

In-Situ Chemical Oxidation

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I. PURPOSE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Engineering Issue Papers are a series of technology transfer documents that summarize the latest available information on specific technical issues, including fate and transport, specific contaminants, selected treatment and site remediation technologies, and related other issues. This Engineering Issue Paper is intended to provide remedial project managers (RPMs), on-scene coordinators (OSCs), contractors, and other state, industry, or private remediation managers with information to assist in the evaluation and possible selection of appropriate in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) remedial alternatives.

This Engineering Issue Paper provides an up-to-date overview of ISCO remediation technology and fundamentals, and is developed based on peer-reviewed literature, EPA reports, web sources, current research, conference proceedings, and other pertinent information.

II. INTRODUCTION

II.A. Background

In-situ chemical oxidation involves the introduction of a chemical oxidant into the subsurface for the purpose of transforming groundwater or soil contaminants into less harmful chemical species. There are several different forms of oxidants that have been used for ISCO; however, the focus of this Engineering Issue Paper will be on the four most commonly used oxidants: permanganate (MnO_4^-), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and iron (Fe) (Fenton-driven, or H_2O_2 -derived oxidation), persulfate ($\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$), and ozone (O_3) (Table 1). The type and physical form of the oxidant indicates the general materials handling and injection requirements. The persistence of the oxidant in the subsurface is important since this affects the contact time for advective and diffusive transport and ultimately the delivery of oxidant to targeted zones in the subsurface. For example, permanganate persists for long periods of time, and diffusion into low-permeability materials and greater transport distances through porous media are possible. H_2O_2 has been reported to persist in soil and aquifer material for minutes to hours, and the diffusive and advective transport distances will be relatively limited. Radical intermediates formed using some oxidants (H_2O_2 , $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$, O_3) that are largely responsible for various contaminant transformations react very quickly and persist for very short periods of time (<1 sec).

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Table 1. Oxidant Form, Stability, Stage of Development and Oxidation Potential for Oxidants Used for In-Situ Chemical Oxidation

| Oxidant | Reactive Species | Form | Persistence ⁽¹⁾ | Stage of Development |
|--------------|---|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Permanganate | MnO ₄ ⁻ | powder/liquid | >3 months | developing |
| Fenton's | ·OH, ·O ₂ ⁻ , ·HO ₂ , HO ₂ ⁻ | liquid | minutes - hours | experimental/emerging |
| Ozone | O ₃ , ·OH | gas | minutes - hours | experimental/emerging |
| Persulfate | ·SO ₄ ²⁻ | powder/liquid | hours - weeks | experimental/emerging |

| Oxidant and Reactions | Electrode Potential (E _h) ⁽²⁾ |
|---|--|
| Permanganate | |
| MnO ₄ ⁻ + 4 H ⁺ + 3 e ⁻ → MnO ₂ + 2 H ₂ O | 1.7 V (permanganate ion) (1) |
| Fenton's (H₂O₂ Derived Reactants) | |
| H ₂ O ₂ + 2 H ⁺ + 2 e ⁻ → 2 H ₂ O | 1.8 V (hydrogen peroxide) (2) |
| 2 ·OH + 2 H ⁺ + 2 e ⁻ → 2 H ₂ O | 2.8 V (hydroxyl radical) (3) |
| ·HO ₂ + 2 H ⁺ + 2 e ⁻ → 2 H ₂ O | 1.7 V (perhydroxyl radical) (4) |
| ·O ₂ ⁻ + 4 H ⁺ + 3 e ⁻ → 2 H ₂ O | -2.4 V (superoxide radical) (5) |
| HO ₂ ⁻ + H ₂ O + 2 e ⁻ → 3 OH ⁻ | -0.88 V (hydroperoxide anion) (6) |
| Ozone | |
| O ₃ + 2 H ⁺ + 2 e ⁻ → O ₂ + H ₂ O | 2.1 V (ozone) (7) |
| 2 O ₃ + 3 H ₂ O ₂ → 4 O ₂ + 2 ·OH + 2 H ₂ O | 2.8 V (hydroxyl radical, see rxn 3) (8) |
| Persulfate | |
| S ₂ O ₈ ²⁻ + 2 e ⁻ → 2 SO ₄ ²⁻ | 2.1 V (persulfate) (9) |
| ·SO ₄ ⁻ + e ⁻ → SO ₄ ²⁻ | 2.6 V (sulfate radical) (10) |
| ¹ Persistence of the oxidant varies depending on site-specific conditions. Durations specified here are based on general observations. ² Reactive species in parentheses; reduction potential is negative. | |

Permanganate-based ISCO is more fully developed than other oxidants. Widespread use of in-situ permanganate oxidation involving a diversity of contaminants and geological environments under well-documented pilot- and field-scale conditions (in conjunction with long-term monitoring data and cost information) has contributed to the development of the infrastructure needed to support decisions to design and deploy permanganate ISCO systems. However, additional research and development is needed. Fenton-driven ISCO has been deployed at a large number of sites and involves a variety of approaches and methods involving the use of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and iron (Fe). In general, Fenton chemistry and in-situ Fenton oxidation is complex, involves numerous reactive intermediates and mechanisms, and technology development has been slower. Ozone (O₃) is a strong oxidant that has been used in the subsurface but in much more limited application than permanganate and Fenton-driven oxidation. Persulfate (S₂O₈²⁻) is a relatively new form of oxidant that has mainly been investigated at bench-scale. However, considerable research and applied

use of this oxidant at an increasing number of field sites is resulting in rapid development. The electrode (oxidation) potential of the oxidant and reactive species (Table 1) is a measure of the oxidizing strength of the reactive species, but is not a measure of the reaction rate with different organic compounds.

Site-specific conditions and parameters, in conjunction with oxidant-specific characteristics, must be carefully considered to determine whether ISCO is a viable technology for deployment relative to other candidate technologies, and to determine which oxidant is most appropriate. These issues and the advantages and disadvantages of each oxidant are discussed in detail.

The breadth of ground-water contaminants amenable to transformation via various oxidants is large. That is, many environmental contaminants react at moderately high rates with these oxidants. Therefore, a wide range of contaminant classes are amenable to chemical oxidative treatment (Table 2). Mixtures of contaminants may

Table 2. Assessment of the Amenability of Various Contaminant and Contaminant Classes to Oxidation Transformations

| Contaminant | Oxidant | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---|--|---|----------------|---|------------------|---|---|---|----------------|----------------|---|----------------|---|---|---|------------------|
| | MnO ₄ ⁻ | | | | Fenton's (H ₂ O ₂ /Fe) | | | | | S ₂ O ₈ ²⁻ (1) | ·SO ₄ ⁻ (Activated persulfate) ¹ | | | Ozone | | | | Ozone/H ₂ O ₂ (Peroxone) ⁽²⁾ | | |
| | Rating sources | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | a | b | c | d | a | b | c | d | e | a | a | b | c ³ | a | b | c | d | a | b | e |
| Petroleum hydrocarbons | G ⁴ | | | | E ⁴ | | | | | G/E ⁴ | E ⁴ | | | E ⁴ | | | | | | |
| BTEX | | E ⁴ | E ⁴ | E | | E | E ⁴ | E | E | | | E | E ⁴ | | E | G ⁴ | E | | E | E |
| Benzene | P ⁴ | G ⁴ | P ⁴ | | E ⁴ | | E ⁴ | | E | G ⁴ | G/E ⁴ | | E ⁴ | E ⁴ | | G ⁴ | | | E | |
| Phenols | G | E | E | | E | E | E | E | E | P/G | G/E | E | E | | E | E | E | E | E | E |
| PAHs | G | E | E | E | E | G | G | E | E | G | E | G | G/E | E | G | E | E | | G | E |
| MTBE | G | | | | G | E | | | E | P/G | E | E | | G | E | | | | E | E |
| tert-butyl alcohol | | | | | | E | | | G | | | E | | | E | | | | E | G |
| Chlorinated ethenes | E | E | E | E | E | E | E | E | E | G | E | E | E | E | E | | E | | E | E |
| Carbon tetrachloride | P | P | P | | P/G | G | P | | P | P | P/G | | P/E | P/G | P | | | | G | P |
| Chloroform | | P | P | | | P | P | | P | | | | G/E | | P | | | | P | P |
| Methylene chloride | | | P | | | G | G | | P | | | | G/E | | G | | | | G | P |
| Chlorinated ethanes ⁵ | P | | | P | G/E | | | P | P | P | G/E | | | G | | | P | | P | |
| Trichloroethane ⁵ | | P | P | | | E | P | | P | | | | P/E | | P | | | | E | P |
| Dichloroethane ⁵ | | | P | | | G | G | | P | | | | G/E | | G | | | | G | P |
| Chlorobenzene | | | P | | | E | E | | E | | | E | E | | E | | | | E | E |
| PCBs | P | P | P | P | P | G | P | P | E | P | P | P | P/E | | P | E | P | G | G | E |
| Energetics (RDX, HMX) | E | | | | E | | | | | G | E | | | E | | | | | | |
| Explosives | | E | E | | | E | G | | | | | G | G/E | | E | E | | | E | |
| Pesticides | | G | G | | | P | P | | G/E ⁶ | | | G | G/E | | P | E | | | P | G/E ⁶ |
| 1,4-dioxane ⁷ | | | | | | E | | | E | | | E | | | | | | | E | E |

Key: P = poor, G = good, E = excellent. While the different sources used slightly different terminology for rating the amenability, in general, they each used a three-tiered ranking represented here by the P, G, and E terminology.

Sources a, e: P = poor, G = good, E = excellent
 Source b: P = recalcitrant, G = reluctant, E = amenable
 Source c: P = recalcitrant, no/low reactivity; G = reluctant, medium reactivity; E = amenable, high reactivity
 Source d: P = difficult to treat, E = susceptible

Notes:

¹ Persulfate/sulfate radical reactivity studies with 66 organic compounds and isomers under various conditions have been conducted elsewhere (FMC, 2005). (<http://www.envsolutions.fmc.com/Klozur8482/ResourceCenter/tabid/356/Default.aspx>).

² The reaction between O₃ and H₂O₂ produces ·OH. Therefore, the ratings from source (e) by Fenton's (H₂O₂/Fe) apply equally to the O₃/H₂O₂ (Peroxone) technology.

³ Source (c) rated Fe-catalyzed and heat-catalyzed persulfate separately; the lower rating applies to Fe-activated and the higher rating applies to heat-activated persulfate.

⁴ Benzene was rated separately from TEX or petroleum hydrocarbons; thus, the BTEX or petroleum hydrocarbons rating excludes benzene.

⁵ TCA and DCA were rated separately by some sources; the other sources rated chlorinated ethanes as a class of contaminant.

⁶ A detailed summary of second-order reaction rate constants between pesticides and ·OH is reported in Haag and Yao (1992).

⁷ Brown *et al.* (2004) present experimental results indicating that permanganate, Fenton's reagent, persulfate, and ozone are effective in oxidizing 1,4-dioxane.

Sources:

^a Sperry, K.L., and J. Cookson, Jr. 2002. In Situ Chemical Oxidation: Design & Implementation. ITRC Presentation to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, October 30, 2002. <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/srp/training/sessions/insitu200210c.pdf>

^b ITRC. 2005. Technical and Regulatory Guidance for In Situ Chemical Oxidation of Contaminated Soil and Groundwater, Second Edition. Interstate Technology and Regulatory Cooperation Work Group, In Situ Chemical Oxidation Work Team.

^c Brown, R.A. 2003. In Situ Chemical Oxidation: Performance, Practice, and Pitfalls. AFCEE Technology Transfer Workshop, February 24-27, 2003, San Antonio, TX. http://www.afcee.brooks.af.mil/products/techtrans/workshop/postworkshop03/Tuesday/pm/sourcezoneremediation/4_brown.pdf

^d Siegrist, R.L., M.A. Urynowicz, O.R. West, M.L. Crimi, and K.S. Lowe. 2001. Principles and Practices of In Situ Chemical Oxidation Using Permanganate. 367 pp. Battelle Press, Columbus, OH.

^e Rating based on the second-order reaction rate constants between contaminants and ·OH reported in Buxton *et al.* (1988) and Haag and Yao (1992): Excellent (>10⁹ L/mol-s), Good (10⁸ - 10⁹ L/mol-s), Poor (< 10⁸ L/mol-s).

require treatment trains involving the sequential application of technologies to accomplish the treatment objective. Chemical oxidation can be deployed under a variety of applications, i.e., in either the unsaturated or saturated zones, or possibly above-ground, and under a variety of hydrogeologic environments. In this Issue Paper, the focus is on ISCO. There are potential advantages and disadvantages of ISCO that should be assessed when considering the deployment of this technology.

Advantages:

- Applicable to a wide range of contaminants.
- Contaminants are destroyed in-situ.
- In-situ treatment may reduce costs incurred by other technologies such as pump and treat, MNA, etc.
- Aqueous, sorbed, and non-aqueous phases of contaminants are transformed.
- Enhanced mass transfer (enhanced desorption and NAPL dissolution).
- Heat from H_2O_2 reactions enhances mass transfer, reaction rates, and microbial activity.
- Potentially enhances post-oxidation microbial activity and natural attenuation.
- Cost competitive with other candidate technologies.
- Relatively fast treatment.

Disadvantages:

- Oxidant delivery problems due to reactive transport and aquifer heterogeneities.
- Natural oxidant demand may be high in some soil/aquifers.
- Short persistence of some oxidants due to fast reaction rates in the subsurface.
- Health and safety issues regarding the handling of strong oxidants.
- Potential contaminant mobilization.
- Potential permeability reduction.
- Limitations for application at heavily contaminated sites.
- Contaminant mixtures may require treatment trains.
- May have less oxidant/hydraulic control relative to other remedial technologies.

II.B. Definition

Chemical oxidation is a process in which the oxidation state of a substance is increased. In general, the oxidant is reduced by accepting electrons released from the transformation (oxidation) of target and non-target reactive species. Oxidation of non-target species, including

reduced inorganics in the subsurface, also involves the loss of electrons; however, the main target during ISCO involves organic chemicals. Oxidation of organic compounds may include oxygen addition, hydrogen abstraction (removal), and/or withdrawal of electrons with or without the withdrawal of protons. The main objective of chemical oxidation is to transform undesirable chemical species into species that are harmless or nonobjectionable. For example, oxidation of trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) may produce reaction byproducts that include dichloroacetaldehyde and dichloroacetic acid, compounds with lower toxicity. Similarly, oxidation of phenolic compounds may produce an assortment of carboxylic acids (Huling *et al.*, 1998) that are nontoxic. Oxidation of these byproducts to CO_2 and H_2O could be accomplished through additional oxidative treatment and expense, but may not be practical for economic purposes. These reaction byproducts may also serve as microbial substrate for natural attenuation processes.

II.C. Process Fundamentals

In oxidative treatment systems, numerous reactions could potentially occur, including acid/base reactions, adsorption/desorption, dissolution, hydrolysis, ion exchange, oxidation/reduction, precipitation, etc. In environmental systems there is a wide array of reactants and conditions that influence reaction rates and pathways that vary from site to site. Often, numerous reactions are required to achieve innocuous end products, and many of the reaction intermediates are never identified. The general reactions presented in this Issue Paper represent a simplified set of reactions; however, a much broader and more complex set of reactions is expected under field conditions.

II.C.1. In-Situ Permanganate Oxidation

II.C.1.a. Chemical Reactions

Reaction 1 (Table 3) is the 3-electron half reaction for permanganate (MnO_4^-) oxidation under most environmental conditions (pH 3.5 to 12). One of the reaction byproducts is MnO_2 , and in the pH range of 3.5 to 12 it is a solid precipitate. Under acidic conditions (pH <3.5), Mn in solution or in colloidal form may be present in different redox-dependent oxidative states ($Mn^{+2, +4, +7}$). Additionally, under strongly alkaline conditions, Mn may be present as Mn^{+6} . Under conditions where pH is <3.5 and >12, 5-electron and 1-electron transfer reactions occur, respectively (Table 3, half reactions 2 and 3). Reactions 1 to 3 illustrate the general permanganate reactions in the subsurface. Overall, permanganate oxidation

potentially involves various electron transfer reactions (reactions 1 to 3), but is generally considered independent of pH in the range of 4 to 8.

Reactions 4 to 7 (Table 3) illustrate the oxidation of perchloroethylene (PCE), trichloroethylene (TCE), dichloroethylene (DCE), and vinyl chloride (VC), respectively. Examination of these balanced redox reactions indicate that the oxidant demand is inversely correlated with chlorine substitution. For example, the stoichiometric requirement for PCE, TCE, DCE, and VC is 1.33, 2.0, 2.67, and 3.33 mol KMnO_4 /mol contaminant, respectively.

Although MnO_4^- will oxidize a wide range of contaminants, there are notable exceptions for compounds that are recalcitrant, including 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA), 1,1-dichloroethane (DCA), carbon tetrachloride (CT), chloroform (CF), methylene chloride (MC), chlorobenzene (CB), benzene, some pesticides, PCBs, and others. The rate of MTBE oxidation by KMnO_4 is two to three orders of magnitude slower than other oxidation processes indicating that oxidation by KMnO_4 limits the applicability of the process for rapid cleanup (Damm *et al.*, 2002).

II.C.1.b. Reaction Rate

Contaminant oxidation by MnO_4^- occurs by electron transfer rather than through the rapid H_2O_2 reaction and radical attack characteristic of Fenton oxidation. The relatively slow reaction rate of MnO_4^- in subsurface systems offers advantages to permanganate-driven ISCO. The slow rate of reaction allows for greater transport distances of MnO_4^- during injection delivery in medium and high permeability materials. MnO_4^- persistence in the subsurface is proportional to the concentration of MnO_4^- injected, and inversely proportional to the oxidant demand by the aquifer material and contaminant(s).

MnO_4^- generally persists in the subsurface for months; however, persistence varies based on the concentration and volume of oxidant injected and from site to site. The long-term persistence of MnO_4^- contributes to diffusive transport of the oxidant into low-permeability materials, such as silty clay (Struse *et al.*, 2002a) and fractured shale (Parker, 2002). Consequently, this permits deeper penetration of the oxidant into aquifer materials that contain slow-moving contaminants.

II.C.1.c. Natural Oxidant Demand

A wide range of naturally occurring reactants other than the target contaminant(s) also react with MnO_4^- and impose a background oxidant demand. The background oxidant demand reduces oxidation efficiency and is generally greater than the demand imposed by the target compound(s). Non-target reactants mainly include organic matter and reduced chemical species (e.g., ferrous, manganous, sulfidic species). In aquifer material containing low quantities of organic carbon and reduced materials, the background oxidant demand can be low. However, under highly reduced conditions and/or organic-rich aquifer materials, the background oxidant demand can be high, suggesting that the mass and cost of MnO_4^- to achieve the treatment objectives will be high (refer also to Section III.A.3. Oxidant Demand).

II.C.1.d. Permanganate Salts

There are two forms of permanganate, potassium permanganate (KMnO_4) and sodium permanganate (NaMnO_4). Various grades of KMnO_4 are available from different chemical suppliers. The average prices of remediation grade KMnO_4 and NaMnO_4 are \$1.80/lb and \$6.50/lb (\$2.50/lb aqueous 40% solution), respectively. KMnO_4 is available as a solid that must be mixed with water before injection and is soluble at approximately 60 g/L (6%). KMnO_4 concentrations are generally injected

Table 3. General Permanganate Oxidation and Related Chemical Reactions

| | | |
|--|-------------|-----|
| $\text{MnO}_4^- + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 3 \text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{MnO}_2(\text{s}) + 4 \text{OH}^-$ | (pH 3.5-12) | (1) |
| $\text{MnO}_4^- + 8 \text{H}^+ + 5\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{Mn}^{2+} + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ | (pH <3.5) | (2) |
| $\text{MnO}_4^- + \text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{MnO}_4^{2-}$ | (pH >12) | (3) |
| $4 \text{KMnO}_4 + 3 \text{C}_2\text{Cl}_4 + 4 \text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow 6 \text{CO}_2 + 4 \text{MnO}_2 + 4 \text{K}^+ + 8 \text{H}^+ + 12 \text{Cl}^-$ | | (4) |
| $2 \text{KMnO}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{HCl}_3 \longrightarrow 2 \text{CO}_2 + 2 \text{MnO}_2 + 2 \text{K}^+ + \text{H}^+ + 3 \text{Cl}^-$ | | (5) |
| $8 \text{KMnO}_4 + 3 \text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{Cl}_2 \longrightarrow 6 \text{CO}_2 + 8 \text{MnO}_2 + 8 \text{K}^+ + 2 \text{OH}^- + 6 \text{Cl}^- + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ | | (6) |
| $10 \text{KMnO}_4 + 3 \text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{Cl} \longrightarrow 6 \text{CO}_2 + 10 \text{MnO}_2 + 10 \text{K}^+ + 7 \text{OH}^- + 3 \text{Cl}^- + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ | | (7) |

at 0.5 to 2.0% and occasionally up to 4% (40 g/L). Precipitation of KMnO_4 in mixing tanks, delivery lines, or in the subsurface may occur at high KMnO_4 concentrations and/or in conjunction with low temperatures. The simultaneous presence of VOCs and MnO_4^- in water samples is uncommon but may occur at low temperature when NAPL is present in the water sample. NaMnO_4 is more soluble (400 g/L; 40%) than KMnO_4 , and is supplied as a liquid. The high concentration of NaMnO_4 provides flexibility in oxidant delivery to the subsurface and eliminates the potential for KMnO_4 granules/dust exposure during oxidant handling and mixing into solution. The density of permanganate solutions is often greater than water (1.00 g/mL). For example, KMnO_4 is generally injected as a 2 to 4% solution which has a density of 1.02 to 1.04 g/mL, respectively. Density-driven transport of MnO_4^- facilitates the vertical transport of the oxidant both in porous and fractured media, and enhances distribution and contact between oxidant and contaminants. This transport mechanism has been documented in several field-scale studies (Parker, 2002). NaMnO_4 solutions at higher concentration have even greater density and also undergo density-driven transport. The form of the oxidant (NaMnO_4 vs. KMnO_4) has little effect on oxidant consumption or filterable solids production (Siegrist *et al.*, 2002).

II.C.1.e. Impact of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ Accumulation

Mass Transfer: The accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ at the NAPL interface may interfere with mass transfer, and excessive accumulation in porous media may result in permeability reduction. A laboratory study involving visualization experiments has shown $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ to form a rind around high DNAPL saturation zones (Conrad *et al.*, 2002; Li and Schwartz, 2004a). The DNAPL was sequestered, and a reduction both in the delivery of the oxidant and in contaminant (TCE) oxidation was measured. $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ formed around the PCE DNAPL, and appeared to cement sand particles together forming a rock-like material with low permeability. Correspondingly, advective transport of the oxidant solution adjacent to the PCE DNAPL was reduced. Under this condition, it was proposed that diffusive transport of MnO_4^- and PCE, to and from the DNAPL, respectively, was the only transport mechanism that could facilitate chemical oxidation. In a model aquifer, $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ deposits on or near PCE decreased both the velocity of water directly above the pool and the overall mass transfer from the remaining PCE pool (MacKinnon and Thomson, 2002). Results indicated that MnO_4^- was capable of removing a substantial mass from the PCE DNAPL pool. However, performance of ISCO as a pool removal technology will be

limited by the formation and precipitation of hydrous MnO_2 that occurs during the oxidation process. In other studies, soluble chlorinated VOCs and TCE DNAPL were oxidized by MnO_4^- , and negative impacts from excessive accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ were not observed (Chambers *et al.*, 2000b; Struse *et al.*, 2002a).

