

# **Solberg-Haegel Drum Site, Clearwater, Minnesota Fall, 2016**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Coast Guard, Atlantic Strike Team

Environmental Restoration LLC,  
EPA Emergency and Rapid Response (ERRS) Contractor

Tetra Tech Inc.,  
EPA Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) Contractor.









### 370 Drums

- unknowns, presumably tank bottom sludges.
- Many deteriorated and leaking.







Former USTs, some with remaining sludge and flammable waste.





Half-Tanks full of home-brewed Tar





406 pails of unknowns,  
- tar-sealant material







More cut tanks with residue,  
spills and releases to soils

160 feet from stream  
- near riparian area





Site Assessment and Prep.





## Requesting USCG, Strike Team Assistance at CERCLA sites.

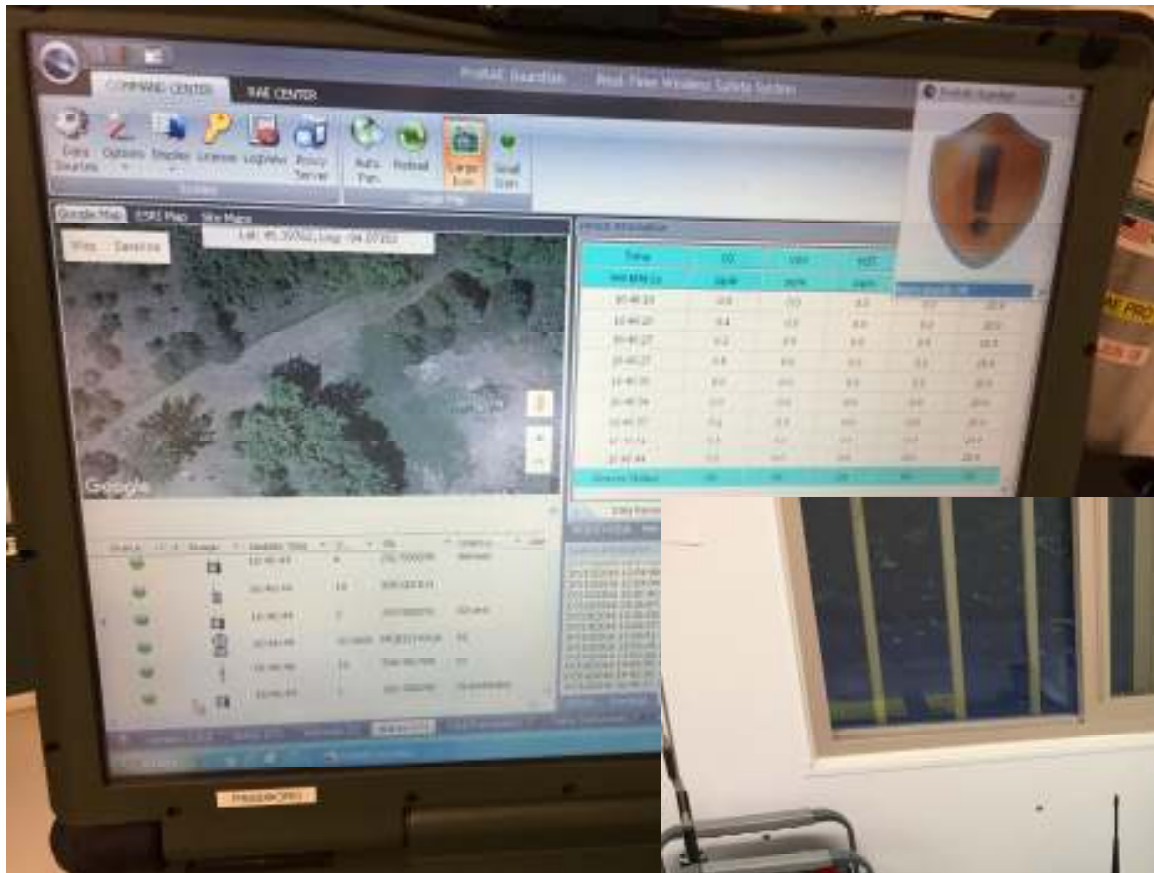
- Write an Action Memo with mission work and IGCE, get it approved.
- Ensure that there are monies in the EPA/USCG Region 5 Interagency Agreement (IA),
  - \* *Do a Commitment Notice – Funding Recommendation (Decision Memo) to add funds to an IA if more are needed (or if USS Lead steals all the money).*
- Draft a Scope of Work (SOW), contact Atlantic Strike Team (AST), finalize it.
  - \* SOW includes ICGE and cost ceiling.
- Develop a Work Authorization Form (WAF) and get it approved through EPA Project Officer (PO) and National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC) and AST.
- Track costs and request a WAF increase if incrementally funded.





