

Camp Stanley Storage Activity Groundwater Contamination – 2011 Sampling

FACT SHEET

No. 32 - Annual Fact Sheet for 2011

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to provide an overview of quarterly groundwater sampling conducted in 2011. The off-post groundwater contamination in small area west of Camp Stanley Storage Activity (CSSA) continues to be stable and CSSA is making progress addressing contamination sources on-post. Results for all groundwater sampling events are available in the Camp Stanley Storage Activity Environmental Encyclopedia located at the downtown San Antonio Public Library, 600 Soledad Street, on the 2nd floor behind the Reference Desk in the Government Documentation Section, or on the internet at www.stanley.army.mil.

On-post Groundwater Monitoring Plan

On-post groundwater monitoring has been conducted since 1991 as part of the CSSA environmental program. The wells sampled include drinking water, monitoring, and agriculture/livestock wells. Sampling frequencies for on-post wells are determined by the longterm monitoring optimization (LTMO) study completed in May 2005 and updated in 2010. This Plan, as approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), sets the well sampling frequency at either quarterly (3 months), semi-annually (6 months), every nine months, or every 18 months. Currently, groundwater samples from monitoring wells are analyzed for chromium, cadmium, lead, and mercury, while the samples from the drinking water wells are analyzed for the additional metals arsenic, barium, copper, and zinc. All wells (monitoring and drinking water) are also analyzed for select volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs make up substances such as paint thinners, dry cleaning solvents, and some constituents of petroleum fuels (e.g. gasoline and natural gas). Decades-old industrial practices sometimes accidentally released VOCs into the environment, where they can contaminate the soil and groundwater. CSSA ceased using VOC solvents in the mid-1990s. CSSA monitors for VOCs and metals associated with its past industrial processes. The CSSA Groundwater Monitoring Program Data Quality Objectives (DQO) that provides a description of the ongoing groundwater monitoring program and sampling frequencies is available in the Environmental Encyclopedia.

Off-post Groundwater Monitoring Plan

CSSA describes its off-post groundwater monitoring program in its *Off Post Monitoring Program and Response Plan*, July 2001 (Plan). The goals of this Plan are to confirm that off-post drinking water meets USEPA and TCEQ safe drinking water standards, determine where VOC contamination has migrated, if contaminant levels in those wells exceed standards, and defines the appropriate response. As part of the Plan, 54 off-post wells were sampled in 2011.

Off-post water wells are selected for sampling based on CSSA's Plan to ensure protection of drinking water and to provide information for the environmental program. Factors considered in deciding if a well is sampled include where the well is located, how close it is to areas where VOCs have been detected, whether the well owner grants access for sampling, and results of previous sampling at the well. A well is initially sampled for four consecutive quarters (i.e., every three months). Depending on the analytical results from

the well, future sampling occurs as illustrated on Figure 1.

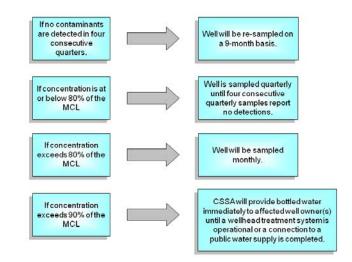


Figure 1. Off-Post Well Sampling Decision Chart

CSSA takes action if VOCs are detected in off-post wells at concentrations greater than 90 percent of the USEPA maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 parts per billion (ppb) for tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE) (i.e., action is taken at concentrations greater than 4.5 ppb).

If a VOC exceedance occurs, CSSA will supply bottled water to affected residents within 24 hours of the detection and the well will be resampled to confirm the results. If additional sampling confirms previous test results, CSSA will either install a granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration system to remove contaminants from the water, or provide the well owner with an alternate water supply for as long as contaminant levels in the well exceed standards. Over the history of off-post sampling, eight off-post water wells have been fitted with GAC filtration systems: LS-7 (August 2001), LS-6 (August 2001), RFR-10 (two units, October 2001), RFR-11 (October 2001), LS-2 and LS-3 (April 2002), OFR-3 (April 2002), and LS-5 (October 2011).

GAC filtration at LS-2 and LS-3 was discontinued in August 2007 when the well owner switched to water from San Antonio Water System (SAWS) and stopped using their wells.