Permeability Reduction: A few cases have been reported where a loss in permeability was attributed to excessive $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation. Clarification of the different mechanisms and other possible causes is useful to prevent or minimize this condition. Calculations involving $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ precipitation and deposition in aquifer pores under a wide range of conditions, including porosity (0.2 to 0.4), bulk density (1.6 to 2.13 g/cm³), and oxidant demand (1 to 60 g/Kg), indicate that 8% or less of the voids are filled by $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ (Luhrs *et al.*, 2006). These calculations suggest that blockage of ground-water flow by filling aquifer pores with $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ in porous media is an unlikely explanation. Analysis of the $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ content in aquifer core samples yielded similar conclusions (Siegrist *et al.*, 2002).

Reductions in permeability are more likely attributed to the nonuniform accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ in porous media due to mechanical straining, electrostatic interactions, chemical bridging, or specific adsorption. Aquifer or well-pack media near the injection point may “ripen” nonuniformly with $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ resulting in localized high levels of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$. Further, MnO_4^- distribution under field conditions is not uniform and also contributes to the nonuniform accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$.

$\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation at NAPL interfaces is well-documented in lab studies (Li and Schwartz, 2000; Reitsma and Marshall, 2000; Reitsma and Randhawa, 2002); however, permeability reductions are rarely measured and reported in field studies. One explanation for this apparent discrepancy is that reductions in the permeability are localized near the DNAPL zones (Reitsma and Randhawa, 2002). Under field conditions, DNAPLs are distributed heterogeneously and screened intervals are rarely entirely completed in DNAPL-saturated porous media and may only be minimally impacted by $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation. Permeability reductions and/or a decline in mass transfer may occur from the formation of a rind on DNAPL, as described above, but field tests and site characterization tools may be insensitive to detect the effect. However, localized DNAPL-dependent accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ and localized permeability reduction attributed to this mechanism may play a significant role in the mass transport and mass transfer of

MnO_4^- and VOCs, contaminant oxidation, and remediation time frames. Excessive $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation near high DNAPL saturation areas, and the associated reduction in NAPL mass transfer described above, provides a practical explanation for contaminant rebound which is very common in source areas (refer to Section III.F.1. Untreated COCs/Rebound).

Permeability reduction may also be attributed to particulates in the injected fluids and/or gas production or injection (Luhrs *et al.*, 2006). ISCO systems that involve permanganate injection, extraction, permanganate re-amendment and re-injection may inadvertently inject suspended $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$. Assuming the extracted fluid contains oxidizable material that reacts with MnO_4^- , $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ can form in solution before it is injected. Additionally, some MnO_4^- mixtures have high silicate content. Therefore, injecting large volumes of unfiltered oxidant solutions into a well, as in the case with injection/re-injection wells, may result in the accumulation of solids ($\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$, silicates) in or near the well pack. In one study involving a 5-spot pattern where MnO_4^- was injected in a central well, and extracted in four adjacent wells, increasing injection well pressures were required to maintain constant flow (Siegrist *et al.*, 2002). Recirculation rates declined shortly after MnO_4^- injection. Although the precise cause for the fouling was not determined, re-injection of a highly concentrated TCE solution (600 mg/L) with MnO_4^- (3000 mg/L) may have resulted in the formation and deposition of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ within, or near the well screen and/or filter pack. The reaction of MnO_4^- in or near the well, rather than in the formation, may have prevented the dispersal of MnO_4^- and $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ into the aquifer. Another factor which may have contributed was the high clay/silt content of the aquifer sediments in conjunction with Na^+ (i.e., NaMnO_4), which could have resulted in dispersed soil colloids conditions leading to a reduction in macropores and a decline in permeability. Permeability loss was also reported in another field study where horizontal well-to-well flushing of percent levels MnO_4^- was performed (West *et al.*, 1998).

KMnO_4 is produced as a crystalline solid that is dissolved in water prior to injection. The solubility of KMnO_4 is temperature-sensitive. Typical injection concentrations (2 to 3 g/L) are well below the solubility (6.5 g/L @ 20 °C). However, differences in temperature between the KMnO_4 solution in the mixing tank and in the aquifer could result in precipitation of KMnO_4 in the aquifer where it is cooler. Energy is needed to achieve dissolution of KMnO_4 by mixing prior to injection. If the agitation applied in the mixing process is too low or

insufficient time is allowed to fully dissolve the crystalline solids, the injection solution will contain a significant quantity of $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ particles. Accumulation of these particles in the well, in the sand and gravel pack around the well, and in the formation near the well, can cause loss in permeability. Given sufficient time, the entrained $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ will dissolve into solution and the permeability can be restored. NaMnO_4 is highly soluble (40%; 400 g/L), produced and delivered as a solution, and only requires dilution (if desired) before injection. Therefore, precipitation of NaMnO_4 is not possible. At the time of this report, no documented cases were found where permeability reductions occurred at sites where NaMnO_4 was injected, suggesting that $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ precipitation is one probable explanation for permeability reduction.

Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is a byproduct from the oxidation and mineralization of organic chemicals and natural organic matter (rxns 4 to 7, Table 3). In column studies, permeability reduction and flushing efficiency decreased as a result of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ precipitation and from the formation of $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ (Li and Schwartz, 2000; Reitsma and Dai, 2000; Reitsma and Marshall, 2000; Reitsma and Randhawa, 2002). The relative mechanistic contributions of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation and $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ entrapment were differentiated using a pH buffering method to minimize the formation of $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ (Dai and Reitsma, 2002). In subsurface systems involving significant reaction between MnO_4^- and high concentrations of organic chemicals, large quantities of $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ can be produced in the aquifer. Due to the similarities between air sparging and $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ formation during ISCO, it is reasonable to assume that $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ entrapment may result in permeability reduction in the aquifer. For example, increased gas saturations from air sparging (generally above 20% gas saturation) can cause significant hydraulic conductivity reductions which would be detrimental to flow-through operations (Salanitro *et al.*, 2000). Therefore, $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ accumulation and entrapment in porous media could also result in blockage of ground-water flow and permeability reduction. CO_2 is soluble in water and given sufficient time, it will dissolve into solution, thus restoring the permeability. Air in the injection lines and equipment can be inadvertently injected causing a similar effect.

Increases in the permeability due to dissolution of $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ and $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ indicate that the mechanisms responsible for permeability reduction are reversible under ambient conditions. Permeability reduction can be avoided during ISCO by filtering re-injected fluids, selection of KMnO_4 with low silicate content, and assuring adequate mixing of KMnO_4 solution before injection. Redevelopment of a well may be needed to restore the permeability where the responsible mechanism is not reversible under ambient

conditions. Injection of chemical reagents (organic and inorganic acids, EDTA) into $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ -enriched aquifer material could dissolve $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ into solution and reduce the negative impact of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ accumulation (Li and Schwartz, 2004a).

II.C.1.f. Metals Mobilization/Immobilization

There are two main mechanisms for increasing concentrations of metals in the ground water during ISCO: (1) the KMnO_4 or NaMnO_4 provided by the manufacturer may contain elevated levels of the heavy metals, and (2) mobilization of pre-existing redox- or pH-sensitive heavy metals (in-situ) by the oxidant. The content of heavy metals in permanganate is dependent on the type and source of the oxidant (note: NaMnO_4 has lower concentrations of metals than KMnO_4). Both forms of the oxidant are manufactured in the U.S., Germany, and China. There is only one manufacturer of permanganate in the U.S., and they provide analytical data for the heavy metal impurities in their products. Remediation grade KMnO_4 has been developed containing minimal quantities of metal impurities. Chromium (Cr) and arsenic (As) have historically been the impurities of concern. Due to the low maximum contaminant level (MCL) in drinking water established by EPA for these metals (0.1 mg/L total Cr MCL; 0.01 mg/L As MCL) (U.S. EPA, 2002), injection of technical grade KMnO_4 may result in exceeding the MCL for these elements. Generally, natural attenuation of these metals has been achieved within acceptable transport distances and time frames. Due to the possibility of exposure pathways and potential receptors, monitoring of these parameters may be needed under some conditions. A site-specific evaluation of the potential impact of heavy metals should be conducted to assess whether ground-water monitoring for these metals is needed.

Enhanced transport of pre-existing or naturally occurring redox or pH-sensitive metals may occur as a result of permanganate injection. Oxidation of Cr(III) to Cr(VI) by MnO_4^- and subsequent mobilization has been demonstrated in the laboratory (Li and Schwartz, 2000; Chambers *et al.*, 2000b). Additionally, Cr(VI) and Ni mobilization has been observed under field conditions where MnO_4^- has been injected (Crimi and Siegrist, 2003). However, Cr(VI) undergoes natural attenuation through several mechanisms (McLean and Bledsoe, 1992; Palmer and Puls, 1994), including adsorption to $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ and various iron minerals. Several field studies have reported anomalously high post-oxidation concentrations of Cr(VI), but natural attenuation of Cr(VI) was observed (Crimi and Siegrist, 2003), and cleanup concentrations

have been achieved within acceptable transport distances and time frames (Chambers *et al.*, 2000a). The potential exists at any site for metals to be introduced as an oxidant impurity, and/or pre-existing or naturally occurring metals to be mobilized by ISCO. Site conditions can provide insight into whether metals mobilization could occur including oxidant dosing, pH, buffer capacity, electrode potential (E_h), permeability, cation exchange capacity, natural metals, oxidant impurities, and local uses for the ground water (Siegrist *et al.*, 2002). Bench-scale treatability studies can be used to assess the potential significance of metals mobility, whether metals mobilization may occur under field conditions (Chambers *et al.*, 2000b), and whether attenuation mechanisms immobilize metals. Pilot-scale studies can also be used to evaluate metals mobilization and attenuation prior to full-scale implementation. Ground-water monitoring of metals may be needed to assess whether metals mobilization occurs at ISCO sites and whether attenuation is achieved within an acceptable transport distance.

$\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ behaves as a sorbent for numerous heavy metals including, but not limited to Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn (Suarez and Langmuir, 1976; Fu *et al.*, 1991; McLean and Bledsoe, 1992; Siegrist *et al.*, 2002) and has been demonstrated to oxidize pentachlorophenol (Petrie *et al.*, 2002) and aromatic amines (Li *et al.*, 2003). $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ is the primary electron acceptor for the oxidation of As(III) to the less soluble As(V) (McLean and Bledsoe, 1992). Cr(VI) adsorption and immobilization in soils is positively correlated with free iron oxides, total manganese, and soil pH (Korte *et al.*, 1976). Adsorption of metals onto Mn oxides increases with increasing pH, and is significant even under acidic conditions (Fu *et al.*, 1991). Adsorption of metals onto either Mn or Fe oxides will immobilize metals and restrict their transport in ground water. It has been reported that Cr(VI) formed and mobilized during oxidation undergoes natural attenuation within acceptable time frames and distances; however, it is not entirely clear what role $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ has in the oxidation of Cr(III) to Cr(VI). Under some conditions, different oxides of Mn may catalyze the oxidation of Cr(III) to Cr(VI) (Nico and Zamoski, 2000). Therefore, since permanganate-based ISCO is applied under a wide range of geochemical conditions, this underscores the importance of pilot-scale testing and ground-water monitoring to assess metals mobilization.

II.C.1.g. Advantages

Numerous bench-, pilot-, and full-scale studies have been conducted resulting in a significant amount of information leading to the documentation of fundamental mech-

anisms and the demonstration of this technology. Considerable field experience has been obtained from the application of this technology at a wide range of sites and conditions. The chemistry involved with MnO_4^- oxidation of organic contaminants is relatively simple, and information and guidelines needed to effectively and safely inject MnO_4^- into the subsurface have been well-documented and disseminated. MnO_4^- is highly soluble, and high concentrations of the oxidant can be injected. The long-term persistence of MnO_4^- in the subsurface permits both advective and diffusive transport and can result in good distribution of the oxidant. High concentrations of MnO_4^- can result in a density greater than ground water, causing the density-driven vertical transport of the oxidant into the subsurface. This also contributes to good distribution of the oxidant, especially in low-permeability materials. MnO_4^- has been successfully delivered into a wide range of hydrogeologic environments (i.e., aquifers comprised of sands, clays, sand-clay mixtures, alluvial materials, fractured shale, fractured bedrock, etc.). Several important environmental contaminants (chlorinated ethenes) are vulnerable to oxidation, and the reaction rate between MnO_4^- and target contaminants in the aqueous and NAPL phases is fast. Short-term reduction in microbial activity results from the injection of MnO_4^- . However, this does not appear to be permanent and post-oxidation increases in microbial numbers, activity, and contaminant attenuation is often reported. Visual confirmation of MnO_4^- presence in ground-water samples and semi-quantitative analysis is possible due to the characteristic purple color of the oxidant. Considerable field experience has resulted in well established health and safety guidelines.

II.C.1.h. Disadvantages

Hydraulic short circuiting and/or preferential pathways may result in the delivery of the oxidant into non-target zones. Some important environmental contaminants are not vulnerable to oxidation by MnO_4^- . Some grades of KMnO_4 contain heavy metal impurities that when injected could result in unacceptable ground-water concentrations. $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$, the main reaction byproduct, may accumulate near the injection well or at the DNAPL interface (i.e., encrustment) resulting in mass transport (permeability reductions) and mass transfer limitations, respectively. Permeability reductions may also result from $\text{CO}_2(\text{g})$ releases. Ion exchange of Na^+ in NaMnO_4 for divalent cations in the aquifer matrix may result in dispersed soil colloids and contribute to permeability reductions. Permeability reduction is rarely reported and can largely be avoided by adhering to design and operational guidelines. A high background oxidant demand in aquifer and soil material attributed to natu-

rally occurring non-target reactants may result in excessive and costly oxidant requirements. High oxidant concentrations resulting in the density-driven transport of the oxidant from the targeted zone may result in the inefficient utilization of oxidant. EPA has established a secondary maximum contaminant level for drinking water for manganese (0.05 mg/L) based on color, staining, and taste. Relatively little information is available regarding the long-term impact of the manganese residual on ground-water quality.

II.C.2. In-Situ Fenton Oxidation

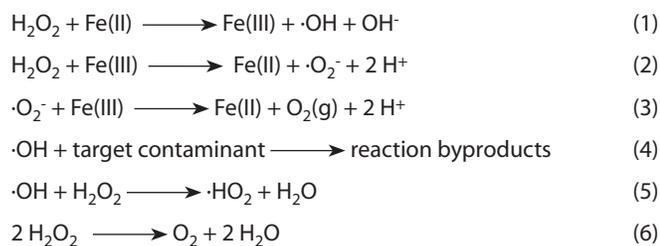
II.C.2.a. Fenton and Related Reactions

In general, Fenton chemistry and Fenton oxidation treatment systems are more complex than the permanganate oxidation treatment system. This is mainly attributed to numerous reaction intermediates, side and competing reactions, phases (gas, liquid, solid, NAPL), and the numerous parameters which directly and indirectly affect Fenton-driven transformation reactions. A detailed and rigorous field demonstration of in-situ Fenton oxidation has not been conducted. Studies are needed to quantify reaction mechanisms, clarify technical issues, and optimize the treatment process. A brief summary of Fenton chemistry is presented to elucidate process fundamentals and mechanisms.

The classic Fenton reaction specifically involves the reaction between H_2O_2 and ferrous iron (Fe(II)) yielding the hydroxyl radical ($\cdot\text{OH}$) and ferric (Fe(III)) and hydroxyl ions (OH^-) (Table 4, rxn 1). Fe(III) reacts with H_2O_2 (Table 4, rxn 2) or the superoxide radical ($\cdot\text{O}_2^-$) (Table 4, rxn 3) yielding Fe(II). This general sequence of reactions continues to occur until the H_2O_2 is fully consumed. Since H_2O_2 injected into the subsurface reacts with many chemical species other than Fe(II), this technology is often referred to as catalyzed hydrogen peroxide (CHP).

$\cdot\text{OH}$ has an unpaired electron making it a highly reactive, nonspecific oxidant (Table 4, rxns 4 and 5). Correspondingly, quasi steady-state concentrations of $\cdot\text{OH}$ in Fenton systems are very low (10^{-14} to 10^{-16} M) (Huling *et al.*, 1998; 2000; 2001). Due to the fast reaction rates of $\cdot\text{OH}$, the transport distance of $\cdot\text{OH}$ is limited to only a few nanometers. Therefore, a basic tenet of Fenton oxidation is that the contaminant, Fe(II), and H_2O_2 must be in the same location at the same time.

Nonproductive reactions are represented by the general disproportionation reaction (Table 4, rxn 6) where H_2O_2 is consumed, $\cdot\text{OH}$ is not produced, and O_2 is a reaction

Table 4. Fenton and Related Chemical Reactions

byproduct (Huling *et al.*, 1998). Examples of these reactants include catalysts such as catalase, a microbial enzyme found ubiquitously in the subsurface environment, and some transition metals such as manganese. Mn cycles between oxidation states similar to Fe, but $\cdot\text{OH}$ is not produced (Pardieck *et al.*, 1992).

II.C.2.b. Contaminant Transformations

A wide range of organic compounds of environmental significance have moderate to moderately high second-order reaction rate constants with $\cdot\text{OH}$, indicating fast reaction rates (Table 2). A comprehensive compilation of reaction rate constants has been published for a wide range of reactants with $\cdot\text{OH}$ (Dorfman and Adams, 1973; Buxton *et al.*, 1988; Haag and Yao, 1992). Among the contaminants represented in these references are halogenated and non-halogenated volatile organics (ketones, furans), halogenated semivolatile organics (PCBs, pesticides, chlorinated benzenes and chlorinated phenols) and non-halogenated semi-volatile organics (PAHs, non-chlorinated phenols). Fenton oxidation, therefore, has potential applicability at a large number of hazardous waste sites. Compounds with double bonds are especially vulnerable to $\cdot\text{OH}$ oxidation, e.g., TCE, PCE.

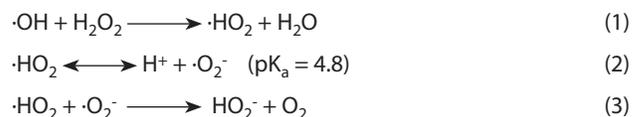
In general, oxidized (halogenated) compounds without double bonds are poorly reactive with $\cdot\text{OH}$, including carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, methylene chloride, 1,1,1- and 1,1,2-trichloroethane. Although Fenton oxidation may lead to complete mineralization of organic contaminants, this is usually performed under ideal laboratory conditions where process limitations have been minimized. In the subsurface environment, non-ideal conditions (discussed below) contribute to process inefficiency and incomplete mineralization. Consequently, residual concentrations of the target compound may occur, and reaction intermediates may accumulate. Reaction intermediates are commonly less hazardous than the target compound. For example, carboxylic and

chloroacetic acid compounds are relatively nontoxic and may accumulate from the oxidation of 2-chlorophenol (Huling *et al.*, 2000) and TCE, respectively. Incomplete oxidation of MTBE may result in tertiary butanol (TBA), acetone, and *tert*-butyl formate (Chen *et al.*, 1995; Yeh and Novak, 1995; Huling *et al.*, 2005) which are considered less toxic than MTBE; however, they may be unacceptable in some situations. Although TBA and acetone also undergo transformation, acetone may accumulate relative to TBA because it has a lower reaction rate constant with $\cdot\text{OH}$ ($1.1 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$) than TBA ($6 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$) (Buxton *et al.*, 1988) and is a byproduct from the oxidation of TBA and other MTBE transformation intermediates (Stefan *et al.*, 2000). The products of MTBE oxidation also include a variety of carboxylic acids (Stefan and Bolton, 1999; Stefan *et al.*, 2000) and, ultimately, CO_2 .

II.C.2.c. Other Transformations

Increasing information suggests that reductive transformations in Fenton-driven oxidation systems may play a role in the degradation of heavily chlorinated and nitro-substituted compounds (Peyton *et al.*, 1995; Watts *et al.*, 1999). These reactions may be attributed to various reductants, including superoxide radical ($\cdot\text{O}_2^-$), hydroperoxide anion (HO_2^-) (rxns 1 to 3, Table 5), and possibly Fe(II). It has been reported that the perhydroxyl radical ($\cdot\text{HO}_2$) is not a significant reductant (Watts *et al.*, 1999); however, the pK_a for $\cdot\text{HO}_2$ and $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$ is 4.8, indicating that some $\cdot\text{O}_2^-$ would be present under most environmental conditions where in-situ Fenton oxidation (ISFO) is implemented.

A review of Fenton-driven reductive reactions indicates that quinones, nitrobenzenes, nitrogen heterocycles, carbon tetrachloride, and chloroform are vulnerable to superoxide radical transformation (Watts *et al.*, 1999). Many halogenated and nitro-substituted contaminants, such as PCE and nitrobenzene, react with both $\cdot\text{OH}$ and reductants at near-diffusion-controlled rates; therefore, their degradation in vigorous Fenton-like reactions may proceed through parallel oxidations and reductions (Watts *et al.*, 1999). This has several important implica-

Table 5. Formation of Reductant Chemical Species in Fenton-Driven Chemical Reaction System

tions regarding subsurface remediation. Reductive transformations, when combined with oxidation, yield greater potential for overall contaminant transformation. For example, TCE is vulnerable to reductive transformation and $\cdot\text{OH}$ oxidation ($k_{\text{OH}} = 4.2 \times 10^9$). The reaction byproduct, chloroacetic acid, is vulnerable to reductive transformation ($k_{\text{e}} = 6.9 \times 10^9$). It is not uncommon for hazardous waste sites to contain a mixture of contaminants vulnerable to oxidative treatment (benzene, toluene, xylene) and reductive treatment (1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), carbon tetrachloride (CT)). Under this condition, Fenton oxidation may be an effective remedial technology for the contaminant mixture. The radicals responsible for contaminant oxidative and reductive transformations are highly reactive and are nonspecific, indicating that radical scavenging may be a potential limiting factor for both reactive pathways. Site-specific tests are needed to assess the overall role of both oxidative and reductive contaminant transformations for mixed waste conditions.

II.C.2.d. Scavenging

$\cdot\text{OH}$ will react with naturally occurring and anthropogenic non-target chemical species present in soil and aquifer material, e.g., H_2O_2 (rxn 5, Table 4). The non-target chemical species “scavenge” $\cdot\text{OH}$ which may otherwise oxidize the target contaminants. Common ground-water anions (NO_3^- , SO_4^{2-} , Cl^- , HPO_4^{2-} , HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-}) react with $\cdot\text{OH}$ (Buxton *et al.*, 1988; Pignatello, 1992; Lipczynska-Kochany *et al.*, 1995) and may be a source of treatment inefficiency. Because H_2O_2 is generally present at high concentrations in Fenton systems and has a moderate rate constant for reaction with $\cdot\text{OH}$ ($2.7 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$, Buxton *et al.*, 1988), H_2O_2 is itself a primary source of inefficiency in Fenton-driven systems (Huling *et al.* 1998).

