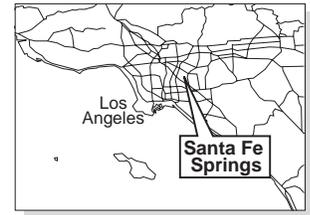




EPA

Waste Disposal, Inc. (WDI) Superfund Site



United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 • San Francisco, California • May 1999

LIQUIDS REMOVAL FIELD STUDY TO BEGIN IN MAY

OBJECTIVES OF LIQUIDS REMOVAL STUDY

Beginning in May 1999 for approximately one year, the Waste Disposal, Inc. Group (WDIG) will conduct a liquids removal treatability study at the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site (WDI). The purpose of this study is to investigate the technical feasibility of extracting liquids from the buried reservoir at the site. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the WDIG agree that it is necessary to determine whether liquids can be removed from the reservoir. This will be determined by conducting extended extraction tests as part of completing the final design.

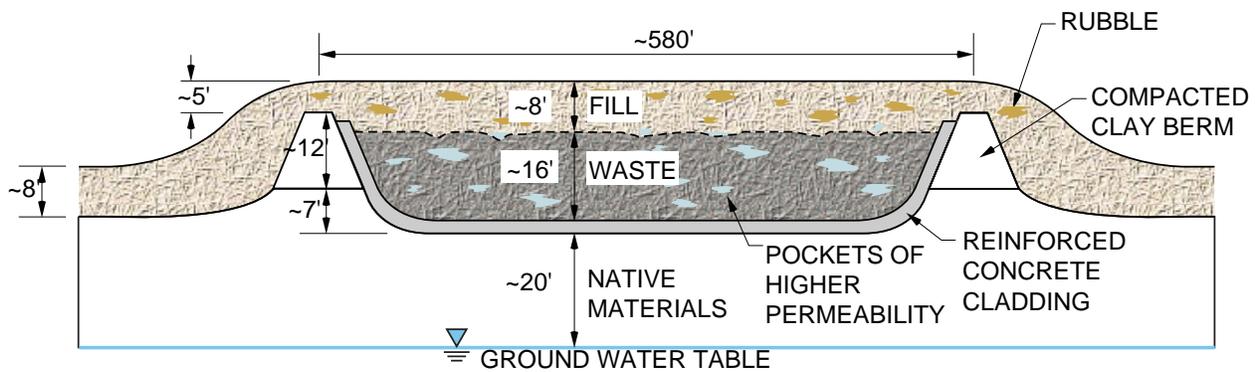


Figure 1, Cross-Section of Reservoir

SOURCE: PROJECT NAVIGATOR, LTD.

BACKGROUND

In 1997, WDIG at the direction of EPA, commenced additional site investigations. Liquids were detected in several monitoring wells located in the reservoir area. To characterize the liquids (i.e., to determine whether the liquids were infiltrated rainwater or previously disposed liquid wastes), EPA and the WDIG conducted pump tests and trenching investigative activities during 1998.

During July 1998, the EPA's Environmental Response Team (ERT)

conducted a more thorough investigation to determine the location and type of liquids within the reservoir. Using a grid pattern over the reservoir, EPA installed probes at 50-foot intervals. Findings from this investigation provided data to develop a vertical profile of the waste material and liquids in the reservoir. Figure 1 shows a cross-section of the reservoir.

Liquids (both water and oily liquids) were detected in many locations of the reservoir at all depths. There are locations with little or no liquids, and

locations with mixtures of liquids, including oily liquids. It is unknown whether the pockets of liquids are interconnected. The distribution of liquids appears to reflect the manner in which wastes were disposed in the reservoir. While the investigation confirmed that liquids are present in the reservoir, the volume of liquids cannot be determined. Based on the investigations conducted to date, Figure 2 provides a best estimate on where the liquids are located and their potential for removal.

Continued on page two.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE ON AN INTERIM BASIS TO CONTROL LIQUIDS?

- o Emergency stormwater subsurface drains and sandbags were installed during the 1997 El Nino winter rains to control subsurface water adjacent to on-site buildings and to control surface water runoff.
- o Regrading of the site was completed in 1998 to improve management of surface water runoff. (See EPA Fact Sheet dated October 1998.)