2011 Groundwater Sampling Results

The locations of all on- and off-post wells sampled in 2011 are shown on Figure 2 (Page 4). According to the USEPA, concentrations below 5.0 ppb for PCE and TCE meet safe drinking water standards. Table 1 (Page 3) presents off-post groundwater data for PCE and TCE from all four 2011 sampling events (March, June, September, December). Three wells (I10-4, OFR-3, and RFR-10) exceeded the MCL for PCE, and two wells (OFR-3 and RFR-10) exceeded the MCL for TCE. In September 2011 well LS-5 exceeded 90% of the MCL for TCE. Immediate action was taken and bottled water was provided to the well owner until a GAC filtration system was installed in October 2011. In the past, three additional wells

(LS-6, LS-7 and RFR-11) had PCE and/or TCE detections at concentrations above the MCL (5.0 ppb). All in-use off-post wells with above-MCL detections were previously equipped with GAC filtration systems, and samples of water collected after going through the filtration for these wells have no detection of the VOC contamination. Well I10-4 is not currently being used and therefore is not equipped with a GAC filtration system. In all other wells tested, VOC levels, where detected, were below the applicable drinking water MCLs for PCE and TCE, specifically. It should be noted that, from previous sampling events to this one, there were no significant impacts observed from the current Texas drought.

CSSA will continue to sample both on- and off-post groundwater wells at the frequencies approved by USEPA and TCEQ in the LTMO and DQOs documented in the Plan. CSSA will continue to coordinate the groundwater monitoring program with the regulatory agencies and other potentially affected parties, including the USEPA, TCEQ, Fort Sam Houston, City of Fair Oaks, Fair Oaks Water Utilities, SAWS, Bexar County Commissioners' office, The Oaks Water Supply Corporation, State Representatives' offices, local, state, and federal elected officials, private well owners, and others.

GAC-filtered Sampling Results

Because of the previously detected presence of VOCs, six off-post wells in the area are currently equipped with GAC filtration systems to remove VOCs from the water. In March and September 2011 analyses of the GAC-filtered water samples confirmed that no VOCs were present above the applicable MCLs, and that the GAC units were working properly. Maintenance involving the replacement of carbon canisters for the LS-6, LS-7, OFR-3, RFR-10, and RFR-11 GAC filtration systems was performed in January 2011, and July 2011. The January 2012 carbon exchange also included the new GAC at well LS-5. The next carbon-canister replacement is scheduled for July 2012. Table 2 presents the results for PCE and TCE from GAC-filtered water treatment systems sampled. GAC-filtered samples are collected every six months and will be collected again in March and September 2012

Source Area Cleanup

Groundwater contamination at CSSA is associated with three VOC source areas: Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) B-3, SWMU O-1, and Area of Concern (AOC)-65 as shown Figure 3.

SWMU B-3 and SWMU O-1 are in the central portion of CSSA. Cleanup activities at SWMU B-3 and SWMU O-1 have included excavation and disposal of the VOC-contaminated soil and removing gases in the remaining fractured rock (soil vapor extraction [SVE]). Approximately 1,515 cubic yards of soil were removed from SWMU O-1, and the site was closed in 2002. Approximately 17,000 cubic yards of waste and contaminated soil has been removed from SWMU B-3 since 2003. A bioreactor, designed to eliminate VOCs through accelerating biological activity of microorganisms capable of degrading PCE and TCE, was installed in 2007. Wells installed around SWMU B-3 and the bioreactor are closely monitored to confirm that the system is running efficiently and effectively and that degradation of the contamination is occurring.

AOC-65, located in the southwest corner of CSSA, was identified as another source of VOCs found in groundwater around CSSA. A SVE system was installed and is being tested to evaluate its effectiveness and ability to remove VOCs from soil and rock in the area. Since initial operation of the SVE system began in 2002, a significant reduction in soil gas concentrations has been observed. This system was recently upgraded by adding extraction wells and

additional SVE modifications and enhancements were made to increase its effectiveness. Planned future activities include treatability studies to provide data for remediating known VOC source areas at AOC-65. Future activities include the testing of an in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) method to treat underlying contamination remaining in the near surface rock at a suspected source area in a former drainage ditch. The treatability study involves removal of rock through trench excavation within the former drainage area and injection of the ISCO material within the trench allowing the treatment material to follow preferential contaminant migration pathways from the former drainage area at AOC-65. This study effort is expected to reduce source material at AOC-65 through removal of contaminated rock through trenching and treatment of residual contamination remaining in the rock outside of trench area through ISCO application.