II.C.2.e. $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ Generation and Exothermic Reaction

In-situ Fenton oxidation involves the injection of high concentrations of H_2O_2 , a chemical that is 94.1% oxygen. For example, assuming 1 mol $\text{O}_2(\text{g})/2$ mol H_2O_2 , there is approximately 1400 ft^3 $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ (standard temperature and pressure) released from 55 gal of 50% H_2O_2 . $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ produced in the subsurface as a result of H_2O_2 reactions sparges the saturated zone and perfuses the unsaturated zone. Air sparging (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994; Hein *et al.*, 1997; Johnson, 1998) is a technology that has been rigorously investigated and shares many similarities with $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ sparging that occurs in Fenton systems. A review of air sparging literature provides insight to mass transport and mass transfer mechanisms involving $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$

sparging resulting from ISFO systems. The production of $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ in saturated porous media during ISFO may be problematic. A significant complication of air sparge wells used to intercept a ground-water plume is the decline in permeability of the formation due to entrapped air and air channels (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994). This could result in a 95% reduction in conductivity for many aquifers. The low permeability barrier would impede the natural gradient of ground-water flow, and could result in the flow of ground water around the sparged zone (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994; Rutherford and Johnson, 1996). Increased gas saturations (generally above 20% gas saturation) can cause significant hydraulic conductivity reductions which would be detrimental to flow-through operations (Salanitro *et al.*, 2000). Reduced permeability was caused by colloidal fouling and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ binding due to H_2O_2 decomposition in porous media (Weisner *et al.*, 1996). Due to the similarities between air sparging and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ sparging from injected H_2O_2 , it is reasonable to assume that $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ entrapment and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ channels may interfere with ground-water transport, the delivery of H_2O_2 , rebound, and delayed or poor mass transfer between aqueous, NAPL, and sorbed (solid) phases (refer to Section II.C.3.b. In-Situ Application).

$\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ sparging can enhance volatilization of environmental contaminants from the ground water. The pressure buildup from $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ production can pneumatically transport ground water and NAPL away from the treatment area and cause artesian conditions in nearby monitoring wells. Although an in-depth field investigation of gas flow blockage, mass transfer, and transport of contaminated ground water/NAPL away from the treatment zone has not been conducted, qualitative information at sites where ISFO has been implemented indicate these mechanisms have occurred.

Fenton and related reactions are exothermic, resulting in heat release and elevated temperatures during ISFO. Heat accumulation near the injection well is common due to rapid decomposition of H_2O_2 and the slow dissipation of heat. Injection wells and nearby monitoring wells constructed of PVC have melted during ISFO. Since the melting point of PVC is 200 °C, this suggests that very high localized temperatures have resulted. The elevated temperature and production of steam (100 °C) represents a safety hazard when performing ISFO-related field activities. Heat production is functionally dependent on the volume and concentration of H_2O_2 injected, the rate of H_2O_2 injection, and H_2O_2 reactants in the subsurface. Stainless or carbon steel injection and monitoring wells have been used to withstand elevated temperatures during ISFO.

II.C.2.f. Injected Reagents

Various reagents are injected during ISFO to either facilitate or enhance contaminant oxidation, including H_2O_2 , ferrous Fe, acid, and stabilizers. The volume of H_2O_2 solution injected should be sufficient to fully contact the targeted zone. The H_2O_2 concentration should be optimally balanced to minimize $\cdot\text{OH}$ scavenging and to provide sufficient oxidative treatment. The reaction between Fe(II) and H_2O_2 is very fast. Therefore, each of these solutions should be injected into different wells or injected separately into the same well (pulsed), but not co-injected into the same well. Due to rapid H_2O_2 reaction in the subsurface, high injection rates, shorter injection well spacing, and lower pH can improve H_2O_2 distribution. The use of other reagents (Fe, acid, stabilizers) with H_2O_2 should be based on documented and demonstrated cost effectiveness and should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

II.C.2.f(1) H_2O_2

H_2O_2 solutions are clear and can be mixed with water in any proportion. Field and laboratory colorimetric analysis of H_2O_2 can be performed using various methods and field kits. The concentration range using field kits are low and require significant dilution of the sample. Colorimetric methods involving higher calibration ranges involve titanium sulfate (Schumb *et al.*, 1955; Huling *et al.*, 1998) and iodometric titration (Schumb *et al.*, 1955). H_2O_2 is available throughout the U.S. and is usually produced and purchased in bulk at 35% or 50% by weight. In many early ISFO projects, H_2O_2 had been injected at or near these concentrations despite the high potential for $\cdot\text{OH}$ scavenging (U.S. DoD, 1999). Injection of H_2O_2 at lower concentrations (1 to 10%) would reduce H_2O_2 scavenging, increase the volume of oxidant solution injected and, thus, the volume of aquifer contacted, and result in lower temperatures (and H_2O_2 reaction rate) at the injection well head.

There is an abundance of reactive species that will react with H_2O_2 including, but not limited to, heavy and transition metals (Ca, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, As, Se, Mo, Rh, Pd, Ag, Cd, W, Os, Ir, Pt, Au, Hg, Pb, Bi, Po), halogens (Cl, Br, I), microbial enzymes (catalase, peroxidase), and organic matter (Schumb *et al.*, 1955). In the subsurface, a sufficient abundance of reactive species exists, mainly iron; and rapid H_2O_2 decomposition is often observed limiting the persistence of H_2O_2 to short periods (1 to 12 hours). Assuming good contact between H_2O_2 and the targeted zone is achieved, the rapid rate of H_2O_2 reaction may be considered advantageous since

this leads to short-term disruption of commercial activities at the site. However, the rapid H_2O_2 reaction rate will impede H_2O_2 transport and delivery to targeted zones. The short duration of H_2O_2 in the subsurface also may prevent the diffusive transport of H_2O_2 into low-permeability materials containing contaminants.

Numerous physical and chemical differences between bench- and field-scale conditions affect the reaction rate of H_2O_2 in both systems. Therefore, it is recommended that H_2O_2 reaction rate kinetics generated from bench-scale treatability studies not be used to design injection well spacing at field-scale. The transport distance, or radial influence of H_2O_2 from the injection point, is best determined by monitoring ground water for H_2O_2 in monitoring wells during pilot-scale ISFO. This information can be used to design the radial distance between injection wells for adequate coverage during full-scale ISFO.

II.C.2.f(2) Iron (Fe)

Ferrous sulfate (FeSO_4) and other salts of Fe(II) have been co-injected with H_2O_2 to facilitate the Fenton reaction. The concentration of Fe(II) injected into the subsurface has generally been above background concentrations but low (e.g., 20 to 100 mg/L) relative to [H_2O_2]. Under this condition, the relative abundance of Fe(II) may contribute to $\cdot\text{OH}$ production and contaminant oxidation. Due to the slow Fe(III) reduction reactions relative to the rapid Fenton reaction (i.e., Fe(II) oxidation), a less efficient and slower rate of $\cdot\text{OH}$ production occurs after Fe(II) is initially reacted with H_2O_2 . Consequently, one disadvantage of Fe(II) amendment is that stoichiometric quantities are required. Fe(II) is vulnerable to numerous reactions (complexation, oxidation, precipitation) which immobilize the catalyst and minimize transport distances and distribution in the aquifer. For example, Fe(II) sorption and saturation of the Fe(III) surface can occur from the high stability of the Fe(III)-O-Fe(II) interaction (Roden and Zachara, 1996). Fe(III) is an unstable form of Fe which is vulnerable to precipitation and complexation, thus becoming immobile. Fe(III) precipitates above \approx pH 3.5 to hydrous ferric oxide (ferrihydrite) which behaves as a poor Fenton catalyst relative to the soluble form. Fe(II) is also involved in various chemical and physical reactions which may immobilize the catalyst and limit the transport distance from the injection well.

The reaction between Fe(II) and H_2O_2 is rapid, and simultaneous injection (mixing) of Fe(II) and H_2O_2 before injection or in the injection well results in the

Fenton reaction occurring in or very near the injection well. This is an inefficient use of both Fe(II) and H₂O₂ and can be dangerous.

Iron is one of the most common elements found in soils in the U.S. (average [Fe]_{SOIL} = 26,000 mg/kg, n=1318) (Shacklette and Boerngen, 1984). Not all Fe present in soil and aquifer material is available for reaction with H₂O₂. Nevertheless, at many sites, there is an abundance of naturally occurring heterogeneous forms of Fe which serves as the predominant source of catalyst for the Fenton mechanism. Under low pH and/or reduced conditions, some of the total Fe may be Fe(II), which if available, could react with H₂O₂, yielding ·OH. At most sites where Fenton oxidation is carried out, naturally occurring Fe, not the Fe(II) co-injected with H₂O₂, is predominantly responsible for H₂O₂ reactions.

Reduced permeability or fouling of injection wells attributed to Fe injection may have occurred at some sites but is not well-documented. Precipitation of Fe(II), formation of colloidal Fe particles, and entrapment in the pore throats of porous media could result in a permeability reduction. For example, the simultaneous injection of H₂O₂ and Fe(II) (which is not recommended) would likely result in Fe precipitation and immobilization in or near the well screen and/or sand pack. Fe oxidation and precipitation resulting from H₂O₂ injection alone could not explain the reduced permeability observed in injection wells at a bioremediation field site (Weisner *et al.*, 1996). Colloidal clay particles mobilized during injection have resulted in permeability losses (Weisner *et al.*, 1996, and references therein).

II.C.2.f(3) Acidification

H₂O₂ stability, contaminant oxidation efficiency, and Fe solubility and availability are greater under acidic conditions (pH 3 to 4) than in the near neutral pH range (pH 6 to 8) or higher. These effects are desirable in ISFO; therefore, pretreatment via acid injection or acidification of the injected H₂O₂ solution is common. The overall Fenton-driven oxidation reaction is acid-generating, which also contributes to acidification. Most aquifer and soil materials are well buffered in the near-neutral pH range which resists acidification. Similar to H₂O₂ and Fe(II), reaction of the injected acid with naturally occurring chemicals will limit the transport distance from the injection well. Acidification of ground water is poorly documented but generally persists over a short time frame (<1 to 3 days) and rebound to background pH may occur very rapidly in well-buffered systems. At the time of this publication, no information was available which indicated

long-term, post-ISFO persistence of acidic conditions. In poorly buffered systems, acidification and acid transport will be less problematic or may not be needed altogether.

Enhanced transport of some pH-sensitive metals may occur under acidic conditions. Bench-scale treatability studies can be used to assess the potential significance of metals mobility and whether metals mobilization may occur under field conditions. Ground-water monitoring at pilot- and/or full-scale ISFO sites is needed to assess metals mobilization and whether attenuation occurs within an acceptable transport distance.

II.C.2.f(4) Stabilizers

Various reagents have been injected to enhance ISFO performance. Mainly, these are intended to enhance the transport distance of H₂O₂ and Fe(II) in the aquifer. The most common H₂O₂ stabilizer involves various forms of phosphate which reduces the availability of inorganic reactants (i.e., Fe, Mn, etc.) via complexation or precipitation reactions. By design, the stabilizer itself is immobilized through these reactions and the transport and areal influence of the phosphate stabilizer may be significantly limited depending on the composition of the aquifer material. H₂O₂ degradation rates have been shown to decline in the presence of some stabilizers (Britton, 1985; Kakarla and Watts, 1997; Watts *et al.*, 1999) relative to unamended controls in laboratory studies. However, significant degradation (97%) of H₂O₂ (15 M) occurring over short transport distances (5 in, 12.5 cm) using high concentrations of phosphate (>10 g/L as P) stabilizer (Kakarla and Watts, 1997) suggests this form of stabilization may be impractical. Unsuccessful H₂O₂ stabilization in field studies from phosphate addition was attributed to microbial enzyme and Fe catalysts in the porous media (Spain *et al.*, 1989; Huling *et al.*, 1990; Hinchee *et al.*, 1991; Aggarwal and Hinchee *et al.*, 1991). Such naturally occurring enzymes, found ubiquitously and often abundant, are highly efficient in H₂O₂ disproportionation and are unaffected by phosphate stabilizers. Field-scale transport of stabilizers and their impact on H₂O₂ transport and reaction in ISFO systems have not been demonstrated.

Stabilizers also include ligands and chelators that complex Fe(II) in the near neutral pH range allowing it to remain in solution and ideally to enhance the transport distance in the aquifer. Numerous ligands have been tested in conjunction with the Fenton mechanism (Sun and Pignatello, 1993), but two ligands, nitrilotriacetate and N-(2-hydroxyethyl) iminodiacetate, appear to be

most effective (Pignatello and Baehr, 1994; Pignatello and Day, 1996). Subsurface transport and effectiveness of the ligand in ISFO systems may be limited either by reaction with $\cdot\text{OH}$ (Sun and Pignatello, 1993) or by sorption of the ligand to soil and aquifer material. Enhanced transport of an Fe-ligand complex was demonstrated in a soil column relative to Fe in an acidified solution (Kakarla *et al.*, 2002). In this case, a 13% reduction in the initial Fe(II) concentration (685 mg/L as Fe) occurred over 7.9 in (20 cm) column of aquifer material. One potential advantage of injecting an Fe-ligand complex into the aquifer in the near neutral pH range is to avoid the need to adjust the subsurface pH. However, while the transport distance of the Fe-ligand complex may increase, the transport of H_2O_2 can be significantly limited in the near-neutral pH range due to rapid decomposition. Field documentation of the simultaneous transport of H_2O_2 and an Fe-ligand complex, and cost information for the Fe-ligand solution, have not been reported.

Given the abundance of naturally occurring Fe, the significant limitations for Fe(II) transport, and the unproven performance and documentation of Fe and H_2O_2 stabilization in ISFO systems, it is currently unclear whether the injection of Fe(II), and the injection of stabilizers for Fe(II) and H_2O_2 during ISFO are cost-effective.

II.C.2.g. Advantages

Potential advantages of in-situ Fenton oxidation are included in Table 6.

Potential limitations of Fenton-driven oxidation, discussed below, may also be potential advantages. For example, the heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ released during Fenton oxidation may enhance mass transfer via the dissolution of NAPL,

Table 6. Potential Advantages of In-Situ Fenton Oxidation

- $\cdot\text{OH}$ is a powerful nonspecific oxidant that will react rapidly with many environmental contaminants.
- Reactions involving H_2O_2 are rapid, and it generally persists for <12 hours.
- Intermediate chemical species ($\cdot\text{O}_2^-$, HO_2^-) may reductively transform contaminants. Fenton oxidation could address complex mixtures of organic compounds.
- Enhanced natural attenuation may be attributed to $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ and heat. Oxidized inorganics may also serve as terminal e^- acceptors (refer to Section III.F.5. Impact of ISCO on Natural Attenuation and Biodegradation).
- Low cost of H_2O_2 (\$0.26/lb; \$39/1000 equivalents).

desorption from the solid phase, and volatilization. However, mobilization of NAPLs could increase the surface area of the NAPL for mass transfer, and the heat/ $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ could increase mass transfer to the aqueous phase. Several cases have been reported where post-oxidation ground-water contaminant concentrations were elevated (U.S. DoD, 1999) and could be attributed to DNAPL mobilization. Enhanced volatilization during ISFO could result in unacceptable exposure pathways and risks. However, ISFO in conjunction with a vacuum extraction system could be used to enhance the control, capture, and removal of volatile emissions, and thus prevent the dispersal of volatile contaminants in the environment. Mass transfer of contaminants is often an important limiting factor to subsurface remediation. Therefore, these enhanced mass transfer mechanisms could enhance remediation efficiency, but have not been rigorously investigated or documented.

II.C.2.h. Disadvantages

There are several potential limitations to Fenton-based remediation strategies which should be evaluated (Table 7). Understanding the limitations of ISFO will allow scientists and engineers to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of the technology and allow greater opportunities for improvements in the technology. Qualitative information of these limitations and mechanisms has been reported in case studies (U.S. DOE, 1997; U.S. DoD, 1999; ITRC, 2005) and is summarized as follows: post-oxidation increases in soil gas contaminant concentrations; steam production; mass flux of volatiles from wells near the injection zone; heat released, asphalt upheaval, explosions, fire; overflowing wells; post-oxidation redistribution of contaminants, etc. Several undocumented examples of excessive heat and gas releases have been reported elsewhere (Nyer and Vance, 1999). Early applications of Fenton oxidation led to these problems and occurred as the technology was developing and guidelines for design and operations were limited. Improvements in the state of the practice of ISFO over the last few years have contributed to a reduction in the number of reported problems and health and safety incidents from field applications.

II.C.3. In-Situ Ozone Oxidation

II.C.3.a. Overview

O_3 is a gas and a strong oxidant that is sparingly soluble in water and upon reaction does not leave a residual (i.e., SO_4^{2-} , $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$) other than O_2^- . Analysis of dissolved O_3 in aqueous solutions can be performed using an

Table 7. Potential Limitations of In-Situ Fenton Oxidation*

- Excessive H_2O_2 decomposition via nonproductive reactions.*
- Radical scavenging.*
- Low reaction rate between some target contaminant and $\cdot OH$, $\cdot O_2^-$, HO_2^- .*
- pH modification (acidification) is problematic in well buffered aquifers.*
- Problematic delivery of H_2O_2 , Fe(II), acid, and stabilizers due to reactive transport.
- Production of $O_2(g)$ contributes to reductions in permeability. This may reduce the flow of ground water and injected reagents through the targeted contaminated zones. It also results in sparging which contributes to volatilization and redistribution of contaminants.
- Pneumatic transport of volatiles, NAPL, and contaminated ground water away from the injection point; heaving asphalt, excessive pressure.
- Incomplete oxidation and mobilization of metals.
- Excessive release of heat and elevated temperatures associated with high H_2O_2 concentrations may damage/melt PVC/plastic wells, screens and enhance volatilization, NAPL transport, H_2O_2 reaction.
- Unproven use of stabilizer reagents.
- Health and safety issues regarding release of volatiles, steam, strong oxidant solutions.

*These limitations lead to a decline in process efficiency.

indigo colorimetric method (Method No. 4500- O_3 B (U.S. EPA, 1989), APHA, AWWA, WEF, 1989) or the indigo-based HACH Ozone Accuvac Mid-range Test Kit (HACH Co., Loveland, CO). The solubility of O_3 is relatively low and is functionally dependent on temperature and the partial pressure of O_3 in the gas phase. At 1.5% O_3 by weight in air, the solubility of O_3 (pH 7) at 5 °C, 10 °C, 15 °C, and 20 °C, is 11.1, 9.8, 8.4, and 6.4 mg/L, respectively. Decomposition is much more rapid in the aqueous phase than in the gas phase due to the strong catalyzing reaction by the hydroxide ion (OH^-). For example, the typical half-life of gaseous O_3 and aqueous O_3 (pH 7) at 20 °C is three days and 20 minutes, respectively. These values are based on thermal decomposition only, and no wall effects, humidity, organic loading, or other catalytic effects are considered. Decomposition increases with increasing temperature and is catalyzed by several substances including solid alkalis, metals, metal oxides, carbon, and moisture in the gas phase. Depending on the reactivity and concentration of reactants, temperature, and pH, the persistence of O_3 in the environment and the extent of contaminant oxidation will vary significantly. The instability of O_3 requires that it be generated on site. This is accomplished using a simple process where electrical generators produce O_3 from $O_2(g)$ present in the air. Air, dry air, or O_2 is drawn into an ozone generator and the air is charged with high voltage or UV irradiation where O_2 molecules split into oxygen atoms that react quickly to form O_3 . Air and pure O_2 can be used to produce O_3 concentrations of about 1% and 4 to

10%, respectively. Compression of O_3 gas is required to inject the oxidant under pressure. Under this condition, hydraulic seals and other materials used in the remedial equipment must be compatible to withstand oxidant deterioration. Teflon, Viton, and 316 stainless steel have been used for this purpose (Jensen *et al.*, 1999).

II.C.3.b. In-Situ Application

In-situ O_3 oxidation involves the injection of a mixture of air and O_3 gas directly into the unsaturated and/or saturated zones. Air sparging (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994; Hein *et al.*, 1997; Johnson, 1998; Brooks *et al.*, 1999) is a technology that has been rigorously investigated and shares many similarities with O_3 sparging and provides insight to mass transport and mass transfer mechanisms with in-situ O_3 sparging, which has not been rigorously investigated in subsurface systems. Injection of air beneath the water table promotes volatilization, supplies oxygen for aerobic degradation, and may induce ground-water mixing (Johnson, 1998). In addition to these benefits of air sparging, oxidative transformations also occur during O_3 sparging. Soil vapor extraction is commonly used to capture volatile emissions in the unsaturated zone during air sparging and should also be an important consideration and design component in in-situ O_3 sparging. Air sparging, in general, does not result in a uniform distribution of air bubbles extending radially from the injection well. Rather, air sparging results in the formation of a limited number of air channels in which the majority of the

injected air is transported. In an ideal system, as the air moves upward due to buoyancy and outward due to applied pressure, the air channels form a V-shaped network of interconnected air channels (Elder and Benson, 1999, and references therein). Most sites are characterized as nonideal systems where air channels are heterogeneously distributed, difficult to characterize and predict (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994; Hein *et al.*, 1997), and allow the air to bypass a significant cross-section of the aquifer into which it is injected. This conceptual model is illustrated for an O₃ sparging system in Figure 1. During air sparging, air bubbles form in coarse-grained size porous media and air channels form in fine-grained size porous media (Brooks *et al.*, 1999; Elder and Benson, 1999). Since the

majority of remedial sites are composed of media smaller than coarse sand, air channels should prevail (Brooks *et al.*, 1999). Buoyancy forces on the bubble introduce a vertical transport component which restricts the lateral transport of bubbles. Coalescing of small bubbles forms larger bubbles and eventually a continuum of gas (air channel) in the saturated media. O₃ sparging in the subsurface is analogous to air sparging, and therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the transport and distribution processes are similar.

