

# **PVI Risk Pathway: Sampling Considerations**

**AEHS – PVI Workshop**

**March 2015**

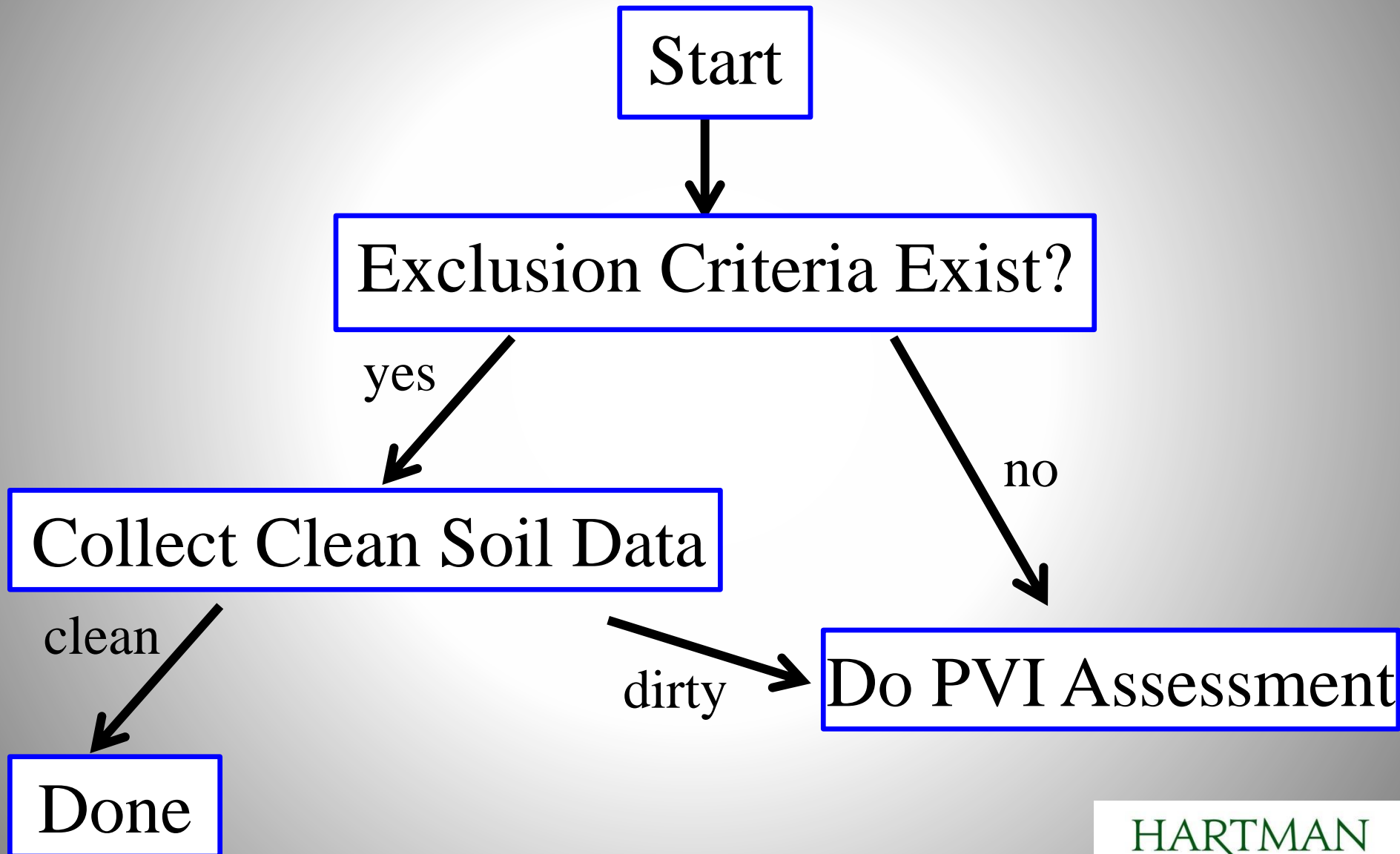
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# PVI VI Pathway Made Simple



# Exclusion Criteria: A PVI Pathway Game Changer

- Step 1: Can Site Be Screened Out?
  - Based upon concentration & depth to source
  - In CA if site is an active fueling station
  - No field work
- Step 2: Can “Screen-Out Data” be Collected?
- Step 3: Do PVI Assessment

*Makes PVI Assessments Much Simpler & Less Expensive*

**Table 3 Required Vertical Separation Distance Between Contamination And Building Foundation, Basement, Or Slab.**

<b>Media</b>	<b>Benzene</b>	<b>TPH</b>	<b>Vertical Separation Distance (feet)*</b>
<b>Soil (mg/kg)</b>	≤10	≤250	6
	>10 (LNAPL)	>250 (LNAPL)	15**
<b>Groundwater (ug/L)</b>	≤ 5,000	≤30,000	6
	>5,000 (LNAPL)	>30,000 (LNAPL)	15**

The thresholds for LNAPL indicated in this table are indirect evidence of the presence of LNAPL. These thresholds may vary depending on site-specific conditions (e.g., soil type, LNAPL source). Investigators may have different experiences with LNAPL indicators and may use them as appropriate. Direct indicators of LNAPL also apply; these include measurable accumulations of free product, oily sheens, and saturated bulk soil samples.

\*Vertical separation distance represents the thickness of clean (TPH ≤ 100 mg/kg), biologically active soil between the source of PHC vapors (LNAPL, residual LNAPL, or dissolved PHCs) and the lowest (deepest) point of a receptor (building foundation, basement, or slab).