RESERVOIR LIQUIDS REMOVAL STUDY

The WDIG's liquids removal study consists of 18 liquids extraction wells strategically located in the reservoir. (See Figure 3.) Ten new extraction wells will be installed, in addition to eight existing extraction wells. The extraction wells will be connected to piping that will carry the liquids to an oil and water separator. At this point, the oily liquids will be placed in a small oil storage container and sampled for hazardous substances. (See Figure 4.) The separated water will be treated in an activated carbon unit before storage in a 20,000 gallon tank. The storage tanks will be stored on a temporary basis in a bermed storage area on the site prior to periodic pick-up for off-site disposal. (The temporary storage area is shown on Figure 3.)

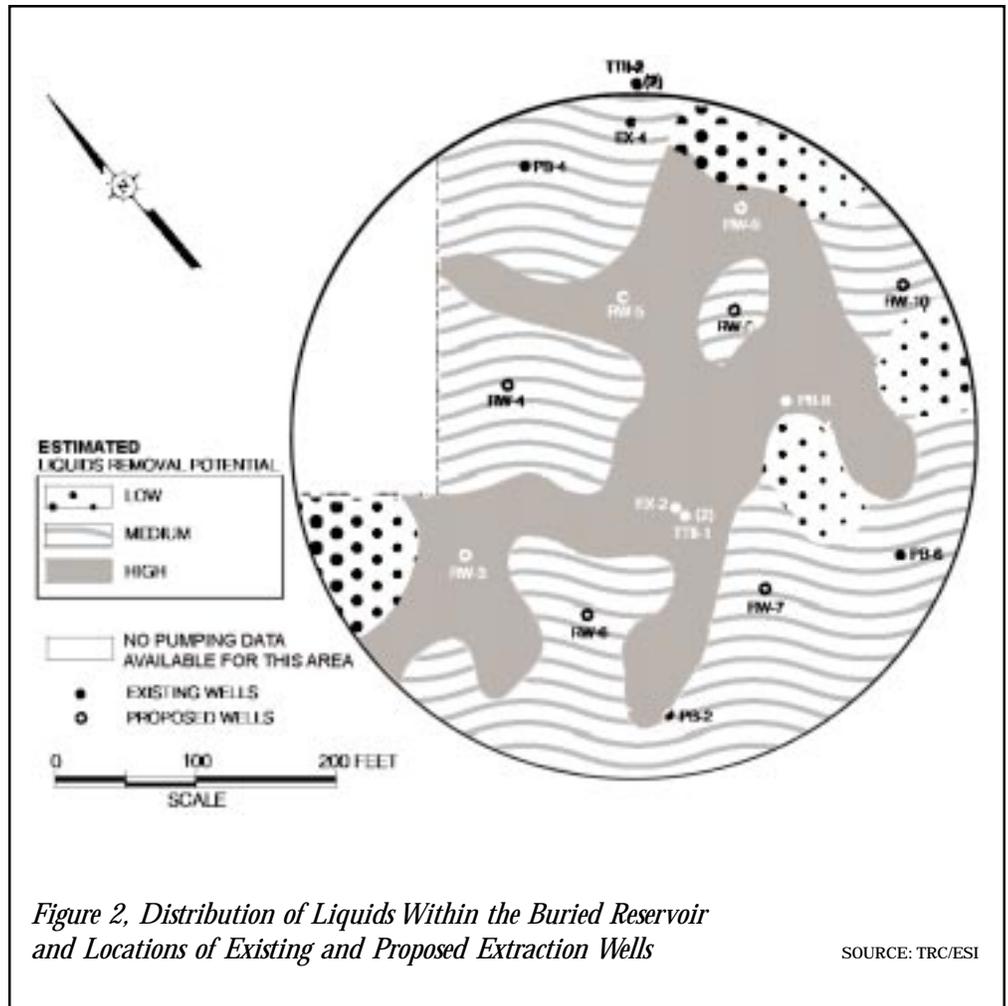


Figure 2, Distribution of Liquids Within the Buried Reservoir and Locations of Existing and Proposed Extraction Wells