It is generally assumed that mass transfer of volatile organics from the aqueous phase to the gas phase occurs by diffusion very near the air channels at a rate that is

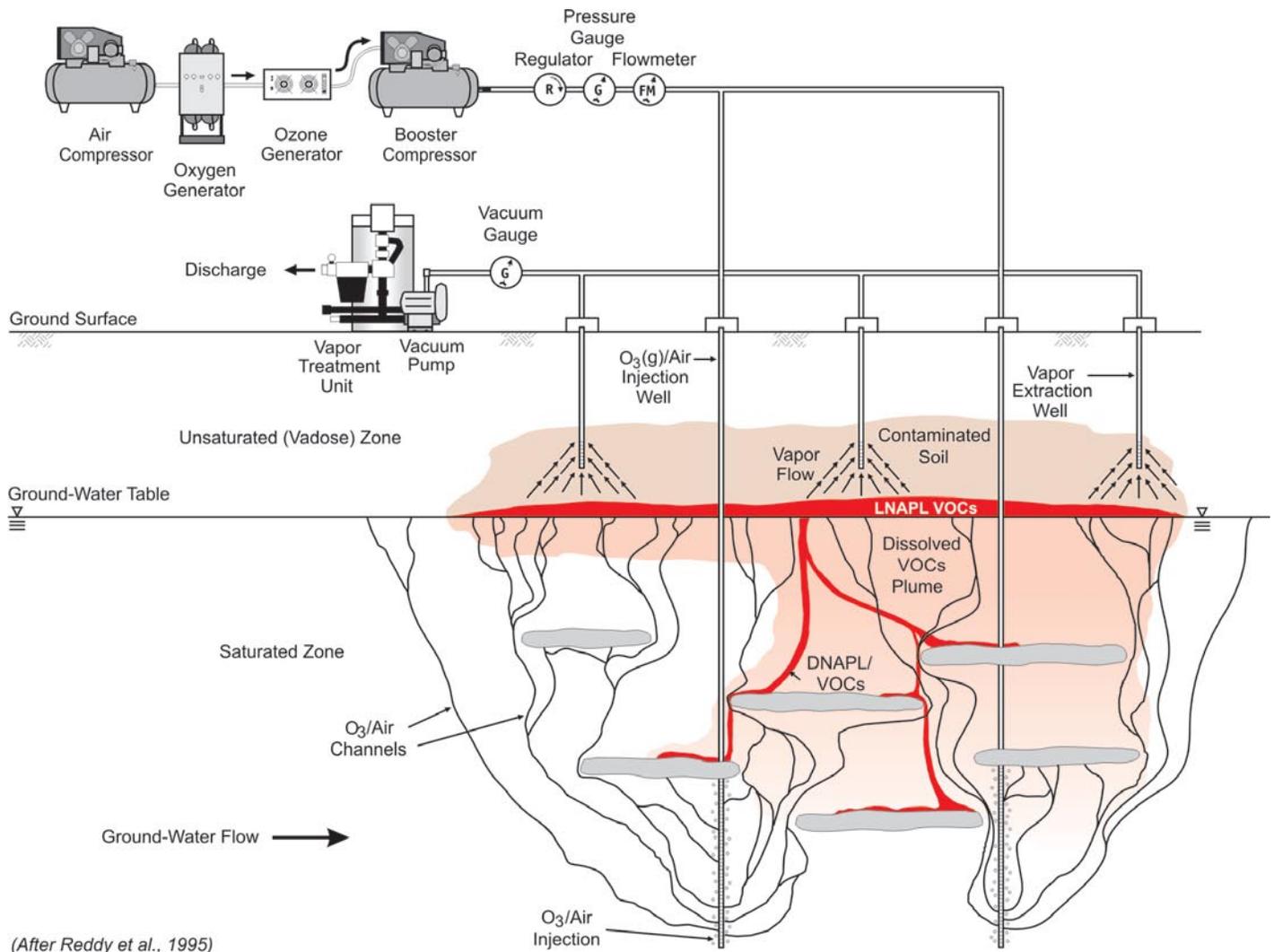


Figure 1. General conceptual model of in-situ ozonation in the saturated zone with soil vacuum extraction to capture volatile emissions and O₃(g). On-site O₃ generation and injection into the ground water results in oxidation of ground-water contaminants and other reduced chemical species. O₃/air sparging results in the formation of O₃/air channels which contact a small cross-section of the aquifer. Close spacing of injection wells is required to accomplish a high density of air channels for adequate distribution of the oxidant.

rapid in comparison to removal in water-saturated regions around the channels (Johnson, 1998). It is reasonable to assume that contaminant oxidation occurs by similar mass transfer mechanisms, (1) the diffusion and volatilization of contaminants into the air/O₃ channels where gas-phase oxidation reactions occur, and (2) the diffusion of O₃ into the aqueous phase where contaminant oxidation reactions occur. In one air sparging study, mass transfer was restricted to a zone very near the air channel. The results indicated that for remediation to be successful, air channels during sparging must be as close as possible where mass transfer zones overlap each other. The concentration of VOCs just outside the mass transfer zone remained fairly constant (Braida and Ong, 2001). Low O₃ content in the injected air and the abundance of non-target reactants also contribute to process inefficiency. Air/O₃ channel density is related to the rate of remediation; the greater the density of air channels achieved during in-situ O₃ sparging, the greater the mass transfer and rates of reactions will occur between O₃ and contaminants in the aqueous and gas phases.

The radius of influence in the context of air sparging is ambiguous because air channels are not uniformly or radially symmetric about a sparge injection point. Further, heterogeneously distributed air channels leave large volumes of water in between the air channels untouched by the air stripping (volatilization) mass transfer mechanisms (Ahlfeld *et al.*, 1994). Again, drawing similarities between air sparging and O₃ sparging, it is reasonable to assume that treatment is not uniform (i.e., same rate of remediation) between wells where sparging (air channels) is observed. Few O₃ sparging cases actually report monitoring data for dissolved O₃ in the ground water or for sparging activity observed in wells. Therefore,

the loosely defined radius of influence for in-situ O₃ oxidation is not well-documented.

Due to the low dissolved concentrations of O₃ in the ground water and poor transport of O₃ bubbles, long-term delivery of O₃ into the saturated zone is required for sufficient O₃ mass delivery. The concentration of O₃ in the ground water can be used to assess the radius of influence of injected O₃. At the time of this publication, no case study or examples were available that demonstrated the radius of influence or the transport distance of dissolved O₃ or O₃ microbubbles in ground water.

The transport of O₃ gas in unsaturated porous media is impacted by various parameters. The water content, soil organic matter, and metal oxides were found to be the factors most influential in the fate and transport of gaseous O₃ in unsaturated porous media (Choi *et al.*, 2002). The higher the water content, the faster the breakthrough. This was attributed to less contact with the metal oxide and organic matter reactants associated with the solid phase material. Nevertheless, O₃ was readily delivered and transported through unsaturated porous media where phenanthrene and diesel range organics (C₁₀ to C₂₄) were oxidized.

II.C.3.c. Ozone Demand

The O₃ demand was measured in the laboratory for four different soil materials (Table 8). In this study, it was shown that increasing the water content of the soil material resulted in greater O₃ demand due to dissolution into water (probably due to the strong catalyzing reaction by OH⁻) and subsequently, self-decomposition. The water content under field conditions varies considerably,

Table 8. O₃ Demand and Energy Costs to Meet the Demand of Uncontaminated Geological Material (Masten and Davies, 1997)

| Geological Material | O ₃ Demand (mg O ₃ /g soil) | Energy Cost/Ton | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------|----------------------|
| | | kWh ¹ | \$ U.S. ² |
| Ottawa sand | <0.04 | <0.22 | <0.013 |
| Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, MI | 0.022 to 0.215 ³ | <4.3 | <0.26 |
| Metea subsoil, E. Lansing, MI | 1.4 | 31 | 1.85 |
| Borden sand, Borden AFB, Ontario | 2.0 | 44 | 2.64 |

¹ Based on energy cost for O₃ generation of 10 kWh/lb

² Based on a cost for electricity of \$0.06 per kWh

³ 0.022 mg O₃/g at 3.2% moisture content, 0.215 mg O₃/g at 6.8% moisture content

especially near the water table, which will strongly influence O₃ transport, O₃ demand, and costs (refer to Section III.A.3. Oxidant Demand).

II.C.3.d. Contaminant Transformations

Environmental contaminants can be oxidized either by direct reaction with O₃, or indirectly via O₃ decomposition and formation of the hydroxyl radical ($\cdot\text{OH}$), a stronger oxidant (Hoigne and Bader, 1976; 1979a; 1979b) (Table 9). O₃ reacts rapidly with electron-rich olefins and aromatic compounds. Increasing chlorine substitution will decrease the rate constant of O₃ addition to olefins, and in the case of TCE and PCE, the rate constants are already so low that at short reaction times common in treatment processes there is very little destruction (Dowideit and von Sonntag, 1998). PCE reacts so slowly that it cannot be oxidized by a direct O₃ reaction within a day, and TCE will react only during extended O₃ treatment (Hoigne and Bader, 1979a). In contrast, DCE and vinyl chloride react quickly (Clancy *et al.*, 1996) due to the free C=C double bond. The reaction rate of benzene is low, requiring hours for its oxidation even at high O₃ concentration. However, the rate increases with increased substitution of functional groups that elevate the electron density of the ring (e.g., phenols, chlorophenols). Aliphatic alcohols, aldehydes, and organic acids generally react so slowly that the reaction rates are of little interest. However, formic acid, in the ionic form as formate ion, can be oxidized rapidly. NH₃ and amines show an appreciable reaction rate when in the non-protonated form. During ozonation, only those functional groups of contaminants which are especially reactive towards an electrophilic reactant (i.e., O₃), (non-halogen-substituted olefinic compounds, phenols and phenolate ions, PAHs, non-protonated amino groups, thio compounds, etc.) can be easily oxidized directly by O₃. Only the more reactive $\cdot\text{OH}$ may attack molecules containing less reactive functional groups, such as aliphatic hydrocarbons, carboxylic acids, benzene, chlorobenzene, nitrobenzene, perchloroethylene or trichloroethylene (Hoigne and Bader, 1979b). Ozone has been used for

PAHs (Masten and Davies, 1997; Cambridge and Jensen, 1999; Wheeler *et al.*, 2002), BTEX (Black, 2001), MTBE (Black, 2001), and chlorinated compounds such as PCE, TCE, and DCE (Masten and Davies, 1997). Pyrene and phenanthrene degradation was greater than 90% in one hour in a loamy sand soil, while degradation of 100 mg/kg chrysene was 50% in four hours (Masten and Davies, 1997).

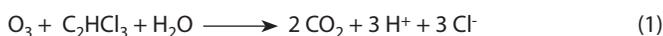
The addition of H₂O₂ to O₃ in water generates $\cdot\text{OH}$, thereby increasing the oxidative capabilities of the treatment system (Table 9). Increased rates of contaminant oxidation have been reported for MTBE (Mitani *et al.*, 2002) and TCE and PCE (Glaze and Kang, 1988; Clancy *et al.*, 1996) when O₃ is combined with H₂O₂. At the time of this publication, no information was obtained where O₃ and H₂O₂ were co-injected into the subsurface in an ISCO treatment system.

II.C.3.e. Other Considerations

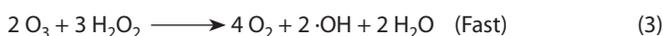
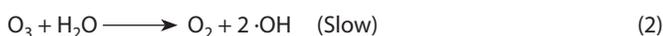
In-situ ozonation may involve feasibility testing (bench-scale testing) to assess whether the target contaminants can be oxidized under site-specific conditions using reasonable quantities of O₃, without deleterious side effects, such as metals mobilization or unacceptable reaction byproducts. Determination of in-situ ozone design parameters can be determined through pilot-scale testing. For example, O₃ distribution can be measured to assess whether a sufficient quantity of O₃ can be produced and delivered throughout the targeted zone. Additionally, a decline in contaminant concentration and an increase in reaction byproducts (i.e., CVOCs and Cl⁻) can be measured to assure that the treatment objectives can be achieved and volatilization is not a significant loss mechanism. Fugitive O₃ emissions during production or injection may represent unacceptable risks to human health and to the environment. Where SVE is needed to capture the off-gas from O₃ injection, a nickel catalyst is used to decompose O₃. Engineering and safety controls are, therefore, required to prevent unacceptable exposure pathways. In addition, high O₂ content in confined spaces may represent unacceptable health and safety conditions and should also be monitored and managed. For example, monitoring air quality across the site should assure that the O₃ concentrations meet OSHA requirements. The delivery of O₃(g) into the subsurface may displace volatile organics from the injection zone. Consequently, control of fugitive volatile emissions may be necessary if unacceptable exposure pathways are predicted or determined. A vapor extraction system can be used to enhance the radius of influence of the O₃ and to capture volatile organics and unreacted O₃ (Jensen *et al.*, 1999).

Table 9. General Ozone Oxidation and Related Chemical Reactions

Direct Oxidation



$\cdot\text{OH}$ Formation



II.C.3.f. Advantages

O₃ reacts with many, but not all important environmental contaminants. Advantages of in-situ ozonation in the unsaturated zone relative to the saturated zone include: higher concentrations of O₃ can be injected, O₃ is more stable in gas than in water, diffusive transport is greater, and higher velocities (mass delivery rates) can be achieved. Co-injection and reaction of H₂O₂ and O₃ can yield ·OH, a strong, nonspecific oxidant. However, no information was available regarding the demonstration and documentation of this co-injection process.

II.C.3.g. Disadvantages

O₃ has a short retention time in the subsurface because it reacts rapidly with a wide range of naturally occurring non-target chemical species (reduced minerals, organic matter, etc.), including the hydroxide ion (OH⁻). O₃ has a relatively low solubility in water and is highly vulnerable to hydraulic short circuiting as a gas in the unsaturated zone. Based on similarities between air sparging and O₃ sparging, it is reasonable to conclude that O₃ bubbles injected into the saturated zone are poorly/nonuniformly distributed and are transported very short distances. Transport and distribution of O₃(g) in the saturated zone is most likely restricted to very short distances from the gas channels (i.e., O₃(g), O₂(g)) that form in the subsurface. Consequently, O₃ mass transport and mass transfer limitations are likely to be significant. On-site generation and compression of the corrosive O₃ gas is required to inject under pressure in the saturated zone and results in the rapid deterioration of remediation piping and plumbing materials if incompatible materials are used. Specialized oxidant-resistant materials are likely to be required. Enhanced volatilization of contaminants may result from sparging the ground water with O₃(g) and O₂(g). Since volatile organics and O₃ both represent a threat to human health, collection of volatile emissions (off-gases) using a vacuum extraction system may be required to minimize potential exposure pathways. O₃ does not react at an appreciable rate with some important environmental contaminants.

II.C.4. In-Situ Persulfate Oxidation

II.C.4.a. Physical and Chemical Characteristics and Chemical Reactions

Persulfate is the newest form of oxidant currently being used for ISCO. Persulfate salts dissociate in aqueous solutions to form the persulfate anion (S₂O₈²⁻). S₂O₈²⁻ is a strong oxidant and can degrade many environmental con-

taminants, or it can be catalyzed with various reactants to form the sulfate radical (·SO₄⁻), a more powerful oxidant. Catalysis of S₂O₈²⁻ to ·SO₄⁻ can be achieved at elevated temperatures (35 to 40 °C), with ferrous iron (Fe(II)), by photo (UV) activation (Table 10, rxns 1 to 3), with base (i.e., elevated pH), or with H₂O₂. In addition to Fe, other general activators include the ions of copper, silver, manganese, cerium, and cobalt (Liang *et al.*, 2004a, and references therein). Persulfate-driven oxidation by ·SO₄⁻ has a greater oxidation potential (2.6 V) than S₂O₈²⁻ (2.1 V) (Table 1) and can degrade a wider range of environmental contaminants at faster rates. Formation of ·SO₄⁻ may initiate the formation of ·OH (rxn 4, Table 10) and a series of radical propagation and termination chain reactions where organic compounds can be transformed (Huang *et al.*, 2002, and references therein).

Table 10. General Persulfate Oxidation and Related Chemical Reactions

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|
| $S_2O_8^{2-}$ | $\xrightarrow{\text{heat}}$ | $2 \cdot SO_4^-$ | (1) |
| $S_2O_8^{2-} + Fe^{+2}$ | \longrightarrow | $Fe^{+3} + \cdot SO_4^- + SO_4^{2-}$ | (2) |
| $S_2O_8^{2-}$ | $\xrightarrow{h\nu}$ | $2 \cdot SO_4^-$ | (3) |
| $\cdot SO_4^- + H_2O$ | \longrightarrow | $\cdot OH + HSO_4^-$ | (4) |
| $\cdot SO_4^- + Fe^{+2}$ | \longrightarrow | $Fe^{+3} + \cdot SO_4^- + SO_4^{2-}$ | (5) |

The solubility of potassium persulfate is too low for environmental applications, and the reaction of ammonium persulfate will result in an ammonia residual, an undesirable reaction product. Therefore, sodium persulfate (Na₂S₂O₈) is the most common and feasible form used in ISCO. Sodium persulfate costs approximately \$1.20/lb (Brown and Robinson, 2004). The solubility of Na₂S₂O₈ is high (73 g/100 g H₂O @ 25 °C) and the density of a 20 g/L solution (1.0104 g/mL) (FMC, 2006) at 25 °C is greater than water. Therefore, the density-driven transport of a high concentration solution of Na₂S₂O₈ would occur in the subsurface. Persulfate is more stable in the subsurface as compared to H₂O₂ and O₃ (Huang *et al.*, 2002), and can persist in the subsurface for weeks, suggesting that the natural oxidant demand for persulfate is low. The persulfate anion (S₂O₈²⁻) is not significantly involved in sorption reactions. These characteristics make persulfate an attractive oxidant because it persists in the subsurface, can be injected at high concentrations, can be transported in porous media, and will undergo density-driven and diffusive transport into low-permeability materials.

Co-injection of persulfate and Fe^{+2} could be performed to accomplish the catalysis of $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ to $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$. The transport of Fe^{+2} in the subsurface can be problematic, as discussed previously (Section II.C.2.f, Injected Reagents). Oxidation of Fe^{+2} to Fe^{+3} by either $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ or $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ could limit the effectiveness of either the injected catalyst or the oxidant. In one persulfate field study, naturally occurring ferrous iron was used to catalyze the persulfate anion while maintaining slightly reduced conditions and soluble Fe^{+2} (Sperry *et al.*, 2002). The scavenging reaction between Fe^{+2} and $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ (rxn 5, Table 10) and other non-target reducible reactants represents a potential sink for the sulfate radical. A balance must be achieved between adding sufficient Fe to accomplish $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ production and excessive Fe which may result in $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ scavenging (Liang *et al.*, 2004a). Scavenging of $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ and $\cdot\text{OH}$ and a decline in the persulfate oxidation rate of MTBE were attributed to naturally occurring carbonate and bicarbonate in ground water (Huang *et al.*, 2002). The persulfate oxidation rate of MTBE decreased with increasing pH and increasing ionic strength (Huang *et al.*, 2002). However, the decline in the oxidation rate from pH 2.5 to near neutral was only 30%, indicating that persulfate oxidation is pH-dependent, but only moderately sensitive to this parameter.

II.C.4.b. Contaminant Transformations

Several environmental contaminants have been oxidized in laboratory experiments using persulfate and various catalysts. Fe^{+2} -assisted sodium persulfate oxidation of TCE (60 mg/L) removed 47% of the TCE at a persulfate:iron:TCE molar ratio of 20:5:1 (Sperry *et al.*, 2002; Liang *et al.*, 2004a). TCE oxidation also occurs via chelated Fe^{+2} -assisted treatments (Liang *et al.*, 2004b). TCE was significantly oxidized at 40 to 60 °C, and TCA at 60 °C, within several hours (Liang *et al.*, 2001; Liang *et al.*, 2003). In a field test involving a glauconitic (iron rich, 3 to 15 mg/L Fe^{+2}) sandy aquifer, persulfate catalyzed by naturally occurring ferrous iron oxidized 30 to 50% of a TCE and cis-1,2-DCE concentration of about 7 to 9 mg/L and vinyl chloride (Sperry *et al.*, 2002). Heat-assisted sodium persulfate (at about 8 g/L) oxidized MTBE in the ppm range (half-life <1 hour; 40 °C) in a buffered laboratory solution. A much slower MTBE degradation rate was observed in ground-water samples, perhaps due to radical scavenging by bicarbonate ions (Huang *et al.*, 2002). Persulfate (0.0357 mg/L; persulfate:organic matter ratio of 12 g/g; 70 °C) oxidation of PAHs (<200 mg/kg; 16 EPA PAHs) at bench-scale tests with a three-hour reaction time varied widely in 14 different soils and sediments. Loss of the 16 PAHs varied between 0 to 80%; 0 to 85% loss of 2- and 3-ring PAHs; 0 to 75% loss

of 4-ring PAHs; and 0 to 70% of 5- and 6-ring PAHs (Cuypers *et al.*, 2000). The reaction between $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ and 66 organic compounds (and isomers) in aqueous solution at various temperatures (room temperature, 20 °C, 35 °C, 40 °C, or 45 °C), persulfate concentrations (1, 5, 11 g/L), presence of Fe^{+2} or catalyst, and time of contact (3, 14, 20, 21, 90 days) has been evaluated (FMC, 2005).

Overall, heat-assisted persulfate oxidation is rapid, and raising the temperature of aquifer material and ground water is technically feasible; however, the economic feasibility has not been established. Methods used to raise the temperature in subsurface systems include radio frequency heating, steam injection, six phase, electrical resistance, etc., but have not been demonstrated at field-scale in conjunction with persulfate oxidation.

Liang *et al.* (2001) hypothesized that sodium persulfate (being a fairly strong oxidant at ambient temperatures) could have an important role in the oxidation of soil organic carbon. If so, one potential use of persulfate in in-situ remediation would be for the oxidation of soil organic matter, prior to use of a different oxidant for oxidation of contaminants. The destruction of soil organic matter is important since it will decrease the natural oxidant demand (NOD) of the soil, allowing subsequent oxidant additions to be used more efficiently for target contaminants. However, Brown and Robinson (2004) questioned the effectiveness of persulfate for decreasing soil oxidant demand, stating that it was relatively unreactive toward naturally occurring organic matter.

II.C.4.c. Advantages

Persulfate is more stable in the subsurface than H_2O_2 and O_3 , and the radical intermediate, $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$, is more stable than $\cdot\text{OH}$. This suggests fewer mass transfer and mass transport limitations. Persulfate will react with benzene, while permanganate does not, thus allowing this form of oxidant to be used in the remediation of fuel spills and BTEX-contaminated ground water. Persulfate does not appear to react as readily with soil organic matter as permanganate (Brown and Robinson, 2004). This may not be an advantage over permanganate in aquifer material where the oxidant demand is predominantly due to reduced mineral species.

II.C.4.d. Disadvantages

In-situ chemical oxidation involving persulfate is an emerging technology and, in general, the peer-reviewed literature is limited, and there are few reports of bench-

and field-scale studies. The lack of information pertaining to the fundamental chemistry and applications in subsurface systems suggests there is also a limited infrastructure of knowledge and experience upon which to design successful remediation systems. This limitation/disadvantage will diminish with time based on ongoing fundamental and applied research.

Persulfate is less stable than permanganate and will not persist as long in subsurface systems. Catalysts are required in the persulfate reaction to produce the more powerful sulfate radical. There will likely be difficulties in achieving the optimal mix of reagents (i.e., $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$, catalysts) in the subsurface due to the lack of naturally occurring catalyst, and due to the difference in transport behavior of these reagents upon injection. $\cdot\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ scavenging is a source of process inefficiency that is currently not well understood nor documented. $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ costs approximately \$2.70/kg, which is more than KMnO_4 and H_2O_2 . This cost of oxidant may be offset by the lack of oxidant demand by non-target aquifer materials.

III. TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND TECHNOLOGY SELECTION FACTORS

III.A. Bench-Scale Studies

Bench-scale treatability studies can be useful to gain insight on the feasibility of contaminant oxidation prior to field-scale applications. In complex, heterogeneous systems it is difficult to predict specific reactions, oxidation efficiency, oxidation byproducts, or whether any of the potential limitations apply. The methods and materials of bench-scale treatability studies may vary based on the oxidant used and the objectives. It is important to recognize the physical differences between bench- and field-scale systems. The use of bench-scale treatability results from simplified systems to design field-scale ISCO systems must be heavily scrutinized.

