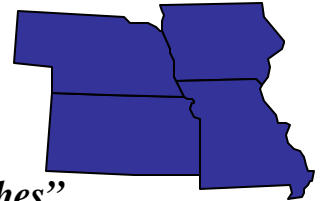




EPA Region VII and ITRC

“ITRC – Promoting better decisions while shaping the future of regulatory acceptance for innovative environmental technologies and approaches”



EPA Region VII includes: Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri

The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is a state-led coalition working together with federal partners, industry, academia and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of innovative environmental technologies and approaches. Through the development of consensus-based tools and resources ITRC’s state-led technical teams provide information to facilitate confident technical decision-making on environmental issues in the states. The ITRC was created in 1995 by the Committee to Develop On-Site Innovative Technologies under the Western Governors’ Association. Today, ITRC is a committee formed under the bylaws of the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS), which is the research and educational arm of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS).

ITRC tools and resources help EPA Region VII save time and money:

- ***ITRC Diffusion Samplers Technology Saves Money*** – “We saved some \$20,000 in well installation expense and \$1,000 per sampling event by using PDB samplers at a TCE release site in central Missouri. This was one of the first uses of ITRC-supported samplers in the state,” says Robert Kravitz, Midwest Environmental Consultants.
- ***ITRC’s Technical & Regulatory Guidance for In-situ Chemical Oxidation of Contaminated Soil and Groundwater useful in Kansas cleanup***- Trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination at Fort Riley is being cleaned up using a remedy explored using ITRC’s ISCO document, resulting in savings of up to \$300,000 due to a reduction in the number of monitoring points and subsequent analytical costs. Dan Nicoski, Kansas contact for ITRC, reports on this remedy.
- ***Free ITRC ISCO Training well-received in the cleanup community***- At a site in St. Louis, Diane Maijer indicates potential savings up to \$100,000 by using information from the ISCO internet training she attended. “Thanks to the ITRC for providing this training free of charge to all professionals rather than simply to regulators,” she exclaims.
- ***ITRC Natural Attenuation Document and training provide guidance on appropriate use***- At the Warren Atlas Missile Site #8 in Kimball County, Nebraska, natural attenuation was being considered for remediation. However, John Flint of the Nebraska DEQ indicated “natural attenuation may not be an acceptable remedial alternative at this site,” based on information received from ITRC resources.

- ***ITRC Diffusion Samplers information applied to Hasting, NE landfill-*** City of Hastings is taking advantage of diffusion sampling techniques at the Department of Health Landfill based on information received at an ITRC training class. “When considering the price of installing multiple wells, this technology has allowed for a potential savings of up to \$100,000,” states Brian Zurbuchen of the Nebraska DEQ.
- ***ITRC In Situ Bioremediation (ISB) decision model helps USDA-*** Groundwater contamination by Carbon Tetrachloride, once used as a fumigant, is being remediated at grain silos in Nebraska and Kansas, among other states, by the USDA. “The Decision Tree approach to decision-making found in ITRC documents dealing with ISB have been helpful in identifying which sites are candidates for ISB. Information is impressive, helpful and provides good background,” says Don Steck of the USDA. Mr. Steck also points out that much of the information in the ISB documents is very current in a field that is rapidly changing.
- ***ITRC documents on Diffusion Samplers help remediation at Ogallala groundwater site-*** “It took some time to determine if PDBs were applicable to the monitoring of the contamination but information provided by ITRC allowed the decision to use PDBs to move forward,” according to Diane Easley of the EPA. PDBs are expected to save some \$20,000-\$50,000 for this project alone. Other Nebraska Superfund sites are utilizing PDBs based on the Ogallala experience and the DEQ and EPA both encourage deployment of the PDBs at sites contaminated with Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs).
- ***ITRC document on ISCO leads to selection of remedy at Nebraska site-*** ISCO was selected for a time-critical removal at Ogallala. After Steve Kemp and Mike Felix of the Nebraska DEQ suggested ISCO be reviewed, EPA utilized ITRC information regarding ISCO in undertaking the treatability test at the site. Based on results of the treatability study, the removal action using ISCO moved forward resulting in significant savings, currently estimated to be between \$100,000 and \$500,000.

Through ITRC EPA Region VII states leverage resources from across the country:

- EPA Region VII environmental experts receive free on-line training – 1,130 participants trained in EPA Region VII states
- Classroom training, free to regulators, brings hands-on tools to better prepare environmental professionals to make better decisions- Almost 200 participants have been trained from EPA Region VII
- EPA Region VII states share expertise by participating on ITRC technical teams and in return these states have access to a national network of experts

EPA Region VII states use of ITRC resources leads to better decision-making:

- Improved permitting processes
- ITRC information leads to faster cleanup decisions
- ITRC experts provide knowledge transfer and guidance on complex issues
- Members dedicated to optimizing state resources and reducing compliance costs while protecting human health and the environment

ITRC creates a cultural shift in the way cleanup is planned & implemented:

- Reduces regulatory barriers for the use of innovative technologies for environmental remediation through guidance documents and sharing of technical expertise
- Leads a culture change in environmental decision-making, replacing long-standing adversarial relationships with collaboration, consensus and concurrence

Additional Information:

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