\*\* EPA recommends that sub-slab monitoring be used to evaluate the risk of vapor intrusion whenever LNAPL is present in any sample and the vertical separation distance is less than 15 feet. When LNAPL is

# CA-LTCP VI Exclusion Criteria

## Site Screens Out from VI Pathway if:

- If 30' of Biozone, NAPL screens out
  - Vertically & horizontally
- If 10' of Biozone, benzene up to 1000 ug/L
- If 5' of Biozone, benzene up to 100 ug/L

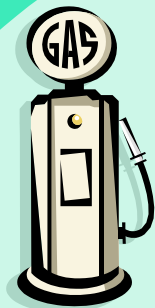
*Bioattenuation zone: TPH-soil < 100 mg/kg*

# NJDEP Gasoline Exclusion Criteria

VI Investigation is not required when:

- $\geq 10$  ft between water table and foundation and benzene in GW is  $\leq 1,000$   $\mu\text{g/L}$ ; or
- $\geq 5$  ft between seasonal high water table and foundation, oxygen levels measured at  $\geq 2\%$  (v/v), and benzene in shallow GW is  $\leq 1,000$   $\mu\text{g/L}$ .

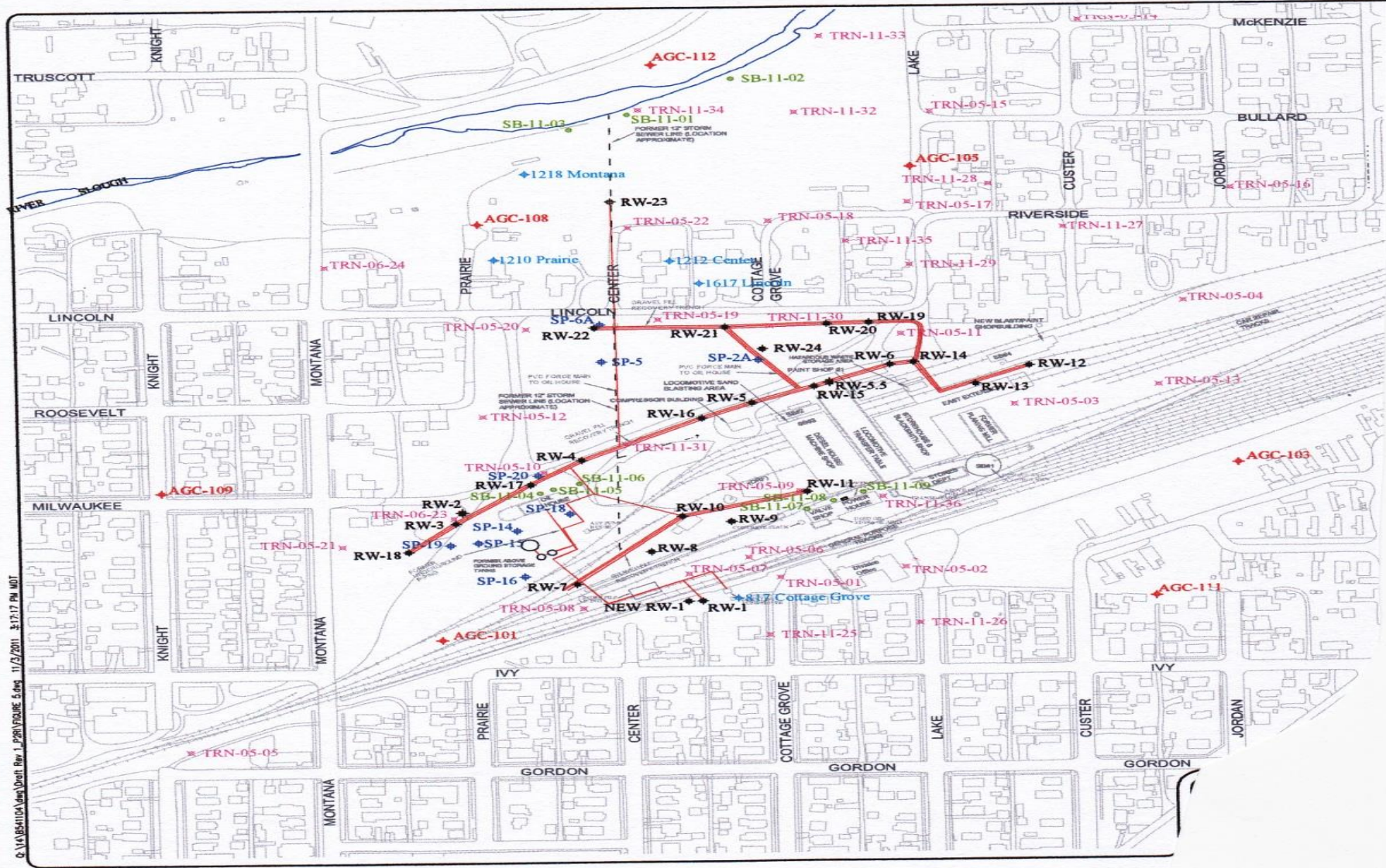
*$O_2$  Drops Separation Distance from 10' to 5'*