III.A.1. Objectives

One objective of a bench-scale treatability study is to establish proof of concept that the target compound can be transformed by oxidative treatment(s) given the potential limitations. Another objective in MnO_4^- bench-scale studies is to measure the oxidant demand. This data and information is used to assess the feasibility of ISCO and to assist in the design of oxidant injection at pilot- or field-scale (refer to Section III.E.2.a. Permanganate Oxidation). For all oxidants, significant contaminant reduction should be demonstrated using reasonable quan-

ties of oxidant and reagents under reasonable simulated conditions. For example, with Fenton oxidation, the pH of the test reactors should not be conducted at the optimal pH (pH 3.5 to 4) unless the acidic condition can be accomplished at field-scale. Otherwise, the results may overestimate treatment effectiveness. Assessment of the reaction byproducts may also be an important objective since the oxidative treatment of some target compounds or complex chemical mixtures may be poorly documented or unknown. Side and competing reactions may yield undesirable byproducts. Historically, mobilization of redox- and pH-sensitive metals has been a concern and may be an important objective in the bench-scale treatability study. Although attenuation of metals generally occurs over short transport distances, this may be an important issue where high metals concentrations exist (i.e., naturally occurring or co-disposed with organics) and/or where potential receptors are nearby and could be impacted over short transport distances.

Under some conditions, bench-scale treatability studies may not be feasible. At one site underlain by a coarse alluvial aquifer, it was difficult and costly to obtain unconsolidated aquifer media using direct push or hollow stem auger. Air rotary drilling was used to install wells at the site but this method of acquiring aquifer material would significantly impact (pulverize) the physical integrity of the samples (i.e., the surface area, reactive species, redox, and contaminant concentrations would be altered significantly). Consequently, the MnO_4^- oxidant demand would be highly variable and would likely yield erroneous results that would confuse the feasibility assessment. A small field-scale pilot treatability study was conducted which was designed to limit cost and to assess the feasibility of ISCO.

III.A.2. General Guidelines

Components of the bench-scale reactor should include the aquifer material since it will contain the majority of the contaminant(s) and other parameters that will largely influence oxidant demand and the success or failure of the treatment process. Disturbed aquifer material is generally used in this procedure. Use of ground water from the site is ideal but is generally not critical. Capture and quantification of contaminant losses from the reactor is necessary to maintain a mass balance and to assess treatment performance. These losses include volatiles, displacement of aquifer material, aqueous solutions, or DNAPLs. Reactions involving H_2O_2 may release significant quantities of heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ and enhance volatilization. Volatile losses can be captured and quantified using inert gas bags or an activated carbon trap. A

nonvolatile contaminant analog can also be amended to the reaction vessel and its loss can be used to predict the oxidative transformation of the target compound (Huling *et al.*, 2000). Failure to capture volatile losses could result in an overestimate of oxidative treatment.

Recommended monitoring parameters that are a direct indicator of oxidative treatment include the target compounds, reaction byproducts, metals, and the oxidant (i.e., H_2O_2 , MnO_4^- , $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$, O_3). Indirect indicators such as CO_2 , dissolved oxygen (DO), total organic carbon (TOC), chemical oxidant demand (COD), and temperature have been used but are generally unreliable and not recommended. Control reactors can be used to help quantify non-oxidation losses and are recommended. Measuring pre- and post-oxidation concentrations of the target compound in the aqueous, solid, and gaseous phases allows mass balance calculations which serve as the basis for performance evaluation.

III.A.3. Oxidant Demand

“Natural oxidant demand” generally refers to the demand attributed to naturally occurring materials (i.e., reduced inorganic species + organic matter). The total oxidant demand includes both the natural oxidant demand and the demand due to anthropogenic contaminants. In this document, the term oxidant demand is synonymous with total oxidant demand.

The oxidant demand for H_2O_2 is not measured since H_2O_2 decomposition involves catalytic reactions (Table 4, rxns 1 to 2) and the oxidant demand would be infinite. The oxidant demand in O_3 systems may also be difficult to quantify due to reactions between O_3 and H_2O and OH^- . Under some conditions, the consumption of O_3 by these reactants may be relatively small. Four different geologic materials exerted a limited O_3 demand (Table 8), i.e., the rate of O_3 degradation in soil columns was slow after the immediate O_3 demand was met (Masten and Davies, 1997). Bench-scale measurements of the O_3 demand may successfully separate the high O_3 demand associated with reducible mineral species from a longer-term demand of lower magnitude attributed to OH^- and H_2O . However, the long-term O_3 demand under in-situ conditions has not been well-documented and may be significant.

The permanganate oxidant demand is often measured at bench-scale in batch reactors prior to field-scale applications and many variations of the test procedures have been reported. Testing procedures also include column tests (Drescher *et al.*, 1998; Mumford *et al.*, 2004) and

field push-pull tests (Mumford *et al.*, 2004). A standardized method to measure the oxidant demand is under review by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) (Vella *et al.*, 2005) and can be reviewed at an EPA website http://www.epa.gov/ada/topics/oxidation_issue.html. The oxidant demand results can be used to assess the preliminary feasibility of in-situ permanganate oxidation. The test involves two tiers of testing. Tier 1 is an inexpensive, rapid (minimum 48-hour test) preliminary screening test used to estimate the oxidant demand of aquifer materials and contaminants. Tier 1 testing involves a minimum of 250 grams of soil and 250 mL of site ground water per soil sample, a minimum of 50 grams of soil per reactor vessel, 3 KMnO_4 loading rates (5, 15, and 30 g KMnO_4/kg soil), a soil:water ratio of 1:2 (wt.:wt. wet basis), and a minimum of 48 hours reaction time. Guidelines for soil sample handling (preparation, mixing, compositing, drying, storage), testing procedures (reactor vessel, MnO_4^- measurements, mixing, etc.), and oxidant demand calculations are provided.

Oxidant demand results from laboratory studies are generally used in conjunction with other site-specific treatability results to assess the preliminary feasibility of ISCO including projecting the cost for oxidant, assess technical and economic feasibility, compare ISCO with other candidate technologies, assess implementability, etc. Oxidant demand data may also be used to assist in the design of pilot- or full-scale injection systems. However, there is not a uniform approach or method used for either of these purposes (refer to Section III.E.2. General Conceptual Approach to ISCO).

Tier 2 of the proposed ASTM method is more complex and, in theory, could provide comprehensive site and testing data, including extensive sampling methodology, longer test duration, increased reaction data points, and reaction kinetics. Tier 2 is currently under development and has not yet been submitted to ASTM for review. Other guidelines for performing oxidant demand tests are also available (Haselow *et al.*, 2003), and continued development is needed.

Long-term oxidant demand testing reveals that the oxidant demand extends much longer than 48 hours, resulting in higher oxidant demand values than measured over a shorter time periods (Figure 2). The long-term persistence of MnO_4^- (>>2 days) in aquifer material has been well-documented suggesting that long-term testing may be more representative of testing conditions. This may be important in cases where contaminants persist for long periods. For example, contaminants present as NAPLs or contaminants in low-permeability materials may have

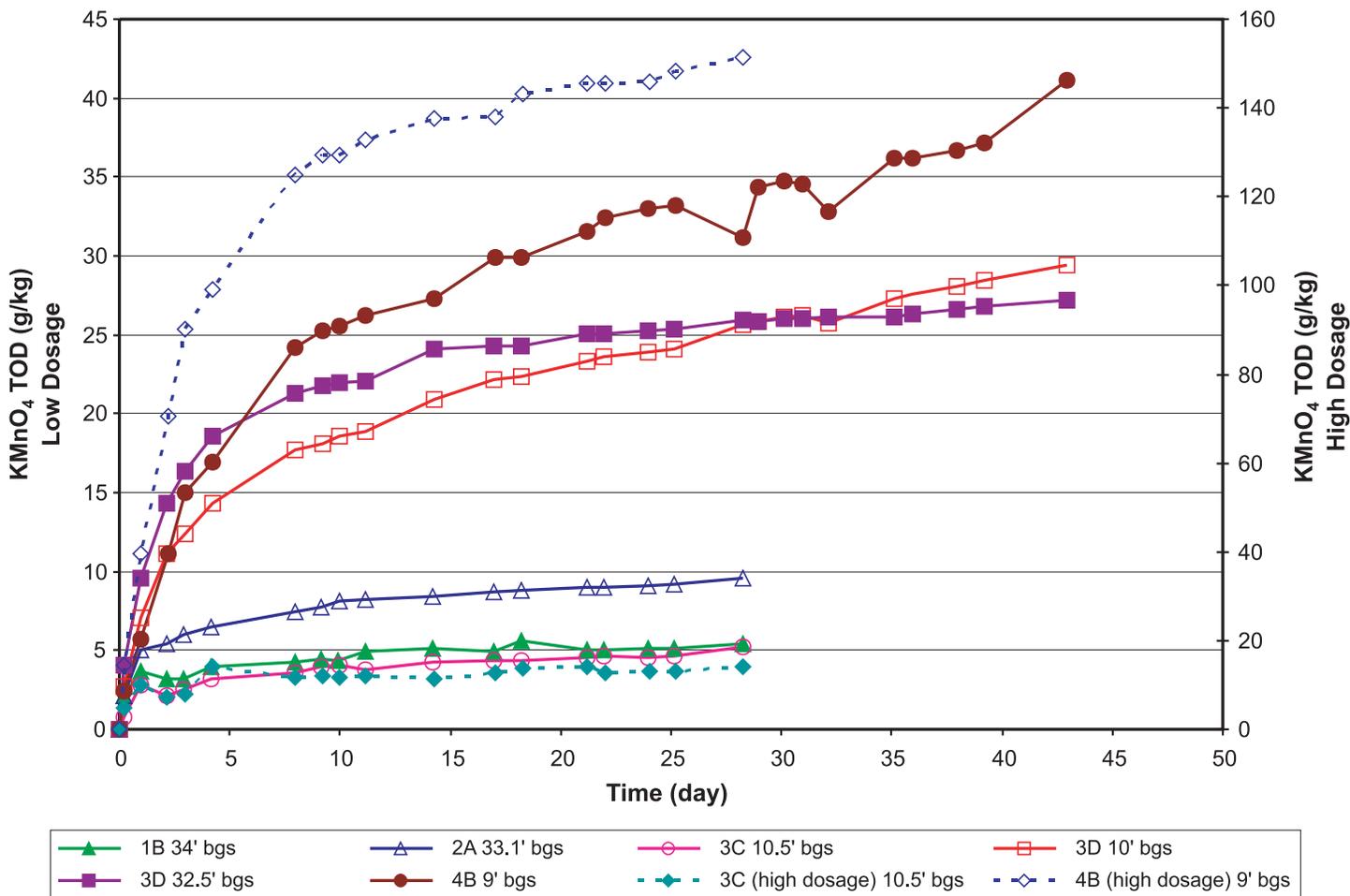


Figure 2. The total oxidant demand (TOD) was measured by amending aquifer samples (30 to 50 g dry weight) with KMnO_4 solutions (0.5 L; 2.1 g/L (low dosage) or 10.5 g/L (high dosage)) (Huling and Pivetz, 2003). The aquifer samples were collected in an area of approximately 50×50 ft and between 9 to 34 ft bgs. The data represent the average of two split samples at each depth and location. TOD values increase with time (28 to 44 days) and a significant difference in TOD occurs between short-term (two days) and long-term testing periods. Although replicate samples were collected from adjacent sections of the core (a few inches apart), variability in TOD (>100%) was measured in replicates at both locations 2A and 4B. Aquifer core samples 3C and 3D (shallow) were collected 10 ft apart, from the same vertical interval. However, the average oxidant demand was different by nearly a factor of 5 between locations. Further, greater oxidant demand was measured at the high oxidant dosage (4B—151 g/kg vs. 43 g/kg; 3C—14 g/kg vs. 5 g/kg). TOD values resulting from testing at high dosages for samples 3C and 4B are indicated by dashed lines and are read using the right-hand y axis.

limited contact with the oxidant. Under these mass transfer and/or mass transport-limited conditions, long-term persistence of the oxidant may be required to achieve the treatment objective. Conversely, the oxidant demand measured in long-term tests may be an overestimate when mass transfer/transport is not limited and oxidation is rapid. Long-term bench-scale tests may be used to quantify the upper value of the oxidant demand. Alternatively, results from a short-term test (such as ASTM, Tier 1) must be interpreted in a manner that considers the effects of long-term contact between oxidant and aquifer material. Continued development of standardized oxidant demand testing is needed.

The permanganate oxidant demand measured in bench-scale tests can be impacted by various parameters. Spatial variability (depth, location) in the composition of the aquifer material may affect the oxidant demand (Figure 2). Collection of aquifer samples in sufficient number at various depths and locations may be needed to represent the variability in oxidant demand. This information can be used to establish a correlation between the oxidant demand and different lithologic or geochemical zones. Since the composition of organic matter varies in sands, silts, and clays, variability in the oxidant demand will also vary. Soil with 1.6% TOC prior to oxidation had 0.6% TOC remaining after oxidation by KMnO_4 in a column

study, indicating that organic matter will exert an oxidant demand (Drescher *et al.*, 1998). Naturally occurring organic matter exhibits various chemical compositions and therefore, fractions of organic matter may range from easily oxidizable to recalcitrant. Reduced chemical species (i.e., sulfides, ferrous Fe, manganous Mn, etc.) in subsurface media can be oxidized during ISCO and consume oxidant. Geochemical environments rich in organic matter and/or reduced mineral species may exert a significant oxidant demand. Bench-testing can be used to assess whether excessive natural oxidant demand will be exerted. The type (Table 3, rxns 4 to 7) and phase (aqueous, sorbed, NAPL) of organic contaminants will also affect the oxidant demand. Exposure of the aquifer material to air and loss of volatile organics during handling will artificially lower the measured oxidant demand. Such exposure should be minimized since this could result in an underestimate of the actual oxidant demand.

The oxidant demand is functionally dependent on the concentration of MnO_4^- used in the test (Figure 2). Under comparable conditions, the oxidant demand increases with an increase in the oxidant concentration (Siegrist *et al.*, 2002). An oxidant demand of 2.8 g KMnO_4/kg was measured when amended with a 500 mg/L KMnO_4 solution, and increased to 10.8 g KMnO_4/kg when amended with 5000 mg/L KMnO_4 (Struse *et al.*, 2002b). The concentration of oxidant most representative of actual field conditions should be used in the bench test to obtain the most accurate results. The oxidant demand is also dependent on (1) the contact time between the oxidant and soil, (2) mixing, and (3) the solids:solution ratio. The oxidant demand decreased as the solids:solution ratio increased (Mumford *et al.*, 2004). However, given sufficient time, the oxidant demand converged to a similar value regardless of the mass of aquifer material used. The maximum NOD value depends only on the mass of oxidizable matter and the stoichiometry between that oxidizable matter and the oxidant, and that it does not depend on the mass of aquifer material (Mumford *et al.*, 2004). In summary, for short reaction periods, the solids:solution ratio is likely to have a significant effect on the results; for longer reaction periods, the solids:solution ratio is likely to be less important.

The objectives and guidelines presented for permanganate bench-scale testing are also applicable to persulfate. For example, in soil slurry laboratory experiments, the soil with the lowest fraction of organic carbon (f_{oc}) had the highest TCE and TCA oxidation efficiency by sodium persulfate (Liang *et al.*, 2001). In general, the persulfate oxidant demand is lower than the permanganate oxidant demand, suggesting that lower oxidant loading may be required.

III.B. Pilot-Scale Studies

Pilot-scale treatability studies provide useful information to help design and plan full-scale ISCO implementation. Specifically, due to the spatial variability of samples collected and used in bench-scale tests, pilot-scale studies can provide data and information from the oxidative treatment over a larger aquifer volume. The methods and materials of the study may vary based on the oxidant used and the objectives.

III.B.1. Objectives

The objectives may include the following: determine the injection rate vs. injection pressure; assess various injection strategies; assess the travel times, distribution (vertical/horizontal), and persistence of the oxidant and reagents (Fe, acid, stabilizers, chelators); determine whether ground-water contaminants are mobilized or are volatilized; assess the mobilization of metals; assess contaminant rebound; determine reaction byproducts; conduct a preliminary performance evaluation of contaminant oxidation; assess the adequacy of the monitoring program; anticipate well fouling problems; and assess the potential difficulties in scaling up a treatment system. Multiple injections of oxidant and/or reagents under different conditions can be used to accomplish different treatment and testing objectives.

III.B.2. General Guidelines

A detailed assessment of ISCO performance evaluation and rebound generally requires extended periods of time due to the slow mass transfer and mass transport processes in conjunction with the slow rate of ground-water movement. Additionally, in Fenton systems, a significant disturbance results from H_2O_2 injection and the subsequent release of heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$. It is common to see significant increases in total dissolved solids in ground-water samples collected soon after H_2O_2 injection. Therefore, the ground-water quality is highly disturbed (transient) and requires an extended period of time to approach chemical equilibrium. Both the detailed and general information acquired through the pilot-scale study can be used to help design and plan subsequent injection events. Monitoring data and information are useful to design the monitoring system for the full-scale system including appropriate locations and depths of monitoring wells and appropriate monitoring parameters and frequency.

The following general guidelines for ISCO pilot-scale studies are applicable for all oxidants, and also apply to

full-scale implementation. Conceptually, an outside-in injection strategy involves initial oxidant injections on the periphery of the known contaminant zone. Subsequent injections in the middle of the source zone may transport contaminants into adjacent zones already containing oxidant and/or contaminants. Ideally, this reduces the transport of contaminants from the source zone into uncontaminated areas. Ground-water samples represent an integrated measure of contaminants present in the subsurface and provide valuable insight regarding performance evaluation from the oxidative treatment. However, due to the slow mass transfer and mass transport processes which occur in the subsurface, sufficient time should be allowed (after ISCO is performed) before ground-water samples are collected for performance evaluation. Assuming potential receptors are located close to the injection area, an expedient ground-water monitoring program (rapid turn-around) may be needed. Soil core samples may provide immediate feedback on performance, but variability in contaminant concentrations may require that numerous soil core samples be collected to minimize uncertainty and allow for an accurate assessment of treatment performance. Aquifer samples can be highly effective in performance evaluation where contaminants (i.e., DNAPL) have accumulated at distinct lithologic units and contaminant distribution is more easily defined.

Pilot- and full-scale ISCO should be implemented in a manner that recognizes and minimizes the transport of contaminated ground water or NAPLs from the source area into low contamination/clean areas. Pilot-scale studies are sometimes deployed in or downgradient from a source zone. In this case, it can sometimes be difficult to distinguish between rebound and upgradient flushing of contaminants into the study area. An outside-in approach can be used to help minimize this complication (i.e., a wedge that extends from the upgradient edge to the central area of a source zone). Contaminant transport from upgradient of the remediated area and possible recontamination underscores the need to design the oxidant delivery system for full coverage.

In-situ oxidant push-pull tests may be used to evaluate the permanganate oxidant demand (Mumford *et al.*, 2004), and presumably persulfate oxidant demand, over relatively large aquifer volumes. This involves the injection and recovery of a solution containing an oxidant and a conservative tracer. Measurement of oxidant demand is determined from the analysis of the recovery breakthrough curves of the oxidant and tracer. There are some design and operational limitations of this technique, but potentially it could be used with existing monitoring wells and may provide accurate oxidant demand data.

III.C. Technology Applicability

III.C.1. Location of Oxidant Application

III.C.1.a. Saturated Zone

ISCO involving MnO_4^- , Fenton's, O_3 , and $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ has predominantly been applied in saturated, unconsolidated, highly contaminated (source zone) porous media at hazardous waste sites (refer also to Section III.F.5 Oxidant Delivery). The injection of O_3 gas into the saturated zone has been used but is vulnerable to nonideal transport mechanisms including preferential pathways (refer to Section II.C.3.b. In-Situ Application). Few scientific investigations of in-situ persulfate oxidation have been reported; however, numerous studies are underway and it is anticipated that more information will soon become available regarding $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$. Presumably, persulfate oxidation will be applicable to both the saturated and unsaturated zones, similar to permanganate.

Environmental contaminants present either as a NAPL, adsorbed onto aquifer material, or in the aqueous phase (dissolved) are all vulnerable to chemical oxidation transformations. Due to competition by naturally occurring non-target reactants in the aquifer material, the most efficient use of chemical oxidation occurs where the concentration of the target contaminants is highest. The *oxidation efficiency* (η), defined as mass of contaminant transformed/mass oxidant reacted, is highest in source zones. Therefore, the most cost effective contaminant oxidation occurs in source zones. This is consistent with the common remedial objective that initially targets the source zone(s) at a site. The downgradient contamination plume is often a secondary priority and may not involve ISCO due to the large area of contamination relative to the source area, lower oxidation efficiency, and greater cost.

ISCO is not commonly applied in the ground-water plume extending downgradient from the source zone. This trend is mainly attributed to the small size of source zones compared to the downgradient plume. In the source zone, the oxidant can be applied at high concentration, focused in specific source area locations, and can achieve greater oxidation efficiency relative to downgradient zones. Under this set of conditions, larger quantities of contaminant can be transformed using lower quantities of oxidant and at lower cost. However, treatment objectives vary between sites. The treatment objective in some cases is to prevent the off-site migration of contamination. Given this objective, periodic applications of MnO_4^- have been used to form a downgradient

(oxidation) barrier to oxidize ground-water contaminants migrating into the treatment zone. Under this condition, the oxidation efficiency is expected to be lower relative to the source zone due to lower concentrations of contaminants.

Despite the lower oxidation efficiency expected in down-gradient (non-source) zones, it is estimated that the oxidant demand required to meet the treatment objective may not be as high compared to source zone applications. Mass transfer and mass transport limitations between MnO_4^- and NAPLs, and between MnO_4^- and high concentrations of sorbed contaminants require longer residence times of the oxidant and consequently higher oxidant demand. Fewer limitations occur between MnO_4^- and soluble contaminants, resulting in faster oxidation, shorter oxidant residence times, and a lower oxidant demand. Therefore, at least in theory, lower concentrations of oxidant and fewer applications are required to meet the treatment objective. Oxidation of soluble contaminants in low-permeability materials require longer residence times for diffusive transport and will result in a higher oxidant demand relative to more permeable aquifer materials.

ISCO is more often used in unconsolidated porous media than in fractured media. This is partially attributed to a greater number of hazardous waste sites in unconsolidated porous media and more in-depth knowledge of the flow system. In-situ permanganate oxidation has been carried out in fractured shale (Parker, 2002) and fractured bedrock. Fenton oxidation has significant limitations in fractured systems due to significant differences between the reaction and the transport rates of H_2O_2 . Specifically, contamination in fractured media may be found in both the primary porosity (matrix) and in the secondary porosity (fractures). The volume of matrix porosity is generally greater (10 to 1000 \times) than fracture porosity. Therefore, the mass of contamination contained within the matrix porosity is potentially much greater than in the fracture porosity. Transport of contaminants, O_3 , H_2O_2 , and Fe^{+2} within the matrix porosity is predominantly by diffusion. Due to the rapid rates of reaction of O_3 , H_2O_2 and Fe^{+2} relative to diffusive transport, there is insufficient time for the oxidant and reagents to penetrate the contaminated media. Consequently, O_3 , H_2O_2 , and Fe^{+2} transport is restricted mainly to fracture porosity, the contaminants predominantly reside within the matrix porosity, and poor contact occurs between the oxidant, reagents, and the contaminant. Although poorly documented, a few unsuccessful attempts of Fenton-driven oxidation in fractured systems have occurred. No cases were found where O_3 or $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ was injected into fractured media.