Office Set – Up.





USCG work station,  
ProRae Guardian







Air Monitoring stations







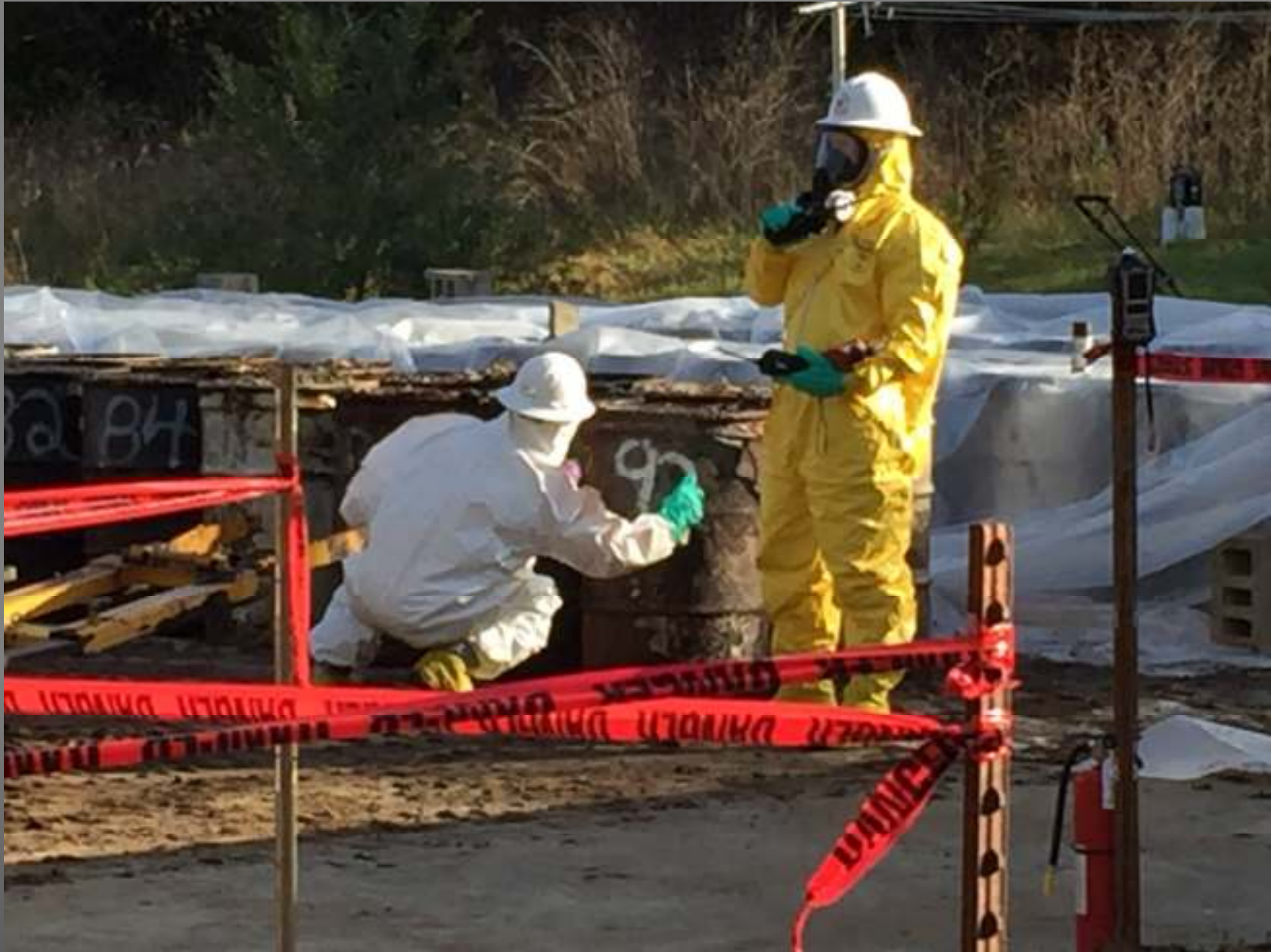


Drum Unstacking,  
Assessing, Staging,  
Screening

- Overpacking leakers.



