Using Remedy Implementation Information to Guide Remedy Optimization

Kate Amrhein, DOE Richland Operations Office; Emerald Laija, U.S. EPA FFRRO; and Michael Truex, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

During groundwater remedy implementation, data and information are collected about remedy performance and the site contaminant and hydrogeology conditions. This information can be used to refine the conceptual site model and evaluate progress toward remedial action objectives. Consistent with recent guidance for adaptive site management, it is important to consider this information with respect to remedy optimization opportunities. Groundwater remediation of carbon tetrachloride at the Department of Energy Hanford Site has followed this approach and is currently conducting an optimization study using EPA's guidance on remediation optimization. The optimization study will evaluate changes to the treatment configuration and provide information to support future decisions to improve remedy protectiveness, effectiveness, and cost efficiency, and to facilitate progress toward completion of site work.