## Step 2: Collect “Screen-Out Data”

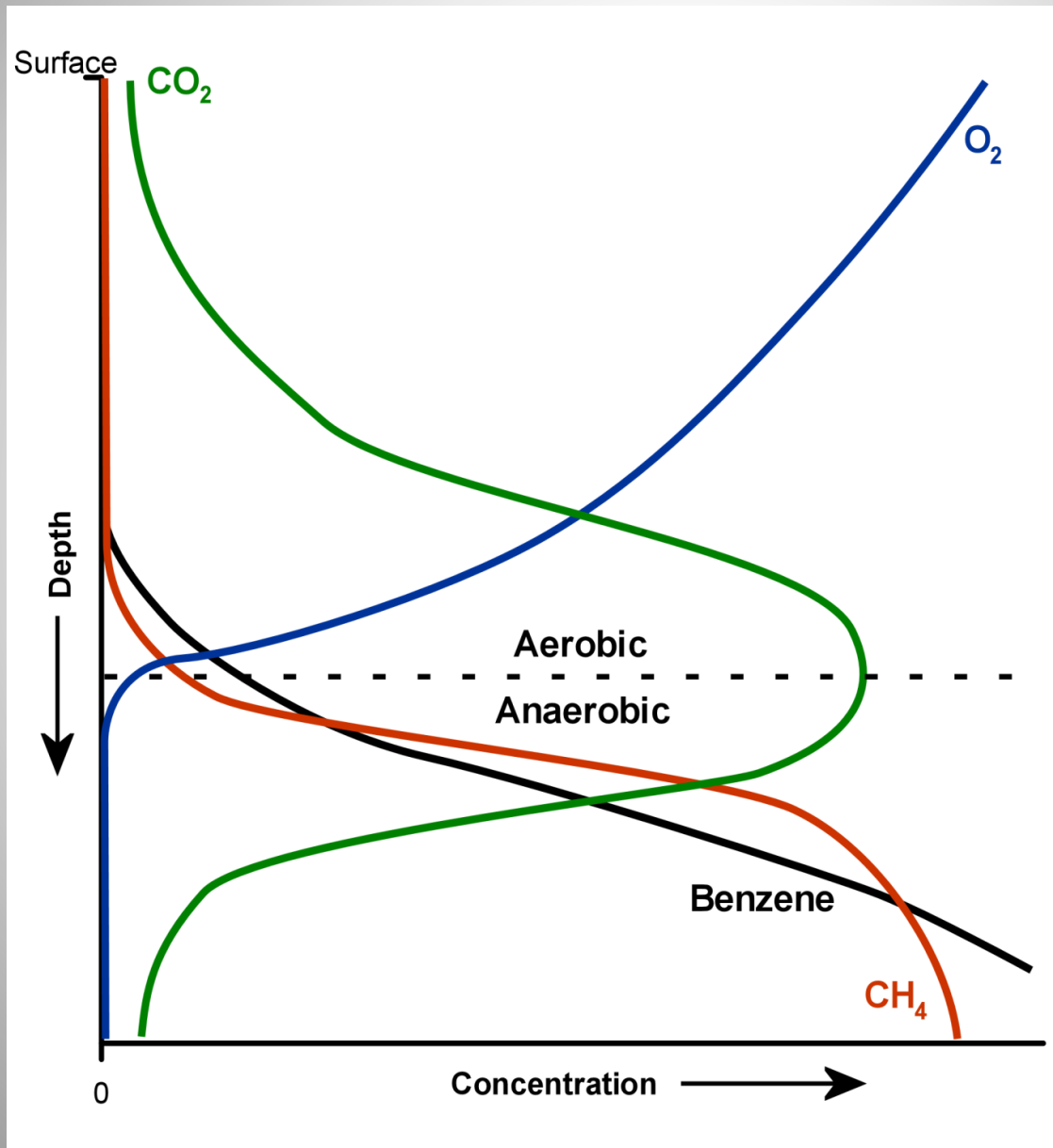
- Soil Phase TPH
- Oxygen in Vadose Zone
  - CA & NJ for sure
- Soil Headspace PID Data (<100 ppmv)

*Soil Gas VOC Data – not required at this step*



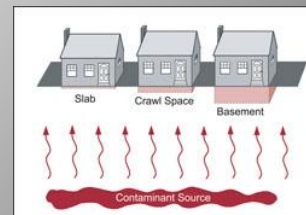


# Clean Soil Model for HC Vapors



Bio-barrier

Reaction Zone



# O<sub>2</sub> Profiling - Approach

- 18 Locations Throughout Neighborhood
- Vertically Every Foot Down to 8'-10' bgs
  - Used direct-push (not PRT)
  - Oxygen by portable meter (& CO<sub>2</sub> & CH<sub>4</sub>)
- Soil Samples at 1' & 5' bgs – (backup)
- Did All Locations in 11 Hours!



# Low-Threat Closure Policy

## The Power of Oxygen

**If oxygen in soil gas >4%:**

- Separation distance drops from 10' to 5' for benzene up to 1,000 ug/L
- Soil gas SLs increase by 1000x!