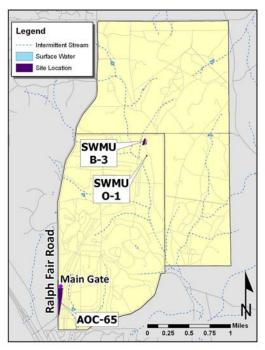


Figure 3. Locations of SWMU B-3, SWMU O-1, and AOC-65

Public Comment and Future Fact Sheets

CSSA has been issuing fact sheets similar to this Fact Sheet since 2000. We will continue to mail Fact Sheets annually to provide information on sampling results, ongoing investigations, and cleanup activities. Each well owner involved in the groundwater monitoring program will continue to receive a separate letter concerning laboratory results for their wells after sampling by CSSA. CSSA will continue to inform the public about various aspects of its environmental program, through Fact Sheets, the CSSA website (www.stanley.army.mil), and periodic meetings. The public is welcome to comment on this Fact Sheet and the environmental activities at CSSA by writing or calling:

- CSSA Installation Manager, Mr. Jason D. Shirley, Camp Stanley Storage Activity, 25800 Ralph Fair Road, Boerne, TX 78015-4800 (210) 295-7416;
- USEPA Regional Program Manager, Mr. Greg Lyssy, at (214) 665-8317;
- TCEQ Regional Program Manager, Mr. Kirk Coulter, at (512) 239-2572; or
- Fort Sam Houston, Public Affairs Office, Mr. Phillip Reidinger, at (210) 221-1151 or (210) 336-0449 (mobile)

TCE

(ppb)

ND

ND

ND

ND

Table 1 - Off-Post Groundwater Sampling Results

Sample

Date

3/2/11

6/2/11

3/3/11

6/2/11

Well Number

FO-8

FO-J1

TCE PCE PCE Sample Well Number Date (ppb) (ppb) (ppb) FO-17 ND ND 6/1/11 ND ND ND Duplicate 6/1/11 ND 0.22F ND HS-1 3/3/11 0.15F 0.41F ND Duplicate 3/3/11 0.15F 6/3/11 ND ND 0.16F ND HS-2 6/3/11 ND HS-3 6/3/11 ND I10-2 6/13/11 ND I10-4 3/1/11 ND 5/31/11 ND 9/7/11 ND 12/6/11 I10-5 3/2/11 ND ND 6/2/11 6/2/11 ND Duplicate I10-7 ND 6/15/11 ND ND 110-8 3/2/11 ND ND 6/1/11 ND ND I10-9 9/6/11 12/19/11 ND ND ND LS-1 3/2/11 ND ND ND 5/31/11 LS-4 ND ND 3/2/11 5/31/11 ND ND ND LS-5 3/2/11 ND ND 5/31/11 ND ND 9/6/11 ND ND 9/28/11 10/12/11 ND ND ND ND 12/5/11 LS-6 ND 2/28/11 ND 5/31/11 ND ND 9/6/11 ND ND 12/5/11

Table 2 - Off-Post GAC System Sampling Results

	Sample	PCE	TCE
Well Number	Date	(ppb)	(ppb)
LS-6-A2	2/28/11	ND	ND
	9/6/11	ND	ND
LS-7-A2	2/28/11	ND	ND
	9/6/11	ND	ND
OFR-3-A2	9/6/11	ND	ND
RFR-10-A2	2/28/11	ND	ND
	9/6/11	ND	ND
RFR-10-B2	2/28/11	ND	ND
	9/6/11	ND	ND
RFR-11-A2	2/28/11	ND	ND
	9/6/11	ND	ND

Notes:		
ppb = parts per billion.		
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level.		
PCE = tetrachloroethene.		
TCE = trichloroethene.		
ND = The analyte was not detected above the		
method detection limit.		
F = The analyte was detected, but the concentration		
is below the reporting limit.		
BOLD = Concentration is greater than the MCL of		
5 ppb for PCE or TCE.		