III.C.1.b. Unsaturated Zone

ISCO is less frequently used in the unsaturated zone than in the saturated zone. The delivery of permanganate solution into the unsaturated zone has occurred via a variety of methods including, but not limited to, application to surface soils, emplacement into trenches/excavations, former surface impoundments, deep soil mixing, and injection into hanging wells/injectors (screened in the unsaturated zone). Similar to the saturated zone, direct push injection over short screened intervals, at least in theory, could be used to deliver the permanganate solution into the unsaturated zone. Presumably, the injection of persulfate and permanganate solutions would be similar; however, no reports were found describing persulfate application in the unsaturated zone.

Conceptually, due to the slow reaction rate of permanganate and persulfate, vertical transport of the injected oxidant solution would result in the delivery of the oxidant to areas underlying the injection zone. Due to the lack of buoyancy forces, the rate of vertical transport in the unsaturated zone would be greater than in the saturated zone. Most subsurface systems exhibit some degree of anisotropy where the ratio of horizontal to vertical conductivity is 10 or greater. Under this condition, vertical transport could require long residence times of the oxidant. This suggests that the fast reaction rate of H_2O_2 would result in short vertical transport distances and poor distribution within the unsaturated zone.

In-situ O_3 oxidation in the unsaturated zone has several potential advantages over that in the saturated zone: (1) the concentrations of O_3 that can be achieved in the gas phase are orders of magnitude higher than is obtained in aqueous solutions, (2) O_3 is more stable in the gas phase than water, (3) O_3 diffusive transport is much greater than in water, and (4) higher flow velocities can be achieved in the unsaturated zone than are possible in ground water (Masten and Davies, 1997). Additionally, the mass delivery of gaseous O_3 in the unsaturated zone is generally much greater and potentially more effective than in the saturated zone. However, delivery and transport of O_3 gas in the unsaturated zone is much more vulnerable to preferential pathways attributed to heterogeneities in permeability. Consequently, short circuiting of O_3 gas may prevent adequate delivery of O_3 to targeted zones. Spatial monitoring of O_3 in the unsaturated zone is required to accurately assess the areal distribution of O_3 and to make the appropriate adjustments in the injection design and in O_3 delivery. Although targeting contaminants in the unsaturated zone limits oxidative treatment to zones above the water table, temporary depression of the water table

exposes additional porous media and contaminants that may be vulnerable to in-situ O_3 oxidation. Unsaturated zone remediation may primarily use ozone injection points in the unsaturated zone, but sparging points just below the water table would help deliver O_3 into the smear zone associated with the capillary fringe.

Dry $KMnO_4$ and various concentrations of $KMnO_4$ solutions have been applied to the surface soil in the unsaturated zone. For example, TCE-impacted soil was treated with solutions of $KMnO_4$ in one-foot lifts (Balba *et al.*, 2002). Two injection techniques, (1) low pressure injection of $KMnO_4$ into wells and (2) high pressure injection into nozzles, were used to deliver $KMnO_4$ into the unsaturated zone. More uniform and better distribution of the oxidant was observed with the high pressure delivery method (McKay and Berini, 2002). Nested, hanging wells were used to deliver $KMnO_4$ into the unsaturated zone, which eventually drained to the saturated zones (Viellenava *et al.*, 2002). High initial injection pressures were used in these wells to hydrofracture the porous media, which created more flow pathways and greater oxidant delivery.

III.C.2. Contaminant Characteristics

III.C.2.a. Phase

Organic contaminants may be present in the aqueous phase (dissolved in water), solid phase (adsorbed onto

aquifer material or soil), and as a non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL). Chemical oxidation of organic contaminants can occur in all three phases. Many variables and site-specific conditions play a role in terms of which phase of the contaminant is oxidized. When contaminants are oxidized in the aqueous phase, increased concentration gradients and enhanced mass transfer and oxidation of contaminants occur from both the solid phase (desorption) and from the NAPL phase (dissolution) into solution.

In addition to the background oxidant demand, the quantity of oxidant and number of oxidant applications needed is dependent on the phase of contaminant present (NAPLs > solid > aqueous) and the associated phase-dependent mass transfer and mass transport limitations (Figure 3). Assuming mobile NAPL is determined to be present at a site, NAPL removal is considered an important first step in the remediation process. Removal of NAPLs by other methods (such as thermal) can usually be accomplished more cost effectively than by chemical oxidation and can be conducted in a manner to minimize NAPL mobilization into undesired areas. Chemical oxidation would then be more appropriate to use on the immobilized NAPLs (residual saturation) that remain in the porous media.

Due to the heat and large quantities of $O_2(g)$ released during Fenton oxidation, fire, explosion hazards, and safety issues may become important if the NAPL is volatile and flammable, such as gasoline.

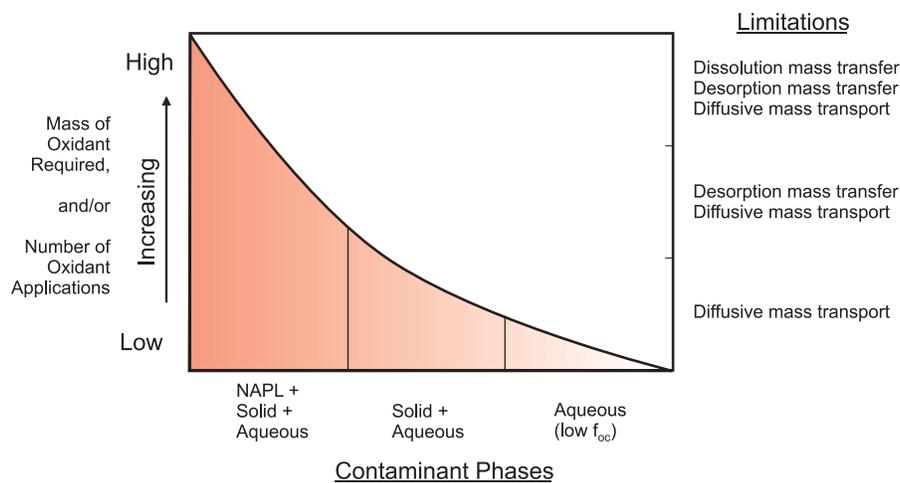


Figure 3. Impact of contaminant phases, mass transfer, and mass transport limitations on the mass of oxidant and/or the number of oxidant applications needed for ISCO. The presence of all three contaminant phases (NAPL, solid (adsorbed), aqueous (soluble)) represents the most challenging set of conditions, potential limitations, and mass of oxidant and/or number of oxidant applications.

III.C.2.b. Concentration

Chemical oxidation can be described by second-order reaction rate kinetics (Eqn 1). It is evident that the oxidant can react with either the target contaminant, scavengers (i.e., non-target reactants), and intermediates. The extent to which the oxidant reacts with either is dependent on the reaction rate constant of the reactant, and the concentration of the reactant. Therefore, the greater the concentration of contaminants relative to other potential reactants, the faster the reaction rate of the target contaminant. This partially explains why greater oxidation efficiency occurs in source zones where high concentrations of the target contaminants are present. The feasibility of treating relatively low dissolved concentrations of organic contaminants may not be as favorable, and these concentrations may be more effectively treated by other candidate technologies, such as monitored natural attenuation (MNA).

$$dO/dt = k_1 [O] [C] + k_2 [O] [S] + k_3 [O] [I] \quad (\text{Eqn 1})$$

where:

k_1, k_2, k_3 = second order reaction rate constant (L/mol-s)

[O] = concentration of oxidant ($\cdot\text{OH}$, MnO_4^- , O_3 , $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$, $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$) (mol/L)

[C] = target contaminant (mol/L)

[S] = scavenger (mol/L)

[I] = intermediates (mol/L)

III.C.3. Subsurface Characteristics

Physical and chemical characteristics of the subsurface environment (hydrogeology, geology, geochemistry) vary from site to site and impact the fate and transport of the injected oxidant and reagents. Site characterization is critical to the feasibility assessment of ISCO and in the planning and design of pilot- and full-scale ISCO systems.

III.C.3.a. Geology

Fractures (cracks, fissures, joints, faults) are characterized by their length, orientation, location, density, aperture, and connectivity (Berkowitz, 2002). Transport of injected reagents into fractured media is generally much less predictable than into unconsolidated porous media, mainly due to the heterogeneity and uncertainty in fracture characteristics and the difficulty and expense in characterizing the fracture network. Tracer studies can be helpful to identify the interconnectedness between monitoring wells, the rate of ground-water transport, and the residence

time of the injected water. Borehole hydrophysics can be used to assess ambient and stressed flow patterns and contaminant transport in fractured systems. These investigation methods provide general information on hydraulic characteristics and hydraulic control requirements of a tracer prior to oxidant injection. Due to density-driven transport of MnO_4^- and $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ solutions, vertical transport may not be fully represented by a tracer study. Due to transport limitations of H_2O_2 and O_3 in fractured systems (i.e., within the matrix porosity, refer to Section III.C.1.a. Saturated Zone), Fenton and O_3 oxidation would have limited use in fractured systems.

Naturally occurring subsurface heterogeneities such as zones of high permeability (e.g., sand-filled paleochannel, fractures), as well as subsurface utility corridors and other anthropogenic subsurface disturbances, can act as preferential pathways. Preferential pathways found in fractured systems and unconsolidated porous media result in unpredictable flow patterns (rate, direction) for ground water and injected oxidant solutions. This can be a significant impediment to effective/uniform delivery of oxidant in the subsurface. Additionally, under high injection pressures, hydraulically-induced fractures of the media and/or "breakout" of the injected oxidant solution may occur. Both of these conditions result in disproportionate volumes of oxidant solution being injected over a small geologic interval. The lowest removal rates of TCE and DCE in ground water were found five feet from an O_3 injection point, compared to significantly higher removal rates in wells up to twenty feet away from the injection point (Masten and Davies, 1997). This example indicates that ozone sparged into ground water may be transported in specific and limited preferential gas channels that short-circuit and do not contact a significant portion of the region around a sparge point.

These problems can be detected and avoided early through good site characterization and ground-water monitoring. Also, shorter distances between injection wells minimizes the areal coverage and the oxidant transport distance per well, thus limiting the impact of these nonideal transport mechanisms.

III.C.3.b. Hydrogeology

The oxidants and reagents injected into the subsurface will undergo advective and diffusive transport. The transport distance is dependent on the method of delivery, persistence of the chemical, ground-water flow rate, density of the solution, and diffusive characteristics of the chemical and porous media (Figure 4). For example, slow reaction rate and long-term persistence of MnO_4^- in

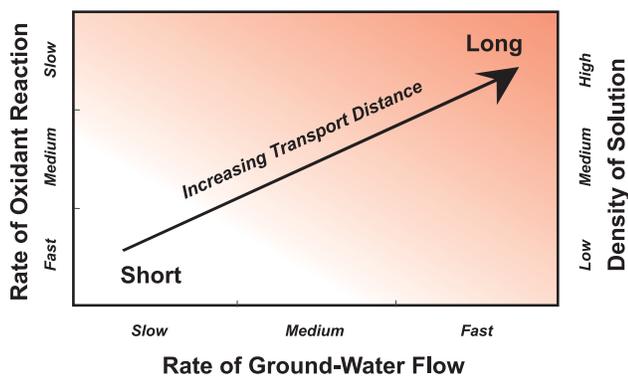


Figure 4. The transport distance through porous media of the injected oxidant is dependent on the rate of reaction of the oxidant, the rate of ground-water flow, and the density of the oxidant solution (density-driven transport).

aquifer materials has occurred under a variety of hydrogeologic environments including saturated sands, clays, sand-clay mixtures, alluvial materials, fractured shale, and fractured bedrock. Consequently, MnO_4^- can be transported longer distances than the other oxidants. The greater the hydraulic conductivity and hydraulic gradient of the aquifer, the farther the transport distance. Due to the fast reaction rate of O_3 , H_2O_2 , and some reagents (i.e., Fe(II), phosphate, acid), the ground-water flow rate and direction under most conditions will have a minimal impact on the post-injection oxidant transport. The vertical transport of the oxidant is affected by density of the oxidant solution and on vertical gradients (upward, downward) in the aquifer. The transport of MnO_4^- will be greatest when high concentrations are injected into an aquifer with high hydraulic gradient and conductivity. Under this set of conditions, MnO_4^- may migrate from the targeted zone and result in a lower oxidation efficiency (i.e., due to lower downgradient contaminant concentrations) or be transported into unintended locations (i.e., ground-water capture by pump and treat system). Downgradient drift is not always problematic since pinpoint resolution of source area boundaries is not commonly achieved and oxidation of downgradient contaminants may be needed. Similarly, long oxidant transport distances may be intentionally designed to target large, non-source area plumes.

III.C.3.c. Geochemistry

Permanganate oxidation is generally independent of pH in the range of 4 to 8 (Seigrist *et al.*, 2001) and thus will be effective over the pH range normally found in ground water. Acidic pH (pH 3 to 4) is optimal for Fenton-

driven oxidation of organic contaminants. The buffer capacity in most aquifers represents significant acid-neutralizing capacity and maintains the ground-water pH near neutral, i.e., resistant to pH modification. Acidification of the target zone is often temporary and restricted to a zone near the injection well. In poorly buffered systems, acid transport and pH modifications may be easier to accomplish. Under naturally acidic conditions, pH modification may not be necessary. For example, high concentrations of Fe^{+2} and acidic conditions (pH 2 to 3) were measured at a site where large quantities of organic carbon were introduced into the ground water (i.e., the aquifer underlying former sludge drying beds) (U.S. DoD, 1999; Maughon *et al.*, 2000).

Reduced geochemical conditions favor the presence of reduced divalent transition metal ions such as Fe or Mn. Under this condition, the Fe^{+2} contributes to the Fenton reaction, and both Fe^{+2} and Mn^{+2} contribute to the activation of the $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$. For example, significant chlorinated VOC reduction was achieved using persulfate in a glauconitic (iron-rich) sand containing 3 to 15 mg/L Fe^{+2} (Sperry *et al.*, 2002). Reduced geochemical environments are also a source of treatment inefficiency due to the abundance of reduced chemical species that consume oxidant and/or scavenge radicals. Natural organic carbon present in soil and aquifer material can play an important role in oxidative reactions (refer to Section III.F.4.b. Natural Organic Matter).

III.D. Site Requirements and Operational Issues

III.D.1. Site Characterization Data

An effective delivery of the oxidant to the targeted zone(s) is a critical element to achieve success with ISCO. Therefore, an important ISCO design criteria is to identify the location(s) of the contaminant(s) in the subsurface. Site characterization data is required to identify the type(s), distribution, and phase/concentration of the contaminants (Table 11). This information is used in the planning and the design of the oxidant injection program (i.e., dosage, injection locations, and rates).

Site characterization and ISCO efforts are often focused in source areas where NAPL may be present. Removal of mobile NAPL, if present and practical, is important since NAPLs could be mobilized during ISCO. Assuming the NAPL (LNAPL, DNAPL) can be located, removal would probably be more cost efficient using other technologies than through ISCO. A significant improvement in the development in site characterization techniques and technologies to locate and delineate suspected DNAPL source

Table 11. Site Characterization Data Needed for ISCO

| Parameter | Purpose of the Data/Information |
|--|--|
| Target Contaminant | |
| Type(s) | To select which oxidant is most suitable for the specific contaminant(s). |
| Distribution | To determine where to deliver the oxidant (spatial delivery of the oxidant). |
| Phase/concentration | Aqueous/sorbed/NAPL — to identify potential hot spot areas where multiple applications will be required; to estimate contaminant mass which may be used to estimate the total oxidant mass required (see Section III.C.2). |
| Geology and Hydrogeology | Estimate rate of oxidant injection based on aquifer hydraulic properties. Information on hydraulic conductivity and gradient and aquifer heterogeneities can be used to identify post-injection flow direction and rates. Assess whether nearby receptors could be impacted (see Section III.C.3). |
| Aquifer Material/Soil/ Ground Water | Analyzed for organics to quantify and delineate contaminant distribution; used for bench-scale feasibility testing (contaminant oxidation, oxidant demand testing); analyzed for metals to identify hot spot or problematic conditions where pH- or redox-sensitive metals may become mobilized during ISCO. |
| pH, Buffer Capacity | To assess whether pH modification is needed; acidic pH (3 to 5) is optimal for Fenton oxidation; pH modification will be difficult to achieve in highly buffered soil/aquifer materials; carbonate and bicarbonate buffer species act as radical scavengers in Fenton and persulfate oxidation. |
| E_h (electrode potential) | General indicator of oxidant demand. |
| Reduced Inorganics | Soluble metals (Fe(II), Mn(II)), sulfides indicate reducing conditions. |

zones has occurred in recent years. The cost and level of accuracy achievable by source zone characterization tools can only be answered on a site-specific basis (U.S. EPA, 2001). In practice, delineating DNAPL source zones and providing an accurate estimate of the mass and spatial distribution of the DNAPL can be challenging due to the heterogeneous distribution of the DNAPL. Extensive sampling and analysis of ground water and aquifer material is usually required to obtain a reasonable estimate of contaminant distribution. Oxidant dosage requirements have been estimated by some practitioners based on the mass of contaminant(s), in conjunction with oxidation stoichiometry and the natural oxidant demand. Other methods are also used to estimate the total oxidant required that are not based on contaminant mass estimates (refer to Section III.E.2. General Conceptual Approach to ISCO).

Geologic (lithology, stratigraphy, heterogeneities) and hydrogeologic (hydraulic conductivity, gradient, porosity) characterization will assist in development of a conceptual model used to assess the fate and transport of the contaminant(s), injected oxidant, and reaction byprod-

ucts. This information can be used, in conjunction with the contaminant data, to select the location and vertical intervals for oxidant injection and to assess oxidant transport. Important parameters that can be easily overlooked are man-made and naturally occurring preferential pathways. Subsurface utilities and high hydraulic conductivity flow paths may result in the disproportionate transport of oxidant, heat, and gas, and unanticipated exposure pathways. Even well-characterized sites are likely to have heterogeneities that are difficult to quantify, yet play an important role in ISCO. Pilot-scale studies are useful because they provide an opportunity to acquire localized fate and transport data for the injected oxidant and to refine performance monitoring efforts. Aquifer material, soil, and/or ground-water samples are collected for site characterization (organic contaminants), bench-scale feasibility testing, and analysis for general parameters. In some cases, high background concentrations of metals, or co-disposal of metals and organics, represent conditions that are conducive for metals mobilization during ISCO.

Due to the uncertainties in site characterization, estimating contaminant mass, oxidant delivery, etc., the need for

multiple oxidant injections in the targeted zone cannot be overemphasized.

III.D.2. Required Site Infrastructure

Infrastructure requirements for permanganate, peroxide, and persulfate include a water supply, for dissolution and/or dilution of the reagent. Extraction wells and above-ground treatment are necessary if oxidant recirculation (injection, recovery, re-injection) is used. A disposal option for treated/untreated water may also be required. An open, unobstructed area is necessary to accommodate the oxidant mixing apparatus, batch storage tanks, piping, etc. An electrical power supply or generator will be required for pumping and pressure injection of the oxidant solutions. Direct push injection technologies are rig-mounted and site access for large or small vehicles in the injection area is a consideration.

The small radius of influence of the Fenton's reagent (H_2O_2 , Fe^{2+}) requires closely-spaced injection points that involve an open area clear of underground utilities. Due to the heat, $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$, and possible volatile emissions that could be released, access should be restricted to the injection area. Very high temperatures often result from Fenton oxidation and have melted polyvinylchloride (PVC) plastic pipes (the crystalline melt temperature of PVC is approximately 200°C). Injection wells should be constructed with stainless or carbon steel. A soil vapor extraction system in conjunction with an impervious cover and off-gas treatment may be necessary to capture volatile emissions from the injection area. Excessive pressure build-up may result in dangerous gas/steam venting conduits at the ground surface (randomly distributed) and buckling/heaving of asphalt parking lots (mostly under high H_2O_2 concentrations).

In-situ ozonation requires an on-site ozone generator, gas handling and distribution equipment, and injection wells. Extraction wells (i.e., a soil vapor extraction system) may be necessary to control O_3 flow directions (Masten and Davies, 1997). Subsurface heating and the associated remedial technology infrastructure would be needed for thermal activation of persulfate. Radio frequency heating, electrical resistance heating, or any other thermal technology, is technically feasible for heating the subsurface (Liang *et al.*, 2001; 2003).

III.D.3. Regulatory Constraints on Injection of Reagents

Regulatory permitting requirements for oxidant injection have been compiled and organized by state (ITRC, 2005). The injection of oxidants and reagents are regu-

lated primarily through the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Emergency Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Through these environmental programs, regulatory approval is required and an oxidant injection permit may also be required from some state environmental agencies. Some states have issued variances and permit exceptions that may affect ISCO activities. Regulatory examples of six states (NJ, CA, FL, KS, MO, TX) are provided in which chemical oxidation can be used for soil and ground-water remediation (ITRC, 2005). Individual states may have more restrictive regulations than the Federal programs listed above. Regulatory constraints on each ISCO project should be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

EPA's secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) for manganese in water (0.05 mg/L) is a secondary drinking water standard due to aesthetics (taste, color, staining) (Table 12) (U.S. EPA, 1992). The post-oxidation manganese content of aquifer material can be high. At one site where KMnO_4 -driven ISCO was used, post-oxidation ground-water concentrations one year later exceeded the EPA SMCL for Mn (Crimi and Siegrist, 2003). Ideally, due to the insolubility of Mn as $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$, ground-water concentrations of Mn will be minimal under most conditions.

Human consumption of MnO_4^- by recovery in water supply wells represents a potential exposure pathway and a serious health threat (but has not been reported). The characteristic purple color of MnO_4^- , or pink color at low concentration, could alert water treatment plant operators and potential consumers of the oxidant-tainted water. Releases to nearby surface waters could have serious environmental impact on biota and should be prevented.

Technical grade KMnO_4 may contain impurities, including Cr and As. Due to the low maximum contaminant level (MCL) in drinking water set by EPA for these metals (0.1 mg/L total Cr MCL; 0.01 mg/L As MCL) (U.S. EPA, 2002), injection of technical grade KMnO_4 may result in exceeding the MCL for these elements in the injection zone. Although the attenuation of these metals has typically been achieved within acceptable transport distances and time frames (see Section II.C.1.f., Metals Mobilization/Immobilization), a site-specific assessment should be conducted to determine whether these parameters need to be monitored. KMnO_4 is produced by some manufacturers specifically to lower the concentrations of

these impurities (at additional cost). Additionally, low concentrations of the oxidant solution can be used to minimize metals concentration in the ground water. KMnO_4 will exhibit minute amounts of radioactivity. Radioactive potassium-40 (^{40}K) is a small fraction (about 0.012%) of naturally occurring potassium and is primarily beta-emitting, but also involves gamma radiation (ANL, 2002). This may become an issue at radionuclide contamination sites, such as some DOE sites, where it is important to monitor and limit radioactivity.

ISFO may also involve the injection of acid(s), iron catalyst, and/or stabilizers, any of which may be subject to regulatory constraints. Regulators may also be concerned about the possibility of contaminant volatilization and subsequent releases to the unsaturated zone, basements, and air. Similarly, releases of both volatile organics and O_3 during in-situ ozonation are a regulatory concern. The use of a conservative insoluble tracer gas (e.g., helium (He)) during air sparging/injection and/or O_3 sparging/injection could provide fate and transport information of volatile organics, O_3 , and the proper placement of soil vapor monitoring points. Sulfate is a reaction byproduct from in-situ persulfate oxidation. Since persulfate is injected at high concentration, and can persist for weeks to months, the potential for persulfate and/or sulfate to migrate to nearby receptors should be assessed. Although there are well-documented biotic and abiotic attenuation mechanisms, ground-water monitoring is recommended. EPA has established a secondary MCL for sulfate in water (250 mg/L) due to a salty taste (Table 12).