*TPH-soil required for all scenarios but O2 not*

# Methods to Assess VI

- Indoor Air Sampling
- Groundwater Sampling
- Soil Phase Sampling
- Predictive Modeling
- Measure Flux Directly
- Soil Gas Sampling
- Supplemental Tools/Data



# Approach Generalizations

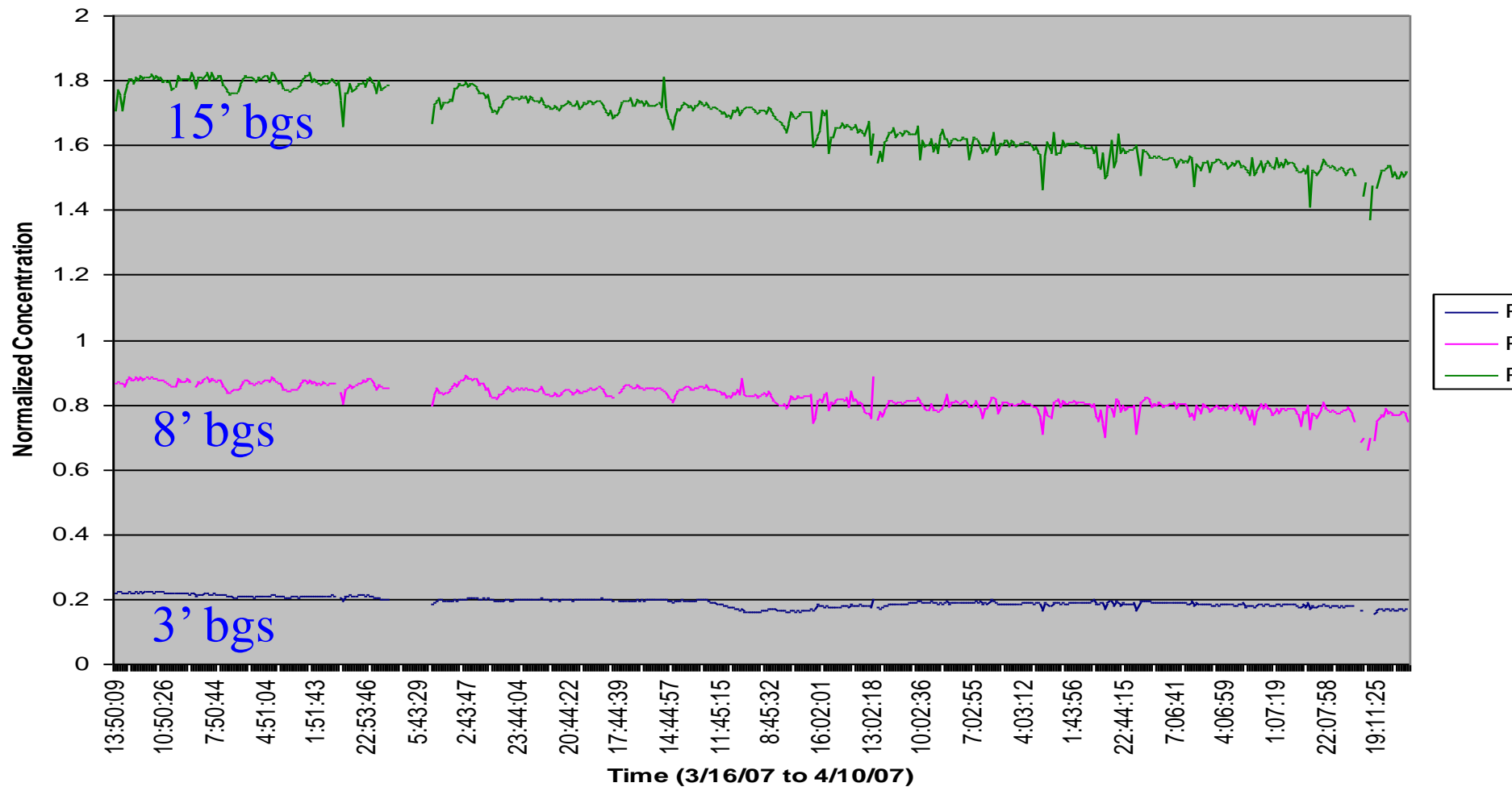
- Indoor Air
  - Always find something
  - Multiple sampling rounds:
- Groundwater Data
  - Typically over-predicts risk
- Soil Phase Data
  - Typically not allowed; over-predicts risk for HCs
- Soil Gas Data
  - Transfer rate unknown
  - Sub-slab intrusive

# Step 3: PVI Specific Sampling Issues

- Soil Gas VOC Analysis
  - Benzene, ethylbenzene & naphthalene
  - **TPH??**
- Might Need to Sample <5' bgs
  - If samples >5' bgs exceed allowable levels
  - How to know? On-site analysis best
  - If not, collect samples anyway
- Always Collect Oxygen Data

# Soil Gas Temporal Study – EPA-ORD

Probe A3 (TCE - Normalized)