SOURCE: TRC/ESI

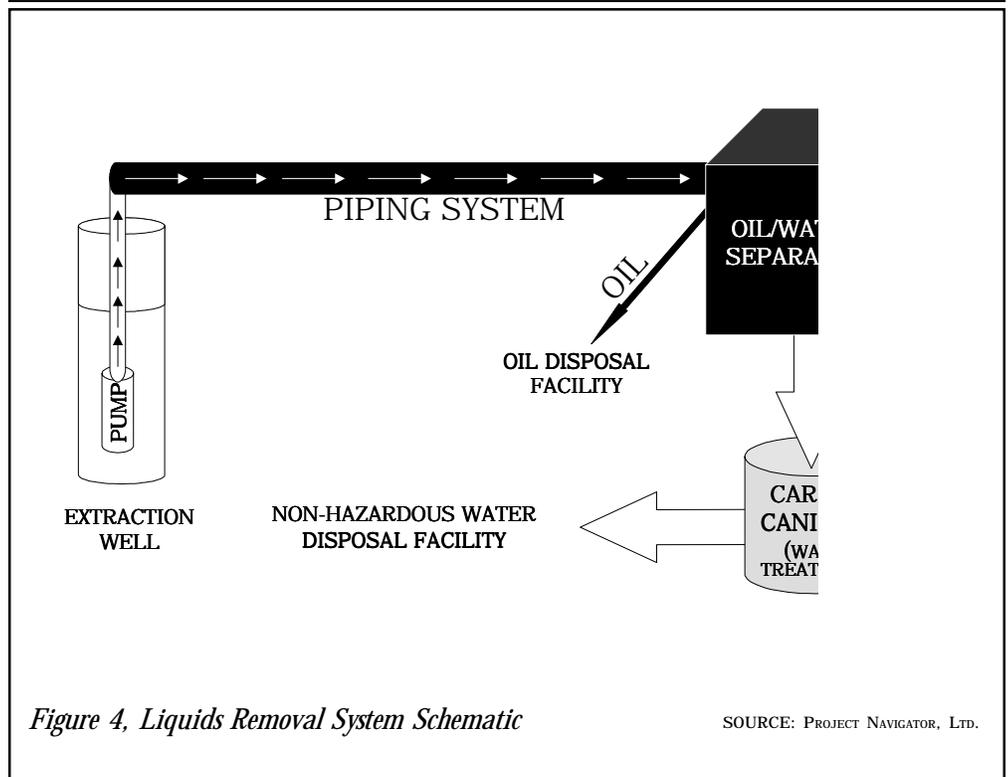


Figure 4, Liquids Removal System Schematic

SOURCE: PROJECT NAVIGATOR, LTD.