12/5/11

12/5/11

9/8/11

Duplicate

SLD-01

0.62F

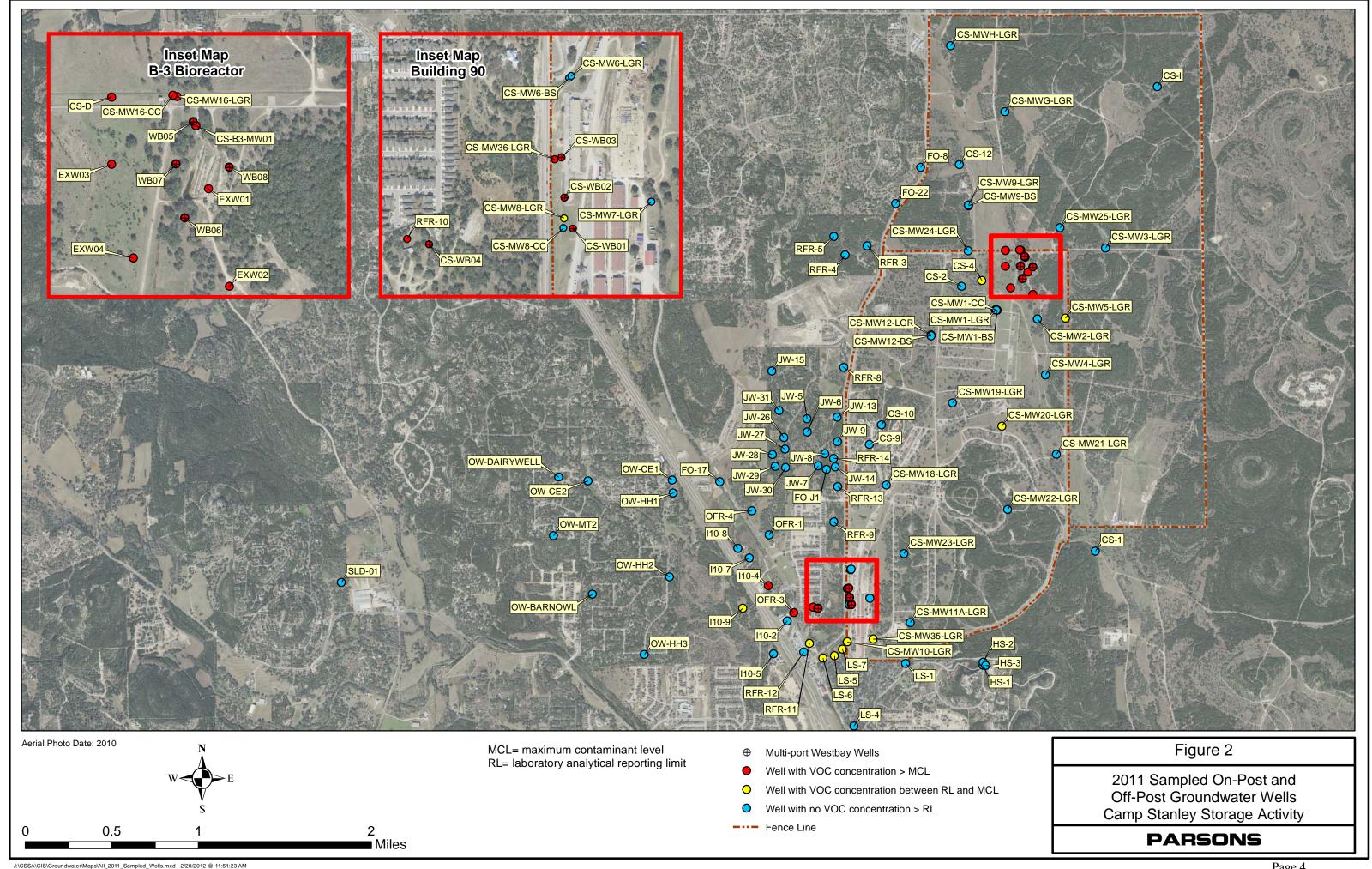
0.84F

ND

2.69

3.11

ND



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