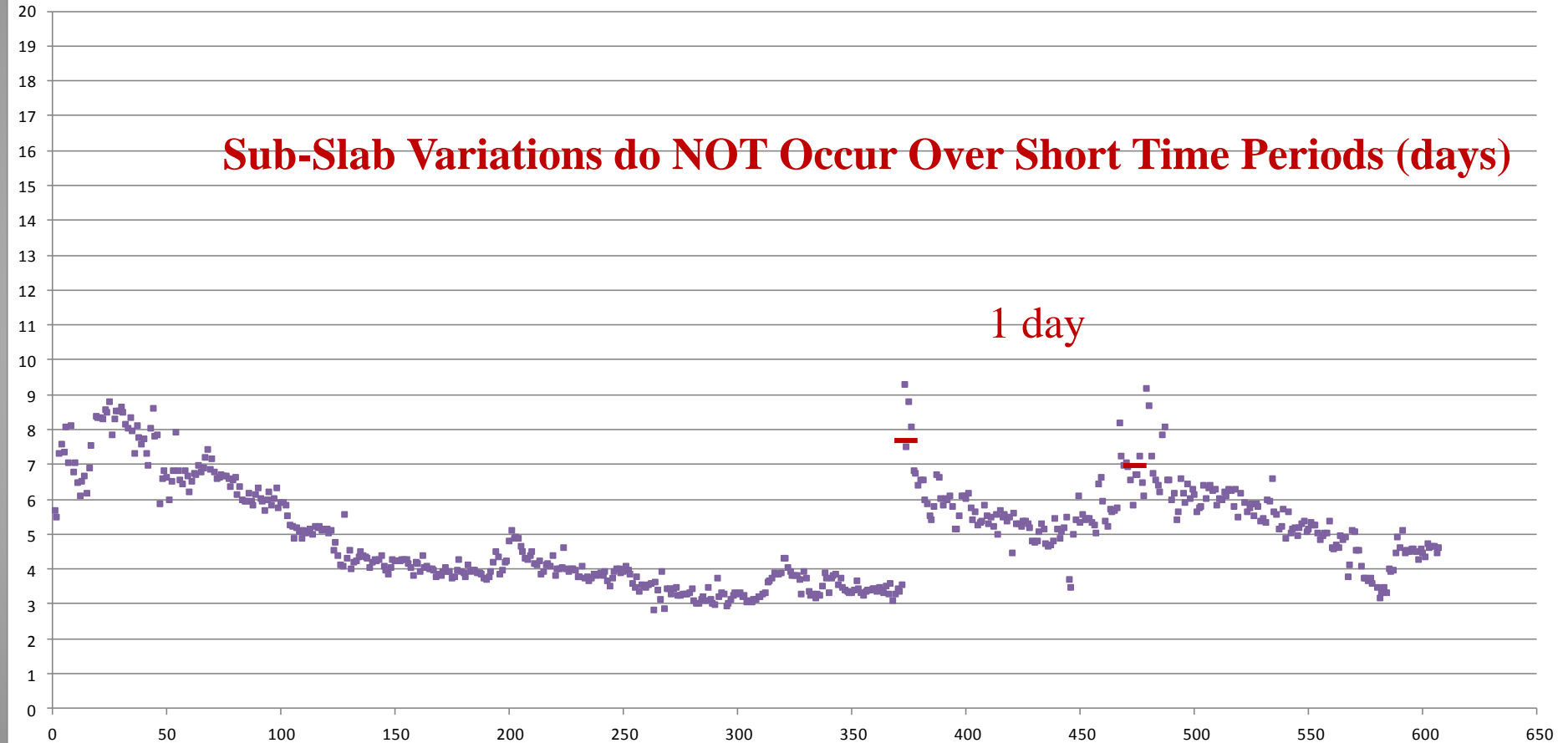


# Sub-slab Soil Gas Data

SSP-2 PCE

**Sub-Slab Variations do NOT Occur Over Short Time Periods (days)**

1 day



12/2012

1/2013

2/2013

3/2013



# Ingredients for Effective VI Assessments

- Investigatory Approach
- Determine Correct Screening Levels
- Sample & Analyze Properly
- Know & Use Supplemental Tools
- Demonstrating Bioattenuation

# The Most Important Ingredient

- Experience:
  - Consultant
  - Collector – done soil gas before?
  - Lab – certified for methods?
  - Regulator
  - Public
  - **YOU!**

What level person is going in the field?

# Most Common VI Bloopers

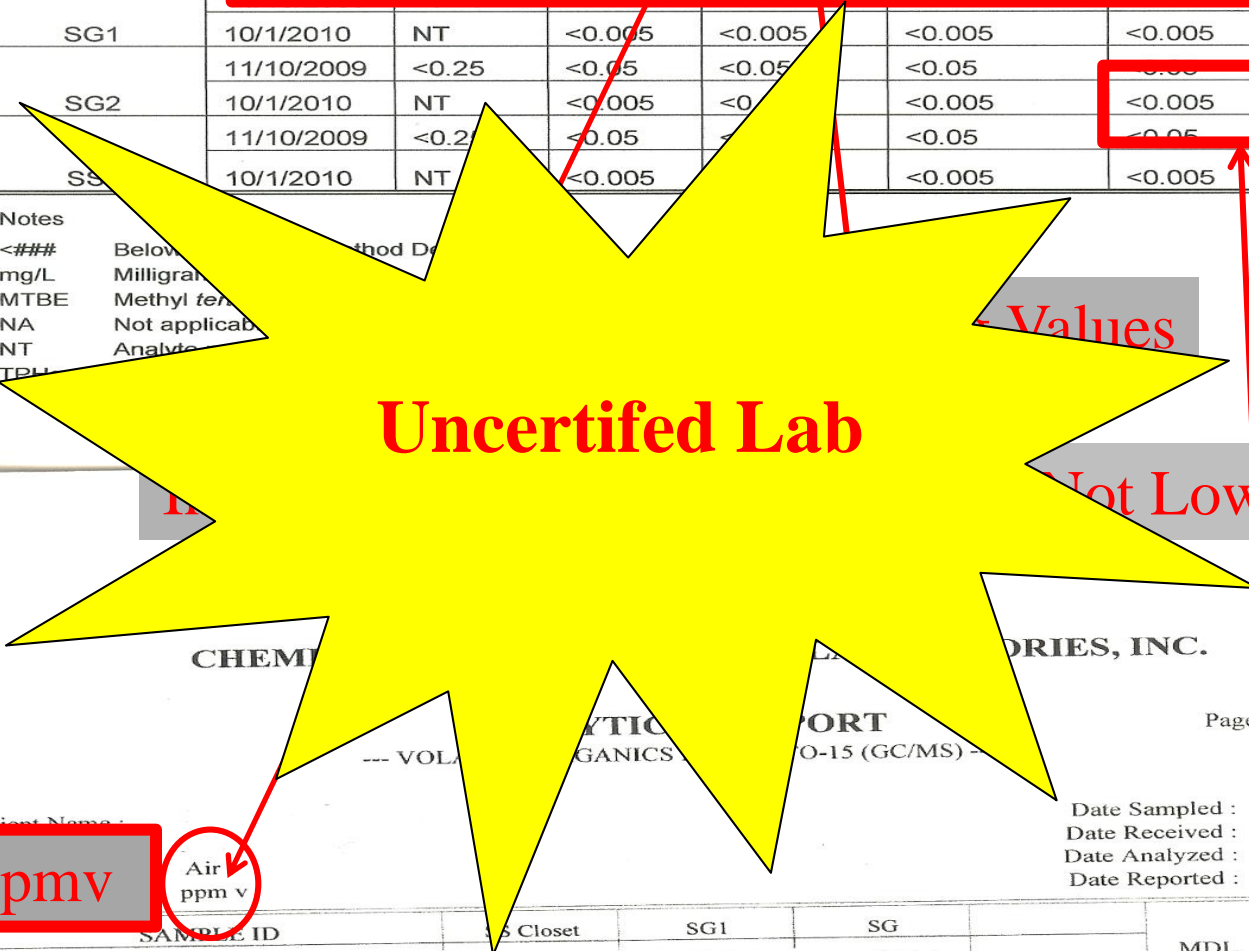
- Unit Confusion
  - Assuming ug/L equivalent to ppbv
  - Assuming ug/m<sup>3</sup> equivalent to ppbv
- Screening Levels
  - Comparing to generic screening levels
  - Not calculating correct levels
- Sampling & Analysis Errors
  - Program design: soil gas? GW? SS? IA?
  - Using wrong hardware
  - Using wrong analysis