Staging and Numbering, Staging conducted in level C.



Benzene was a prevalent issue, Heavy use of Ultra Rae.





Contaminate Reduction Zones,  
- Dress out & Support  
- Moved like the wind.





Opening and Sampling,  
Level B, Supplied Air









Chronic Benzene,  
Switch from TyChem to  
Saranex for splash protection.  
Concern on breakthrough time.







**SMOKE ! Fire !**



No Problem,  
USCG Safety ensures driver is out,  
brings extinguishers to driver.







Haz Catting in EPA trailer



Site Safety Audit,  
Fume hood evaluation.





Flammable Liquid transfers and bulking.  
- Grounding and Bonding







Emptying drums of sludge for solidification using corn cob.  
- 170 drums.



Flipped tar tanks,  
Strong coal-tar like odors,  
Utilized FID when strong odors  
but PID readings were  
negligible.





Staging Pails,  
Level C

Opening Pails,  
Exclusion Zone,  
Level B.





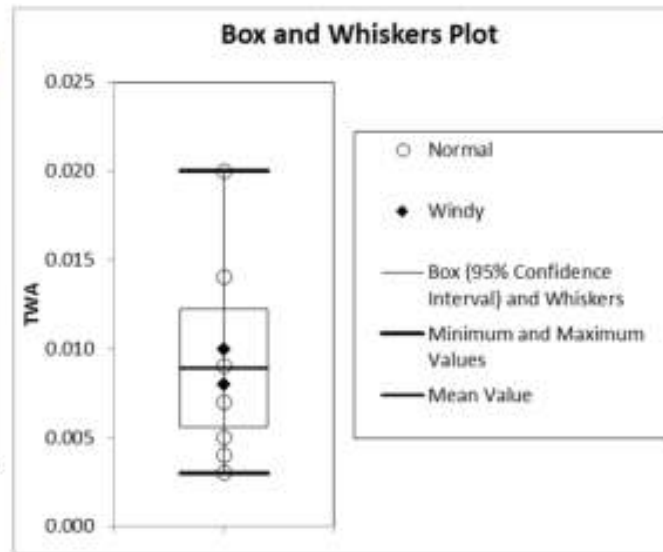


Burn Pile Cleanup.



**TABLE 2**  
**DUST TRACK ALARM LEVELS AND CORRESPONDING DIAGRAM**

Day	TWA	Weather	Windy	Normal
13-Oct	0.005	Normal	#N/A	0.005
14-Oct	0.010	Windy	0.01	#N/A
17-Oct	0.020	Normal	#N/A	0.02
18-Oct	0.003	Normal	#N/A	0.003
19-Oct	0.014	Normal	#N/A	0.014
20-Oct	0.004	Normal	#N/A	0.004
21-Oct	0.009	Normal	#N/A	0.009
24-Oct	0.007	Normal	#N/A	0.007
25-Oct	0.008	Windy	0.008	#N/A



Soleberg Haegele Site

Tetra Tech Inc.

Air Monitoring for Particulate matter, Setting ultra conservative low alarm (.036) or 2x the high 95% Confid. Int. and standard “high” alarm (5.0).



*Load-Out Operations*

## Composite oil sampling





Cutting and Cleaning Tanks, Hot Work Permits, Nitrogen Purging, LEL monitoring.





**SMOKE ! Fire !...Again...**



**And again...OKAY...  
Enough of this flammable sludge !**





Hazardous Waste solids, drum overpacks, headed for Ohio Incineration.







Flammable Liquid Totes, sent to fuel recycling, Kansas  
90 Drums of Tar...Industry reblending.....no one wants !  
Waste to Energy....no one will take !  
Pending industrial landfill, legal last option ☹️

# ***QUESTIONS ?***

David Morrison  
Federal On Scene Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

651-706-4116  
[morrison.david@epa.gov](mailto:morrison.david@epa.gov)