III.E. Field-Scale Implementation and Engineering Design Considerations

III.E.1. Treatment Objectives

The treatment objectives for ISCO vary from site to site and include, but are not limited to the following: reduc-

tion in contaminant toxicity/mass/concentration (risk based or maximum concentration levels (MCLs)), and/or a reduction in contaminant mass flux across a site boundary. ISCO is a source depletion technology that is capable of removing substantial amounts of DNAPL in source zones at sites with favorable hydrogeologic conditions (i.e., less heterogeneous and more permeable subsurface conditions); however, achievement of drinking water MCLs in these source zones as well as source zones in more challenging heterogeneous hydrogeologic conditions (e.g., bedrock, karst systems, multiple stratigraphic units) is unlikely (U.S. EPA, 2001). However, ISCO is capable of achieving partial DNAPL depletion, which may provide other performance benefits including eliminating the mobility of the DNAPL, and reduction in the mass discharge rate of DNAPL constituents from the source zone, which may reduce environmental risks and life cycle costs (U.S. EPA, 2001). One of the alternative metrics for judging the performance of source-mass depletion technologies is contaminant mass discharge, defined as the summation at a point in time of point values of contaminant mass flux across a vertical control plane encompassing the plume and perpendicular to the mean ground-water flow direction at a location downgradient of the DNAPL source zone. Theoretical analysis and field data indicate that partial DNAPL mass depletion in the source zone reduces contaminant mass discharge (U.S. EPA, 2001).

ISCO is often deployed in source areas to minimize long-term sources of ground-water contamination. However, ISCO has also been deployed at property boundaries for the purpose of preventing off-site migration of ground-water contaminants, and in weathered plumes where NAPL is present in small volumes, or absent altogether. In this scenario, the majority of the contaminants are present as soluble and sorbed phases at lower concentrations (than in source zones). Under these operating conditions, ISCO has a much higher probability of achieving

Table 12. EPA Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCL) (Abbreviated List)

| Contaminant | Secondary MCL* | Noticeable Effects Above the SMCL |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| Iron | 0.3 mg/L | Rusty color; sediment; metallic taste; reddish or orange staining |
| Manganese | 0.05 mg/L | Black to brown color; black staining; bitter metallic taste |
| Sulfate | 250 mg/L | Salty taste |

* mg/L is milligrams of substance per liter of water
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/consumer/2ndstandards.html>

the MCL objective, than in source zones that contain NAPLs. ISCO has also been used to (1) reduce the mass flux to pump and treat systems, and (2) to reduce the concentration gradient across a low-permeability barrier in hydraulic containment systems.

Due to significant challenges required of ISCO to meet stringent clean-up standards, such as MCLs in source zones, monitored natural attenuation is an integral component in the overall remedial strategy for source zone and downgradient plume.

III.E.2. General Conceptual Approach to ISCO

It is uncertain how bench-scale oxidant demand values relate quantitatively to the actual oxidant demand measured under field conditions. It should be recognized that conditions at bench-scale (e.g., solids:solution ratio, mixing, contact between oxidant/reagents and contaminants/aquifer material, etc.) are significantly different than field-scale, and that samples used in the bench-scale study may not fully represent field conditions (i.e., heterogeneities). Correspondingly, there is uncertainty in data interpretation and how the information is used in pilot- and field-scale applications. Review of numerous ISCO reports reveals that different approaches are used to design oxidant (MnO_4^- , H_2O_2) loading for pilot- and full-scale ISCO systems. However, economic and infrastructure resources/limitations also play a strong influence in the oxidant dosage and injection program.

A single, well-documented, and well-demonstrated oxidant loading and delivery design approach has not been established for any oxidant. Overall, the state of the science of ISCO involves the combined use of best engineering and scientific judgment (site characterization, feasibility study testing, remedial design, etc.) in conjunction with trial and error. Due to the inherent uncertainty with contaminant distribution, subsurface heterogeneities, and mass transfer/transport mechanisms that occurs at most sites, ISCO requires multiple iterations between oxidant application and performance monitoring. Through this process, clean areas can be identified that require no further treatment, and hot spot zones can be identified which permits the strategic delivery of additional oxidant to accomplish the treatment objectives.

III.E.2.a. Permanganate Oxidation

There are two general approaches used with MnO_4^- : the “high oxidant loading” and the “iterative oxidant loading” approaches. Some approaches reported in the litera-

ture use various combinations of the two methods described below.

III.E.2.a (1) High Oxidant Loading

The “high oxidant loading” approach seeks to apply all necessary oxidant mass in one initial application. This approach utilizes oxidant demand results and information from bench- and pilot-scale oxidation testing in conjunction with empirical factors to estimate the oxidant loading for an equivalent mass of contaminated aquifer material at field-scale in the targeted zone(s). Empirical factors used in the calculation have been based on a margin of safety, field experience, types of aquifer materials, oxidation stoichiometry, estimated mass of contaminant(s), reaction rate kinetics, differences between short-term and long-term oxidant demand tests, etc. Subsequently the oxidant load is estimated and delivered into the targeted zone(s). It is assumed that the aquifer samples used in the bench test are representative of the targeted zone(s). This approach may potentially result in fewer iterations between oxidant injection and ground-water monitoring, fewer field mobilizations, and potentially lower cost. Due to heterogeneous contaminant distribution, variability in background oxidant demand, and the inability to uniformly deliver the oxidant, this approach may result in higher oxidant loading (and cost) than needed. Higher oxidant loading/concentration may result in the transport of oxidant from the targeted zone, higher oxidant demand, greater metals mobilization, greater Mn residual, and may eventually require the same number of iterations and mobilizations as in the iterative oxidant loading approach.

III.E.2.a (2) Iterative Oxidant Loading

This approach recognizes that multiple iterations between oxidant injection and post-oxidation monitoring will be required. Results and information from site-specific bench-scale oxidation testing may or may not be used. It is assumed that aquifer samples in bench-scale studies may not be representative of the target zone; contaminant distribution is heterogeneous; moderate oxidant loading may permanently reduce contaminant concentrations over large areas of the target zones; contaminant concentrations may be reduced and treatment objectives achieved without satisfying the total oxidant demand of the aquifer material; and subsequent, perhaps heavy, oxidant loading(s) may be required in smaller hot-spot zones where mass transfer and mass transport limitations exist. The advantage of this approach is that potentially lower total oxidant loading and costs may occur. The disadvantage is that potentially a greater number of iterations

between monitoring and oxidant injections will occur which could increase cost.

III.E.2.b. Fenton Oxidation

A well-documented and demonstrated oxidant loading and delivery design approach has not been established and published. Several factors strongly influence the mass of H_2O_2 required. Some ISFO vendors base the mass of H_2O_2 to be delivered on an estimate of the mass of contaminants, reaction stoichiometry, and empirical factors. Empirical factors used in these calculations have been based on a margin of safety, field experience, and types of aquifer materials. An estimate of the mass of contaminants in conjunction with reaction stoichiometry provides an initial theoretical estimate of the H_2O_2 demand under ideal conditions. However, due to the difficulty in accurately estimating the mass of contaminants in the subsurface, this approach should be considered a very rough approximation of the minimum amount of H_2O_2 required. Additionally, other factors and nonideal mass transfer and mass transport conditions in the subsurface must also be considered. H_2O_2 reactions that do not produce radicals (nonproductive reactions) and reactions that occur between radicals and non-target species (scavenging) lower the oxidation efficiency. H_2O_2 and $\cdot OH$ depletion in these reactions results in greater quantities of H_2O_2 required for ISFO.

Once hydroxyl radicals are formed, they are transported only a few nanometers due to their high reactivity. Therefore, a fundamental tenet of ISFO is that the H_2O_2 , Fe(II), and contaminant should be in the same location at the same time for oxidation to occur. The fast reaction rate of H_2O_2 represents a significant limitation in its delivery. Very simply, the rate of H_2O_2 transport must be greater than the reaction rate. Numerous cases have been reported where H_2O_2 delivery was restricted to locations near the injection wells/points (i.e., within a few feet), which was attributed to rapid H_2O_2 reaction rates.

An analytical solution was used to simulate H_2O_2 transport in porous media for steady-state, radial flow in homogeneous porous media with pseudo first-order degradation of H_2O_2 (Figure 5). In this theoretical analysis, the same volume and concentration of H_2O_2 solution were injected at different rates. A low H_2O_2 injection rate limited H_2O_2 distribution and increasing the injection rate resulted in increasing the transport distance and lowering the injection time.

Acidification of the injected oxidant solution will reduce the reaction rate of H_2O_2 . Fast delivery of the H_2O_2 solu-

tion at lower pH will increase the transport distance of H_2O_2 into the aquifer. Potential limitations of high injection rates may involve either low hydraulic conductivity or excessive injection pressure. Shorter injection well spacing will reduce the lateral H_2O_2 transport distance required per well and is an additional design parameter that could be used to increase H_2O_2 coverage in the targeted zones.

III.E.2.c. Ozone Oxidation

Few details are available that describe the steps and criteria used in estimating the mass of O_3 needed for in-situ ozonation. One estimate of the average stoichiometric demand

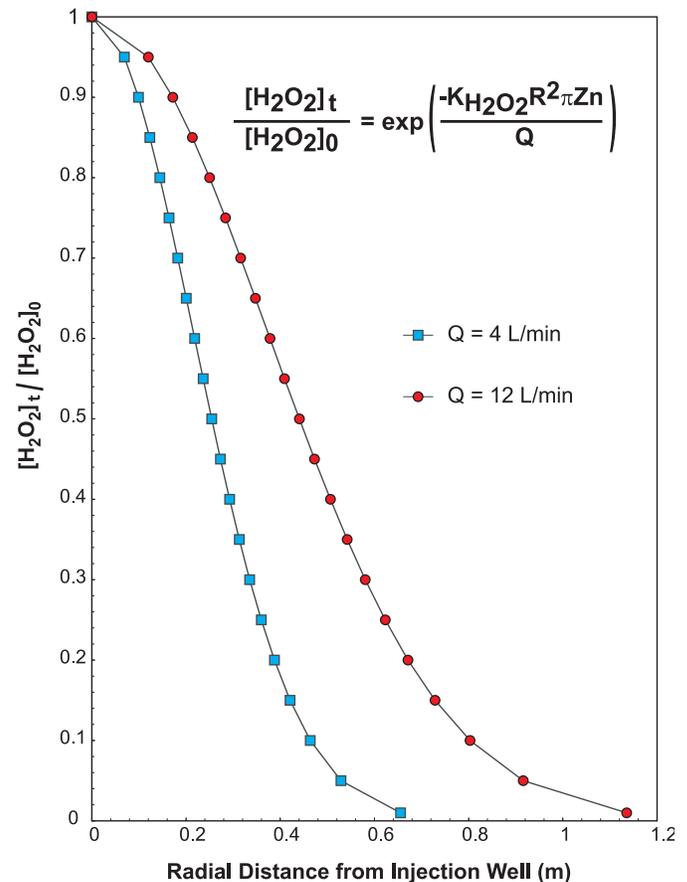


Figure 5. H_2O_2 undergoes reactive transport in porous media. The relative concentration of H_2O_2 is illustrated for two oxidant injection rate conditions (4 L/min and 12 L/min; steady-state, radial flow, pseudo first-order degradation kinetics; same volume (30,000 L) and concentration of H_2O_2 solution injected). The faster the injection rate, the greater the transport (radial) distance of H_2O_2 . The equation was solved for radial distance (R). Units were converted for dimensionless terms ($[H_2O_2]_t$, $[H_2O_2]_0$ = time dependent and initial H_2O_2 concentration, respectively; $K_{H_2O_2}$ = H_2O_2 degradation rate (0.91 hr^{-1}); R = Radial distance (m); Z = Vertical interval (3 m); n = Porosity (0.3); Q = Flow rate (L/min)).

for phenanthrene was 8.69 g ozone per g phenanthrene (Kim and Choi, 2002). The ratio of ozone mass to PAH hydrocarbon mass at a former fuel oil distribution terminal was 7.6:1 (Wheeler *et al.*, 2002). An ozone dosage of about 0.5 g ozone/kg soil resulted in the removal of 81% of 100 mg/kg pyrene (Masten and Davies, 1997). These preliminary bench-scale results, in conjunction with estimates of the contaminant mass, could provide a general indication of the mass of O_3 required. However, under field conditions, nonideal mass transfer and mass transport mechanisms, reactive transport, and reactions between non-target species and O_3 not represented in the bench-scale studies will result in a greater O_3 demand. Remediation of a former manufactured gas plant site used a total 52 lbs O_3 /day of 5 to 10% O_3 and 90 to 95% O_2 , injected at 7.5 scfm and 20 psi, with occasional increases to 8 to 12% O_3 for contaminant hot spots (Cambridge and Jensen, 1999). The O_3 concentration in the gas stream, the gas flow rate, and the injection pressures should be included when specifying the O_3 mass delivery rate.

O_3 will react with OH^- in water, which continuously results in an O_3 demand, suggesting that the O_3 demand is essentially infinite. This is similar to Fenton oxidation where H_2O_2 reaction is infinite. Therefore, in-situ O_3 oxidation involves a trial and error approach where O_3 is delivered and ground-water monitoring is used to assess the extent of O_3 transport and distribution and contaminant destruction. Modifications to the O_3 injection strategy to enhance O_3 coverage and/or transport include closer injection well spacing, and/or faster O_3 mass delivery rate (increasing O_3 content, gas flow rate, or O_3 pressure).

III.E.2.d. Persulfate Oxidation

There are similarities between persulfate and permanganate oxidation (see Section III.E.2.a, above). For example, the oxidant demand measured in bench-scale studies, in conjunction with empirical factors, has been used to estimate the oxidant loading for an equivalent mass of contaminated aquifer material at field-scale. A similar approach could possibly be used with persulfate. However, few details are available that describe the steps and criteria used in estimating the mass of $Na_2S_2O_8$ to inject, the persistence of $Na_2S_2O_8$, and the development of oxidant injection guidelines. Some information about application rates and loading approaches can be gleaned. The sequential use of $Na_2S_2O_8$ and MnO_4^- in a pilot-scale field test was conducted involving an aquifer contaminated with residual TCE DNAPL (Droste *et al.*, 2002). It was proposed that $Na_2S_2O_8$ would satisfy the majority of the natural oxidant demand, thus reducing the MnO_4^- demand.

Two treatment zones (each about 8000 m³) were treated with a total of 8200 kg $Na_2S_2O_8$ in 4,300,000 L water (1.9 g/L solution) in a 64-day long injection period. Assuming uniform distribution of $Na_2S_2O_8$, a soil bulk density of 1.7 g/cm³, and a porosity of 0.36, the $Na_2S_2O_8$ loading rate was approximately 0.3 g $Na_2S_2O_8$ /kg soil. The $Na_2S_2O_8$ application was soon followed by permanganate injection, indicating that the iterative oxidant loading approach was not conducted in this test, at least not for $Na_2S_2O_8$.

The sequential use of $Na_2S_2O_8$ and MnO_4^- at pilot-scale was conducted to assess the efficacy of each oxidant for the destruction of CVOCs (e.g., TCE, DCE, and VC) (Sperry *et al.*, 2002). A mixture of 645 kg $Na_2S_2O_8$ and ground water/potable water (40 g/L) was injected into a 340 m³ test zone into three wells (2.5 to 3.0 L/min per well) for 4 days at 8 hrs/day. Assuming uniform distribution of $Na_2S_2O_8$, a soil bulk density of 1.7 g/cm³, and a porosity of 0.36, the $Na_2S_2O_8$ loading rate was approximately 1.1 g $Na_2S_2O_8$ /kg soil. Again, the $Na_2S_2O_8$ injection was immediately followed by injection of $KMnO_4$ indicating that the iterative oxidant loading approach was not conducted in this test, at least not for $Na_2S_2O_8$.

The $Na_2S_2O_8$ /kg loading rate was 0.3 g $Na_2S_2O_8$ /kg soil in the test where the oxidant was intended to satisfy the natural oxidant demand, and 1.1 g $Na_2S_2O_8$ /kg soil in the test where the oxidant was intended to treat the contaminants. The $Na_2S_2O_8$ concentration varied widely in these two tests (1.9, 40 g/L) indicating that a “high oxidant loading” approach over smaller areas is a design option, and may have been intended to significantly decrease the contaminant mass in just one application.

III.E.3. Oxidant Delivery

The minimum volume of H_2O_2 injected should be sufficient for full coverage (saturation; pore volume injection) of the targeted zone. Multiple pore volumes of H_2O_2 may be required. Simple calculations can be used to provide a quick check on this important design criteria but it is often overlooked. Similarly, full coverage of the target area is required in O_3 oxidation involving either dissolved O_3 (O_3 (aq)), O_3 sparging, or O_3 (g) injection in the unsaturated zone. Due to the high concentrations of MnO_4^- and $S_2O_8^{2-}$ and subsequent density-driven transport (and diffusive transport), full coverage of the targeted zone may be achieved without injection of one pore volume.

Injection of any oxidant solution into a source area can result in the displacement of contaminated ground water from the source area and transport into potentially uncontaminated areas. An outside-in delivery design could

minimize the impact from the lateral displacement of contaminated ground-water. Other site-specific strategies could be developed to prevent the spread of contaminated ground water during ISCO. Similar delivery methods are used for both permanganate and persulfate. Although persulfate oxidation is an emerging technology, the following discussion is also applicable to the delivery of persulfate into the subsurface.

MnO_4^- delivery techniques include direct push technology, injection wells (with or without recirculation), injection and recovery (push-pull in wells), hydrofracturing, and application/infiltration at the ground surface. Direct push technology (GeoProbe, lance permeation, etc.) provides wide flexibility both in the location and the vertical interval for oxidant injection. Ideally, oxidant injection (1 to 2 gpm, 20 to 30 psi) occurs in short (approximately 0.5 to 2 ft) screened intervals resulting in the delivery of a thin layer of oxidant solution into the aquifer (Figure 6). This injection strategy minimizes the lateral displacement of contaminated ground water in the injection zone. The oxidant is injected at 5- to 10-ft intervals over the depth

of the targeted zone and density-driven and diffusive transport of the oxidant between the vertical injection layers results in interlayer distribution of the oxidant solution. Nonideal transport of the oxidant due to heterogeneities can result in various patterns of oxidant distribution and the actual distribution should be confirmed with a good monitoring system. Oxidant leakage at the ground surface and breakout into non-targeted zones can result from excessive injection pressures. Injectors and wells should be sealed to prevent short-circuiting. Injection locations are sometimes backfilled with a cement/bentonite material immediately after the direct push tool is extracted to minimize short circuiting of contaminants. Subsequent injection of oxidant in between previous injection points and at different vertical intervals allows flexibility in oxidant distribution. The direct push technology may not be possible in some geologic environments where rocks/cobbles/boulders prevent the tool from advancing into the subsurface.

Injection wells can be constructed with a wide range of materials (PVC, stainless steel, etc.). Wells can be used

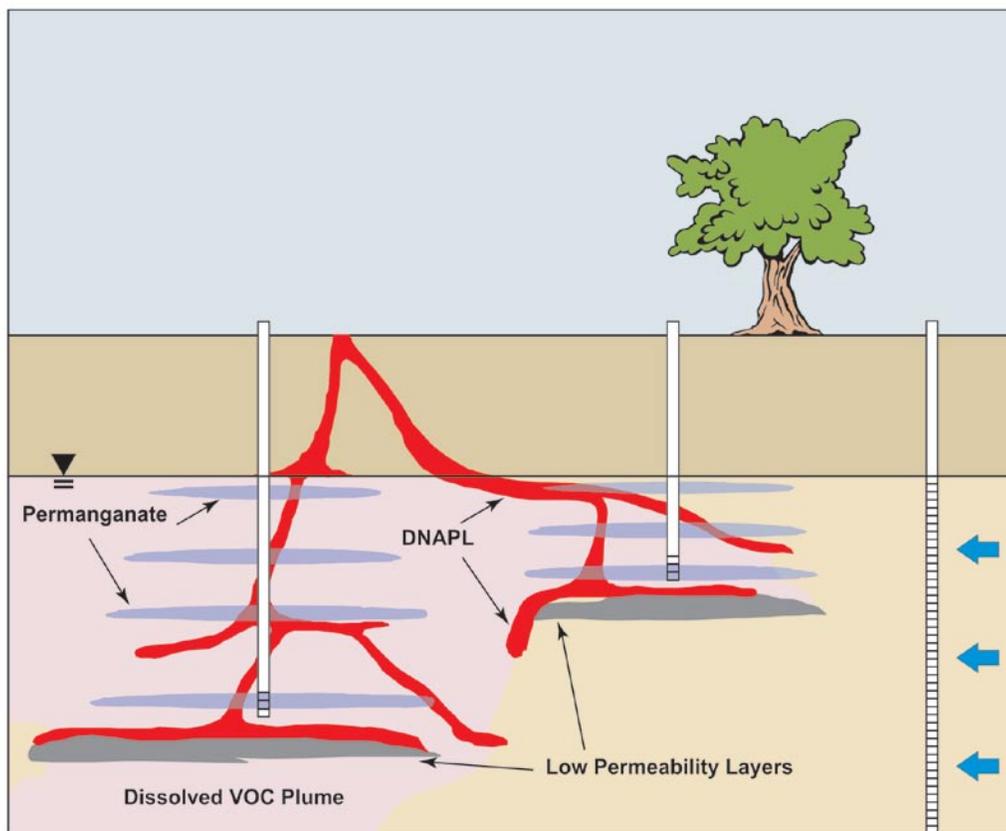


Figure 6. In-situ permanganate oxidation involving the emplacement method of oxidant delivery. Direct push technology can be used to inject the permanganate solution over short-screened intervals. Delivery of the oxidant over short-screened intervals can reduce the displacement of contaminated ground water relative to injection over longer-screened intervals. Stacked, intermittent layers (5 to 15 ft) of oxidant will disperse vertically and laterally with time.

to re-inject oxidant solutions but re-injection is restricted to the same physical location. The vertical interval for oxidant injection can be varied either by using nested wells or by the use of packers to utilize specific screened intervals. Oxidant injection at high pressures in nested or packed wells may result in hydraulic short-circuiting into the adjacent nested wells above and/or below the well where oxidant is injected. Additionally, excessive injection pressures should also be avoided to minimize oxidant breakout into non-targeted zones via hydraulic fracturing of the porous media. Ground-water pumping in adjacent wells (until breakthrough of the oxidant occurs) may be used to control/enhance the directional transport of the oxidant. Oxidant recirculation between injection and recovery wells is occasionally used to enhance delivery/distribution (Figure 7). This injection method is usually deployed in low-permeability materials to enhance the delivery of the oxidant. Recirculation can involve significant additional expenses to pump and treat the ground water before it is re-injected. Expenses with recirculation systems include but are not limited to engineering, air stripping, filter-

ing of solids ($MnO_2(s)$, silicates, etc.), re-amendment with $KMnO_4/NaMnO_4$, disposal of excess water, piping, tanks, electricity, etc.