# It Won't Happen To Me ...

Sample ID	Date Sampled	TPH Gas mg/L	Benzene mg/L	Toluene mg/L	Ethylbenzene mg/L	Xylenes mg/L	MTBE mg/L
Residential Land Use ESL ((Shallow Soil Gas))	NA	10.0	0.084	63.0	0.98	21.0	9.4
SG1	10/1/2010	NT	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
SG2	10/1/2010	NT	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
SS	10/1/2010	NT	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005

**Notes**

<### Below  
 mg/L Milligram  
 MTBE Methyl ter  
 NA Not applicab  
 NT Analyte  
 TPH



Values

Not Low Enough

Units: ppmv

Air ppm v

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS REPORT  
 --- VOLATILE ORGANICS --- (O-15 (GC/MS) ---

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Date Sampled :  
 Date Received :  
 Date Analyzed :  
 Date Reported :

SAMPLE ID	SS Closet	SG1	SG	MDL	PQL
C&E LAB ID					
DILUTION FACTOR	1	1	1		
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	ND	ND	ND	0.005	0.01
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	ND	ND	ND	0.005	0.01
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	ND	ND	ND	0.005	0.01



# It Won't Happen To Me #2...

CUSTODY / Analytical Request Document  
 DOCUMENT. All relevant fields must be completed accurately.

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06007

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Section A

Section B

Section C

Invoice Information:



Program  
 UST  Superfund  Emissions  Clean Air Act  
 Voluntary Clean Up  Dry Clean  RCRA  Other  
 Location of Sampling by State CO Reporting Units  
 ug/m<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ mg/m<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
 PPBV \_\_\_\_\_ PPMV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Report Level II \_\_\_\_\_ III \_\_\_\_\_ IV \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM #	Section D Required Client Information <b>AIR SAMPLE ID</b> Sample IDs MUST BE UNIQUE	Valid Media Codes MEDIA CODE Tedlar Bag TB 1 Liter Summa Can 1LC 6 Liter Summa Can 6LC Low Volume Puff LVP High Volume Puff HVP Other PM10	MEDIA CODE	PID Reading (Client only)	COLLECTED		Canister Pressure (Initial Field - psig)	Canister Pressure (Final Field - psig)	Summa Can Number	Flow	Method:		
					COMPOSITE START DATE/TIME	COMPOSITE DATE/TIME							
1	Living Room				10-11-11 8:30	10-11-11 8:30	-6.0	0.0	389	0068	X		001
2	Crawl Space				10-11-11 8:30	10-11-11 8:30	-5.5	0.0	933	0115	X		002
3	Exterior				10-11-11 8:30	10-11-11 8:30	-4.0	0.0	1153	0263	X		003
4	Office				10-11-11 8:30	10-11-11 8:30	-7.5	0.0	920	0070	X		004

All final vacuums at 0

All deployed & retrieved at exact same minute!

