m/s
    - Zone beneath COCs (13.5 22.5 mbg) 1.33 x 10<sup>-9</sup> m/s to 1.88 x 10<sup>-7</sup> m/s
      - at least 9 m of unfractured suitable geologic material to act as a natural barrier beneath the COCs
  - Sustainable yield for wells 0 L/min 0.045 L/min

### PATHWAY EXCLUSION AND MODIFICATION

- Domestic Use Aquifer
  - 9 m thickness with hydraulic conductivity not indicative of DUA
  - Sustainable yield < 0.74 L/min



### • Freshwater Aquatic Life

• Nearest surface water body 185 m (ephemeral creek)



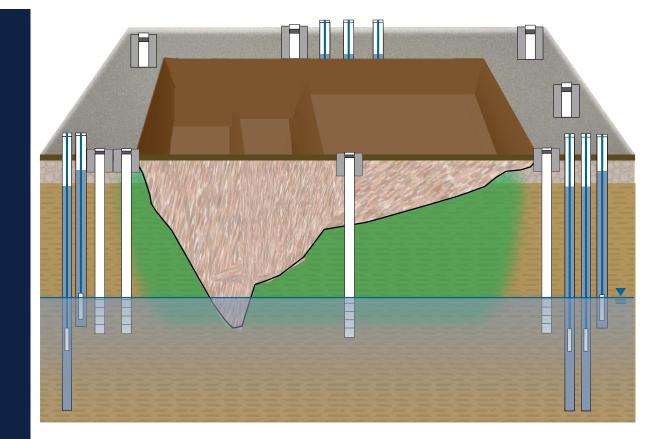
## **GUIDELINES - TIER 1 vs. TIER 2**

СОС	Tier 1 Guideline (mg/kg) (surface/subsoil)	Tier 2 Guideline (mg/kg) (surface/subsoil)
Benzene	0.046	11 * 11 **
Toluene	0.52	330 * 2,100 **
Ethylbenzene	0.11	430 * 1,600 **
Xylenes	15	230 * 930 **
F1-BTEX	320 640	320 * 800 **
F2	260 520	260 * 1,000 **
F3	2,500 3,500	2,500 * 4,300 **
F4	6,600 10,000	6,600 * 10,000 **
Naphthalene	0.016	0.057 ***
Phenanthrene	0.051	0.19 ***

\* Eco direct soil contact \*\* Management limit \*\*\* Freshwater aquatic life

## **ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

- Confirmatory soil results < Tier 2 Guidelines
  - BTEX, PHC fractions F1 to F4
  - Naphthalene, phenanthrene
- Confirmatory soil results < Tier 1 Guidelines
  - metals, salinity
- Laboratory results indicate COCs non-detectable in groundwater samples



## **ASSESSMENT CONCLUSIONS**

# • COCs remediated to Tier 2 guidelines

- No further excavation required!!
- Final volume transported to landfill reduced by  $\sim$  1,500 m<sup>3</sup> 2,000 m<sup>3</sup>

Next Step?

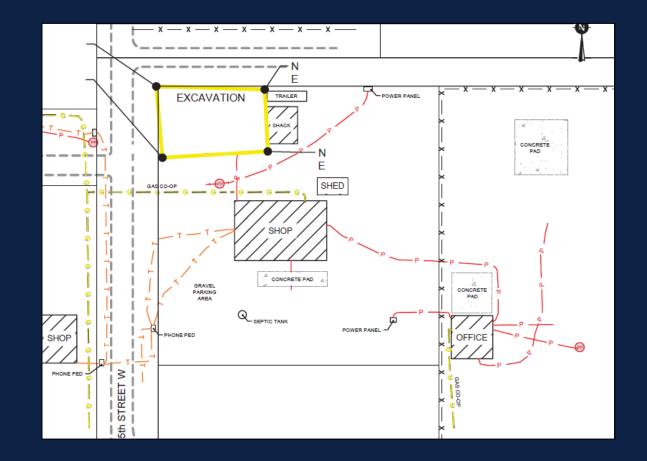
• Apply for Remediation Certificate for Tank Farm Area



## **REMEDIATION CERTIFICATE**

### http://aep.alberta.ca/land/landindustrial/programs-andservices/remediation-certificates.aspx

- Volunteer program \$1,000 application fee
- Incentive to clean up spills by providing regulatory closure to remove liability
- Official recognition of remediation projects that have achieved environmental protection objectives
- Only applies to remediated area with surveyed boundaries (not entire site)



## **REMEDIATION CERTIFICATE**

### • Two Remediation Certificate Programs:

- Remediation certificates for general contaminated sites
  - Includes approved facilities, facilities under Codes of Practice, and other commercial and industrial contaminated sites.
- Remediation certificates for upstream oil and gas sites
  - Contaminated areas on oil and gas sites in Alberta, includes wellsites, pipelines, and batteries.
  - Effective method for reducing liability on active sites.
  - Does not apply to downstream operations or facilities operating under AEP approval sour gas processing facilities.
- Approved certificates are publicly available
- Remediation Certificate Application for the Tank Farm Area submitted
  - Awaiting review and approval.
  - Confident obtaining certificate similar to other successful Ridgeline applications

# **QUESTIONS?**

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