

TCE PLUME AT A SUPERFUND SITE REQUIRED HOT SPOT EXCAVATION

At a Superfund site in a remote area, first investigated in the 1970s, a previously unidentified trichloroethylene (TCE) plume was found. The source was determined to be an old spill or release, not buried drums or source material.

LOCATION: Pennyslvania

PROJECT: Remediation at Environmental Protection Agency

Superfund Site

SERVICE: Excavation, Backfill, Well Installation

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Cascade was retained to remove the existing vegetation and trees from the area of concern, excavate out the "hot spot" area down to bedrock (~10') at the site for disposal into a non-hazardous landfill, backfill the excavation with clean fill, and install collection trenches, a temporary piezometer well, and a well vault for future groundwater monitoring in the area by the project consultant.

The site was located in a remote mountain area which made communication with the field crew by phone difficult, requiring advance planning and coordination. The surrounding area had limited resources; the field crew needed to bring in extra materials and support equipment to prepare for all contingencies.

RESULTS

Over a period of one month, the crew loaded out a total of 840 tons of TCE-impacted soil from the site and successfully installed a new well for future groundwater monitoring within the excavation area. The groundwater treatment operator was able to assist Cascade crews with treating potentially impacted groundwater that was containerized during the excavation activities, which provided cost savings to the site owner. The project was completed under budget and on time, and the client greatly appreciated Cascade's work.