Comments :



24 of 25

DATE	TIME	SAMPLE CONDITIONS
10/11/11	08:33	AMB YN YN YN YN
		YN YN YN YN YN
		YN YN YN YN YN
		YN YN YN YN YN

SAMPLER NAME AND SIGNATURE

PRINT Name of SAMPLER

1°C

on

by cooler

inter

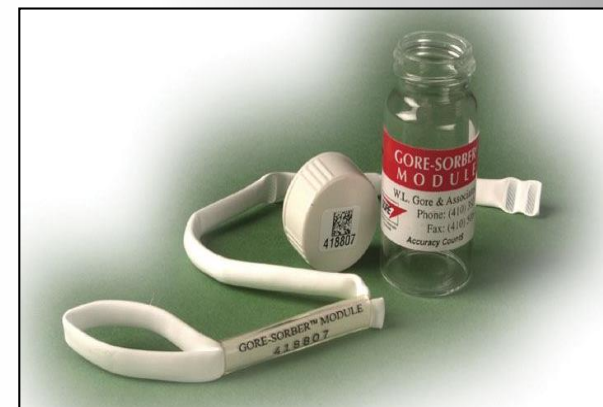
WIN



## VI Assessment Point #1:

Long Term IA Samples Maximize Your  
Chances to Fail the VI Pathway

# Passive IA Collectors



Longer Collection Times: Increases Odds of False Positives

# Got A Life?



Longer Collection Times = False Positives



# Odor Eliminating & Odor Producing



# Scented Ethylbenzene

			ug/m3	100	ED22607	26-Apr-12	26-Apr-12	EPA TO-15
Trichloroethene	ND	550	ug/m3	100	ED22607	26-Apr-12	26-Apr-12	EPA TO-15
1,2-Dichloropropane	ND	940	"	"	"	"	"	"
Bromodichloromethane	ND	680	"	"	"	"	"	"
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	ND	460	"	"	"	"	"	"
4-Methyl-2-pentanone (MIBK)	ND	830	"	"	"	"	"	"
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	ND	460	"	"	"	"	"	"
<b>Toluene</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>380</b>	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	ND	550	"	"	"	"	"	"
2-Hexanone (MBK)	ND	830	"	"	"	"	"	"
Dibromochloromethane	ND	860	"	"	"	"	"	"
Tetrachloroethene	ND	690	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,2-Dibromoethane (EDB)	ND	780	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	700	"	"	"	"	"	"
Chlorobenzene	ND	470	"	"	"	"	"	"
<b>Ethylbenzene</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>440</b>	"	"	"	"	"	"
m,p-Xylene	ND	880	"	"	"	"	"	"
Styrene	ND	430	"	"	"	"	"	"
o-Xylene	ND	440	"	"	"	"	"	"
Bromoform	ND	1000	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	700	"	"	"	"	"	"
4-Ethyltoluene	ND	500	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	ND	500	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	ND	500	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	ND	1200	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	ND	1200	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	ND	1200	"	"	"	"	"	"
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	ND	750	"	"	"	"	"	"
Hexachlorobutadiene	ND	1100	"	"	"	"	"	"

EthylBenzene: 3400 ug/m3

TPHv (C5 - C11) 390000 10000 ug/m3

TPH: 390,000 ug/m3



## VI Assessment Point #4:

Is Sub-Slab Sampling for the Birds?