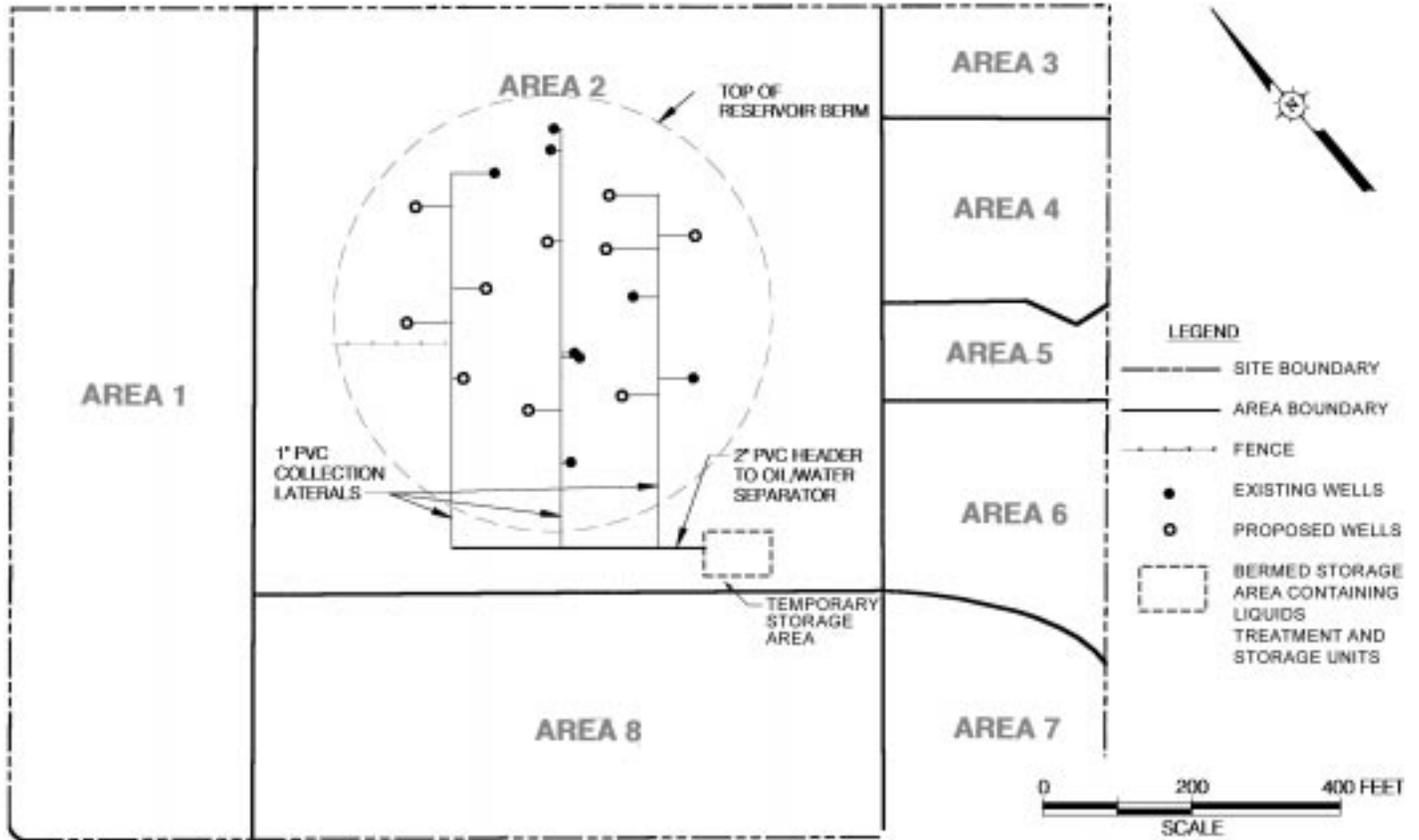


Figure 3, Liquids Removal System Piping Layout

SOURCE: TRC/ESI

Both the water and oily liquids will be analyzed for hazardous substances prior to off-site disposal at an EPA-approved treatment and disposal facility. Throughout the study, the WDIG will follow stringent health and safety procedures to ensure that no liquids are spilled and that no odors or gas emissions occur. EPA and State personnel will perform regular oversight of the WDIG's field activities.

HOW LONG WILL THE LIQUIDS STUDY TAKE?

The WDIG began installing the new liquids extraction wells during the week of April 19, 1999. The actual

extraction of liquids should begin in mid-May 1999, unless spring rains delay the drilling. After the system is operational, it will be fine-tuned based on the extraction results. It is anticipated that the temporary system will run for approximately one year.

FUTURE FACT SHEETS

During 1997 and 1998 the EPA and the WDIG conducted a series of investigations of the groundwater, the reservoir, soils and buried wastes, subsurface soil gas, liquids, and the indoor air quality of on-site buildings at the WDI Superfund site. The investigations were undertaken to provide additional information on the

type and extent of waste and other materials at the site, necessary for completion of the remedial design. A fact sheet, "Groundwater Analysis Completed" issued in February 1999, discussed the groundwater findings. Future fact sheets discussing the investigative activities related to the reservoir and the surrounding buried waste materials, and the soil gas and indoor air monitoring at the site are planned for this spring.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT WDI

The EPA Superfund program values community input. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:



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or leave a message on EPA's TOLL-FREE line: (800) 231-3075 and we will return the call.

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