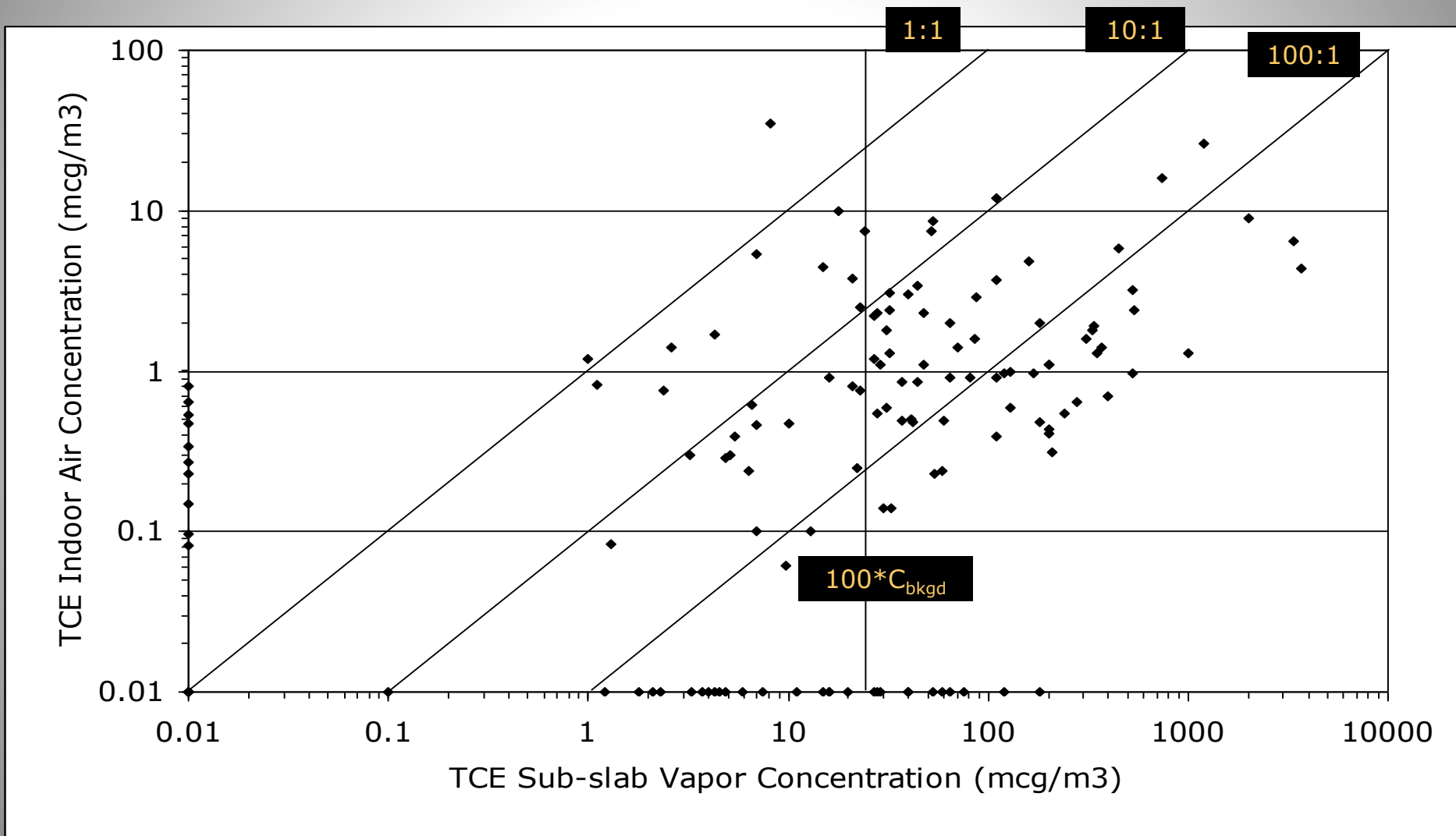


# Why Not Sub-Slab?

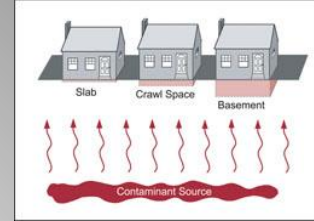
- Large Spatial Variation Under Slabs
- What Value to Use?
- Poor Correlation with Indoor Air
- SS SLs Can Be  $<$  Ambient Air

**SS Data Are Poor Predictors of IA!!**

# Indoor Air & Sub-slab Vapor -- TCE



# TPH Compounds



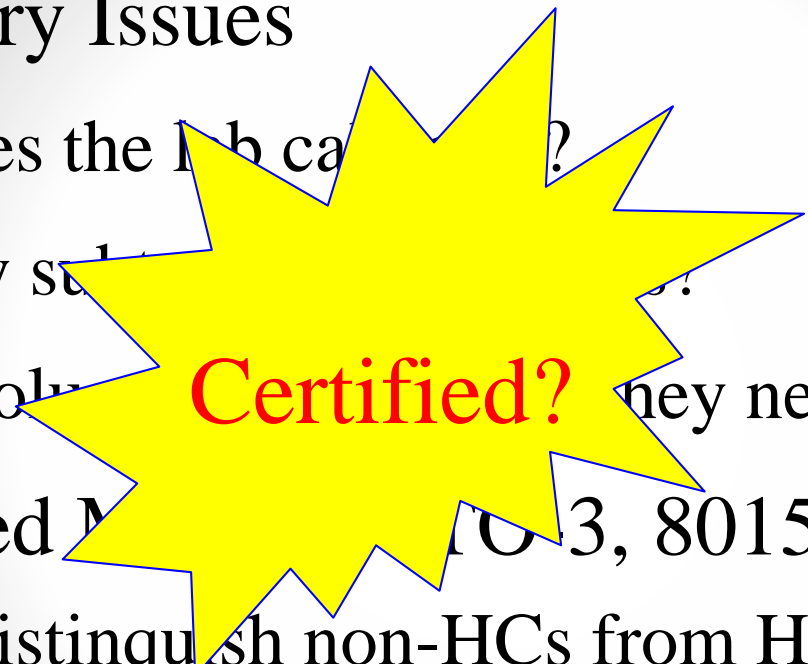
- Typical
  - BTEX (BE only risk drivers)
  - Methane
  - Naphthalene (risk about same as benzene)
- Some States:
  - Aliphatics (C5-C8 & C9-C18)
  - Aromatics (C6-C8 & C9-C16)
  - 1-2 dichloroethane (EDC) & 1-2 dibromoethane (EDB)

**TO-17 gets PVOCs, TPHg, TPHd in same run!!**

# TPH Analysis Considerations

- Laboratory Issues

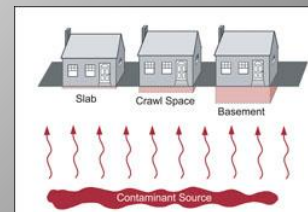
- Has does the lab certify?
- Do they send samples to a certified lab?
- What volume do they need?



- FID Based Methods (TO-3, 8015)

- Can't distinguish non-HCs from HCs
- Will over-report

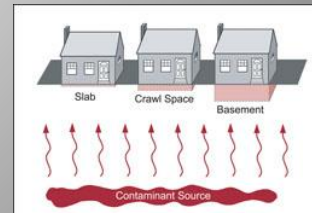
**Best to Use a Mass Spec Method  
(8260, TO-15, TO-17)**



# Practical Strategies

## (Things to Do)

- Get Enough Data
- Consider Less Expensive Methods (8260)
- CL-HCs: Vertical Profiles Around Structure
- HCs: Shallower Samples
- Use Radon for Slab-Specific Alpha
- Measure Ventilation Rate
- Have Competent Subs
- Check Your Units!





# Previews of the PVI Future

- PVI Less Likely at UST Sites
- PVI More Likely if Shallow Contamination
- EPA OUST Guidance Coming Out?
- ASTM Standard Increase # of Sites

# Forthcoming VI Events

- 2-Day VI Course – Knoxville March 31, 2015  
*Sold Out!*
- 2-Day VI Course – Chicago May 28 & 29, 2015
  - At Argonne Nat'l Lab
- Fall 2015:
  - Texas (Dallas or Austin)

Go to [www.hartmaneg.com](http://www.hartmaneg.com)



# HARTMAN

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ENVIRONMENTAL GEOSCIENCE

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