Oxidant flooding of former surface impoundments (or topographical depressions) with underlying contaminants can be used to deliver MnO_4^- solutions over large areas. Subsequently, infiltration of the oxidant solution into the contaminated sediments can result in effective delivery and oxidative treatment. The infiltration surface should be well-graded to allow uniform distribution of the oxidant solution over the ground surface, and to prevent accumulation and infiltration of the oxidant solution over smaller areas. Large diameter (8-ft) augering was used to deliver $KMnO_4$ to 47 ft below grade into the unsaturated and saturated zones (Gardner *et al.*, 1998). Horizontal wells in either the saturated or unsaturated zone may also provide an effective delivery technique. Emplacement of $KMnO_4$ into fractured silty clay soils to treat TCE was investigated (Siegrist *et al.*, 1999). Laboratory experiments and modeling were used to investigate the feasibility of emplacing solid $KMnO_4$ into vertical wells. Ideally,

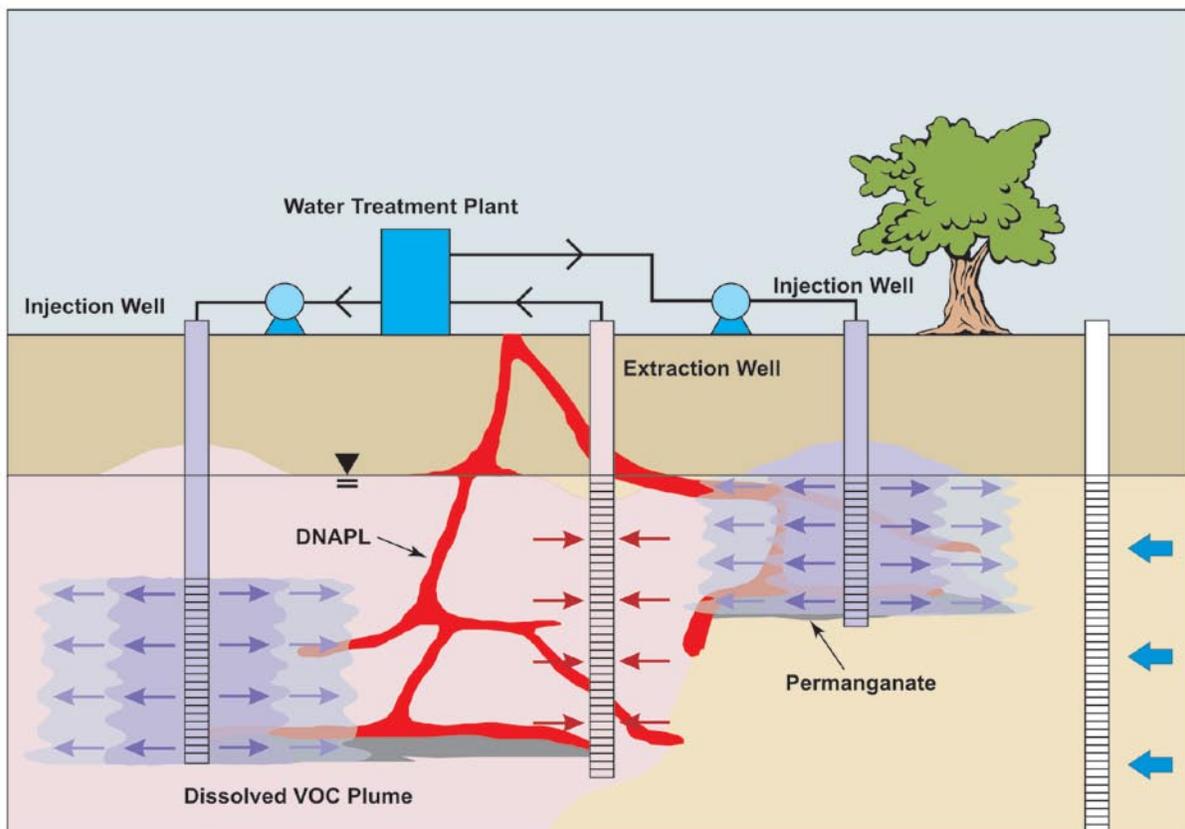


Figure 7. In-situ permanganate oxidation involving the recirculation method. Injection and extraction wells are used to deliver and recover the oxidant solution. Above-ground treatment is required to remove particulate matter (i.e., $MnO_2(s)$, sand, silicates) and possibly COCs/ VOCs, and to re-amend the ground water with permanganate before re-injection.

the MnO_4^- would slowly diffuse into the ground water and form a treatment zone to treat contaminant plumes (Li and Schwartz, 2004b).

H_2O_2 injection requires injection wells that can withstand elevated pressures and temperature. Exothermic reactions and elevated temperatures that result during ISFO weakens PVC material and the elevated pressure causes material failure. Consequently, wells should not be constructed of PVC under these conditions (refer to Section II.C.2.e. $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ Generation and Exothermic Reaction). Injection wells constructed of stainless or carbon steel have been used successfully under these conditions. Injection wells should be sealed to prevent hydraulic short-circuiting along the well bore and the potential release of H_2O_2 solution at the ground surface. During H_2O_2 injection, $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ expansion, elevated pressure, and breakout of H_2O_2 can occur. This can occur more easily when injecting at shallow intervals. Breakout could expose site workers to high concentrations of H_2O_2 , acid, high temperature liquids and/or steam, and contaminants. Careful monitoring should be performed during injection to detect this condition and trigger cessation of injection activities. Due to the rapid reaction of H_2O_2 , closely spaced injection wells and fast injection rates are required for the oxidant to be distributed into the aquifer (refer to Section III.E.2.b. Fenton Oxidation). In-situ Fenton oxidation often involves vendor-specific reagent mixes, injection methods, equipment, pressures, and strategies. A critical review of the oxidant and reagent injection program should be conducted to assure adequate delivery of these chemicals under site-specific conditions.

Delivery of O_3 into the subsurface mainly involves injection wells (refer to Section II.C.3.b. In-Situ Application). Extraction wells may be useful to help control the transport direction of O_3 in the subsurface (Masten and Davies, 1997). Horizontal wells have been used to introduce O_3 into the saturated zone (Nelson and Brown, 1994), and may be useful in combination with sparging technologies. However, it is not clear that the potential advantages of installing horizontal wells warrants the additional costs (Masten and Davies, 1997). O_3 remediation at a former manufactured gas plant site used both vertical injection wells in the saturated zone as ozone sparge points and a horizontal well 6 ft under the water table that had a 135-ft screened section (Cambridge and Jensen, 1999). Injection strategies could include an initial phase of operation consisting of sparging with air while collecting the vapors with a soil venting system, such as at a PCE-contaminated ground-water site in Carson City, NV (Masten and Davies, 1997).

III.E.4. Monitoring

III.E.4.a. Ground-Water Monitoring

Ground-water contaminant concentrations represent an integrated measure of the type, phase, and magnitude of contaminants in the subsurface. Therefore, the ground water can generally be used as a reliable indicator of treatment performance, as a diagnostic tool to design and direct oxidant applications, and to determine optimal oxidant delivery location(s). For example, a reduction in the concentration of organic contaminants between pre- and post-oxidation, or simply whether the resulting concentrations approach established cleanup levels are often used as metrics for performance evaluation. Additionally, persistence of VOCs indicates a source area that requires additional oxidant application. Fortunately, oxidants, especially KMnO_4 and $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$, can be distributed in source areas in a manner that does not require pinpoint accuracy of contaminant mass and location. Several mass transfer and mass transport limitations present significant challenges to effective and efficient ISCO. These include slow oxidant transport through low-permeability layers, preferential oxidant transport through high hydraulic conductivity zones (inability to deliver the oxidant to the target area), fast oxidant reaction rates, background oxidant demand, excessive demand in hot spot areas, etc. These conditions, and others, will ultimately limit ISCO. The extent to which each of these potential limitations manifest themselves at a site may never be accurately assessed. However, the combined effect can be assessed through pre- and post-oxidation ground-water monitoring.

Rebound in post-oxidation ground-water contaminant concentrations is time dependent and involves (1) the mass transfer from adsorbed and DNAPL phases into the ground water, and (2) contaminant mass transport in ground water to wells where it can be sampled and analyzed. Collection of ground-water samples immediately after oxidant injection and/or consumption does not allow sufficient time for rebound and would likely represent transient (nonequilibrium) conditions. Ground-water monitoring should be delayed for these processes to occur after ISCO has been implemented. Site-specific contaminant transport calculations can be used to estimate the time required for contaminant transport to monitoring well locations after oxidant consumption. Estimates of the duration of rebound are not well-documented and may easily require months to fully rebound. In Fenton and O_3 oxidation, $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ in the porous media may interfere with mass transfer and mass transport and require longer times for rebound.

Conversely, ground-water samples collected immediately after ISCO deployment may be useful for operational evaluation. For example, ground-water samples containing significant contaminant concentrations indicate hot spot areas that will likely require additional oxidant. Therefore, decision-making and additional oxidant injections could occur before rebound is fully developed and documented. However, nondetect or low concentrations of the contaminants in ground-water samples are generally inconclusive until sufficient time has been allowed for rebound. Ground-water sampling immediately after ISCO may provide an early warning for metals mobilization. Attenuation of mobilized metals is time dependent and subsequent sampling may be necessary to assess transport and potential exposure pathways.

Ground-water samples collected for analysis of contaminants that contain the oxidant should be avoided. The oxidant could interfere with analysis of the ground-water sample or could continue reacting with the contaminant(s) and interfere with data interpretation. In the case of MnO_4^- , reductants are added to react with MnO_4^- and eliminate the oxidant (e.g. sodium thiosulfate, sodium bisulfite). Ground-water sampling and analysis for contaminants after the oxidant has fully reacted is recommended.

Ground-water monitoring wells, piezometers, or temporary well points can be used to measure direct and/or indirect parameters of treatment performance. Performance monitoring will require ground-water samples collected from monitoring wells that are appropriately constructed and strategically placed. Sentry wells may be used to assess contaminant transport after ISCO. This is especially applicable to Fenton systems where various enhanced transport mechanisms could result from H_2O_2 injection (refer to Section II.C.2.h. Disadvantages). Pre- and post-oxidation monitoring of injection wells may provide useful information on treatment performance. However, optimal ISCO treatment performance will occur near the injection well. Consequently, ground-water contaminant and reaction byproduct concentrations will be low, and high, respectively, in ground-water samples collected from injection wells. Ground-water monitoring data representative of an injection well should be qualified for this reason.

III.E.4.b. Aquifer/Soil Sampling

The majority of contaminant mass in source areas where ISCO is deployed is present as NAPL or sorbed in the solid phase. Extraction and analysis of aquifer material and soil samples collected immediately after oxidant consumption may potentially provide rapid feedback on ISCO treatment

performance and spatial distribution of contaminants. A delay in sampling for contaminant rebound is not necessary for these samples. Numerous pre- and post-oxidation soil core samples, distributed horizontally and vertically, are often required to quantify the spatial distribution of DNAPL and to assess whether significant reduction in treatment was accomplished. Accumulation of DNAPL on distinct lithologic units may result in a predictable pattern of DNAPL distribution. Under this condition, pre- and post-oxidation contaminant characterization is more straightforward and economically feasible.

III.E.4.c. Other

Due to the heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ released during H_2O_2 injection, volatilization of organic contaminants is highly probable. Therefore, performance monitoring at in-situ Fenton oxidation sites may involve monitoring volatile emissions. The extent of volatilization during in-situ Fenton oxidation has not been adequately investigated. Volatile releases, especially from source areas containing DNAPL or fuels, represent a high potential for volatilization, exposure pathways, and health and safety hazards. Volatilization may also result from the sparging effect that occurs during in-situ ozonation especially if air sparging/injection is a component in the treatment process. O_3 itself is a hazardous oxidant and human contact and inhalation could have serious health effects. Until these potential exposure pathways can be documented and evaluated, volatile and O_3 emissions should be measured, controlled, and captured. Correspondingly, soil vacuum extraction, soil vapor, soil gas pressure, and off-gas monitoring may be needed. This should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Elevated temperatures and pressures during H_2O_2 injection can result in the release of steam and volatile emissions during ground-water monitoring (i.e., opening of monitoring well caps). To avoid this potential health and safety hazard, sufficient time should elapse to allow the release of $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$, dissipation of pressure, and reduction in temperature.

III.E.4.d. Process and Performance Monitoring

Process and performance monitoring parameters are summarized in Table 13.

III.E.5. Summary of Contaminant Transport and Fate Mechanisms during ISCO

During ISCO, there are several transport and fate mechanisms that may occur simultaneously with

Table 13. Process and Performance Monitoring Parameters

| Parameter | Purpose of the Data/Information |
|---|--|
| Process Monitoring | |
| Target Contaminant | Existence or persistence of the target contaminant can be used to determine where to design the spatial delivery of the oxidant. |
| Oxidants (H_2O_2 , MnO_4^- , $S_2O_8^{2-}$, O_3) | Estimate radius of influence of oxidant injection; Evaluate oxidant distribution; Calculate reaction kinetics to help design monitoring program. |
| Metals | Assess whether redox- and/or pH-sensitive metals are mobilized; Assess attenuation of mobilized metals. |
| Fe, Phosphate, Chelators | Assess radial influence/distribution of injected reagents. |
| pH | Assess whether pH is optimal; Assess impact of acid injection/pH modification. |
| Alkalinity/Buffer Capacity | Anticipate acid requirements for pH modification. |
| E_h (electrode potential) | General indicator of oxidant distribution. |
| Ground-Water Level | Assess hydraulic connection between injection monitoring wells and potential transport pathways. |
| Performance Monitoring | |
| Target Contaminant | Assess treatment performance via reduction in concentrations and/or mass in ground water, aquifer material, and NAPL; Assess whether cleanup objective is being achieved and if the site can be closed; Monitoring soil gas or off-gas reveals the fate and transport and potential exposure pathways of volatile organics; Assess changes in the plume dimension. |
| Reaction Byproducts | Confirm the presence and transformation of the target compound(s); Estimate the mass of contaminant transformed (for example, oxidation of chlorinated organic compounds releases Cl^-); Evaluate the presence of sorbed and non-aqueous phases; Assess secondary MCLs. |

oxidation. The role of these mechanisms should be evaluated on a site-specific basis. In some cases, these mechanisms can be desirable, i.e., enhanced mass transfer. In other cases, it is not desirable (i.e., volatile losses, exposure pathway, health risk, etc.), and appropriate steps should be taken to minimize the impact. CO_2 (g) production during permanganate oxidation in heavily contaminated zones may mobilize NAPL and transport NAPL vapors (Reitsma and Marshall, 2000). Fenton oxidation involves the most complex range of transport and fate mechanisms of the oxidants (Figure 8). Thermal effects resulting from the Fenton reaction enhance the fate and transport mechanisms listed below.

Transport mechanisms

- Advective transport of contaminants in ground water results from ground-water displacement during injection, ground-water transport under natural and/or an induced gradient, and

pneumatically-driven ground-water movement from $O_2(g)$ production/expansion.

- Diffusive transport of contaminants in ground water from high to low concentration is influenced by ISCO activities/mechanisms.
- NAPL transport may result from changes in the hydraulic gradient attributed to ISCO activities.
- Advective and diffusive transport of volatile organics in the gas phase. Enhanced transport of volatile emissions due to $O_2(g)$ evolution during Fenton oxidation.

Fate mechanisms

- Oxidation of dissolved, sorbed, and NAPL phase organic contaminants (i.e., the treatment objective).
- Transport of volatile compounds into the unsaturated zone/atmosphere represents the phase transfer of contaminants rather than a destructive loss mechanism.

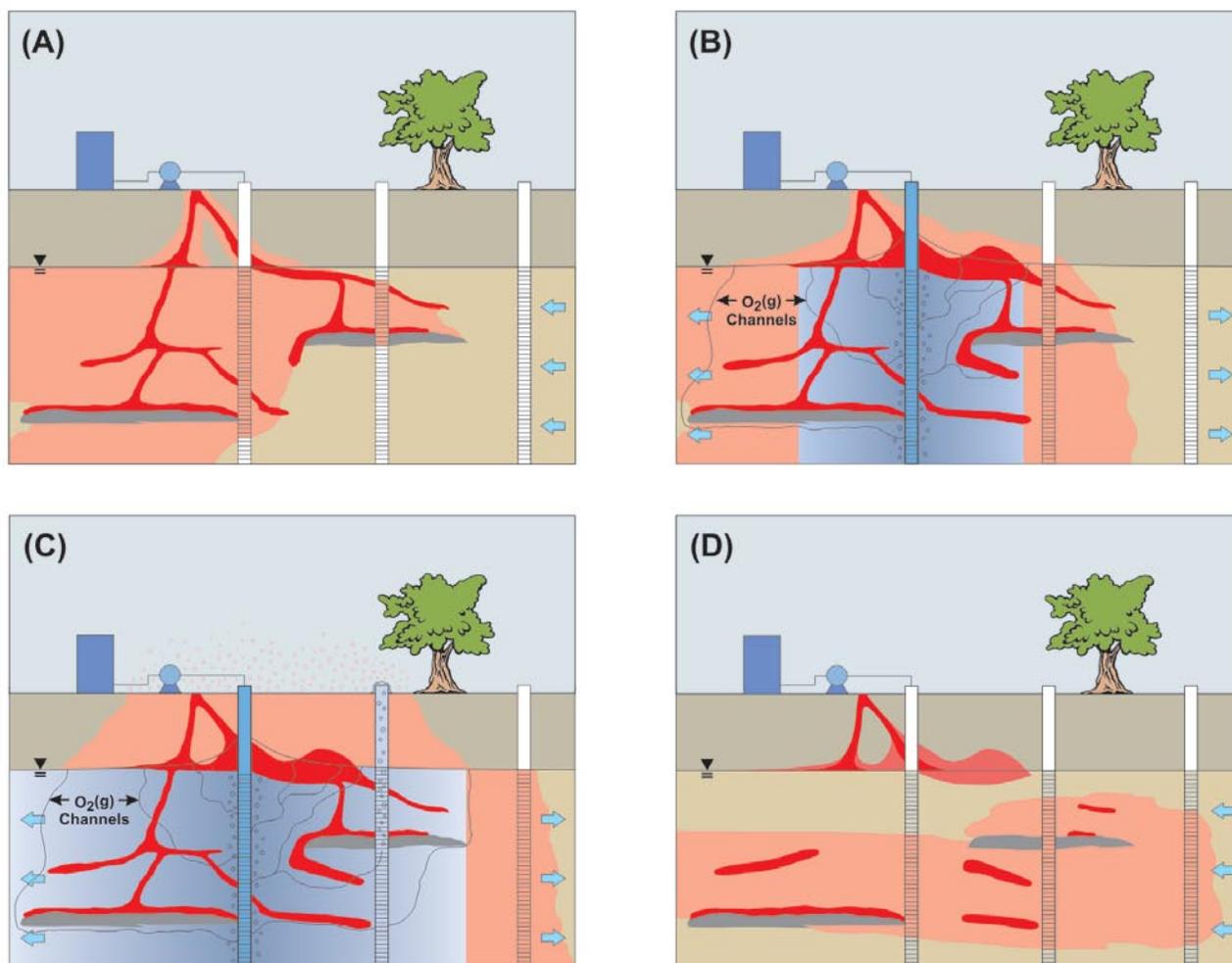


Figure 8. Conceptual model of in-situ Fenton oxidation and potential fate and transport mechanisms. (A) Cross-section of hazardous waste site containing DNAPL in the saturated and unsaturated zones. Injection well is constructed in the source area and two monitoring wells located in the upgradient direction (downgradient monitoring wells not shown); (B) H_2O_2 is injected and reacts producing heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$. Contaminants are transformed via oxidation and other possible mechanisms (reductive transformation, hydrolysis). The pneumatic pressure from the $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ and from H_2O_2 injection results in mounding of the ground water and displacement of the ground water away from the injection point. DNAPL movement, and enhanced volatilization of contaminants by $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ sparging + heat may also occur; (C) $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ sparging of the ground water in monitoring wells, artesian conditions, and continued ground-water displacement and enhanced volatilization may occur; (D) H_2O_2 injection ceases and is fully reacted. Loss of the target contaminant(s) in the source zone is achieved by oxidation transformation but may not be differentiated from other fate and transport mechanisms. Contaminant mass transfer and transport results in rebound.

- Biodegradation may occur under pre- and post-oxidation conditions.
- Sorption (adsorption, desorption) is impacted by changes in the contaminant concentrations in either the ground water and/or aquifer materials.
- Dissolution of organics from NAPL into the ground water.
- Hydrolysis (and possibly other abiotic reactions) is a destructive mechanism for organic contaminants.

III.E.6. Safety Issues

H_2O_2 , MnO_4^- , $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$, and O_3 are all strong oxidizing agents and should be handled using appropriate methods and personal protective equipment to prevent the risk of chemical burns, fire, and explosions. Oxidant compatibility with all materials used in the remediation process should be reviewed and evaluated to minimize equipment deterioration, leaks, and failure. Health and safety plans (HASPs) should be reviewed by persons involved in the

oxidant handling and other on-site ISCO procedures. A Project Safety and Occupational Health Officer (or equivalent) should review field operation plans and personal protection equipment or other procedures that will protect worker safety and health while handling these oxidizers. Oxidant manufacturers provide up-to-date materials on compatibility, handling, storage, and health and safety information. Such information is easily accessible on manufacturers' websites. All on-site personnel should be trained according to the requirements specified in 29 CFR 1910.1200 (h) (OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard) for the specific oxidizer. Materials safety data sheets (MSDS) can provide useful information regarding health and safety issues and should be on-site when the work is performed. Coordination with local emergency response service providers will assure they are prepared in the event of a spill/release emergency.

The work site should be set up so the oxidant, whether liquid or solid, will be contained and (1) will not mix with organics or other incompatible material, or (2) flow uncontrolled into the environment (i.e., lake, stream, etc.) if an accident were to occur. Protective safety equipment including a portable eyewasher and shower could be used assuming an accidental exposure to oxidant(s) or other reagents occurred. These should be set up on site where oxidizers and other chemical materials will be handled or potentially contacted by on-site personnel. Standards for protective safety equipment are available through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) (i.e., ANSI Z358.1-1998, Eyewash and Showers). O₃ generation equipment and associated plumbing should be operated and maintained in the open air or a well-ventilated building/temporary structure so that O₃ from a leak or improperly operated equipment cannot build up to levels that will be hazardous to workers. The storage of liquid and solid oxidizers should comply with standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 430: Code for the Storage of Liquid and Solid Oxidizers) (NFPA, 2006).

A fatal dose of permanganate ingestion for an adult has been estimated to be 10 g (Carus Chemical Company, 2004), however, deleterious effects will occur from ingestion of much lower doses. The characteristic pink color of MnO₄⁻ can be observed at low concentrations (several mg/L), providing an easy detection method and prevention of potential exposure pathways. Precautions should be taken to prevent inhalation of KMnO₄ dust during handling and mixing. Commercially available permanganate mixing equipment can be used to minimize potential exposures to the oxidant. Skin and eye contact, and ingestion of MnO₄⁻ must also be avoided.

Unused oxidant solution should be neutralized by a reductant such as sodium thiosulfate or sodium bisulfite. Neutralization chemicals should be available when the oxidant is delivered to the site. Due to the potentially violent reactivity (especially at higher sodium permanganate solution concentrations), the neutralization should be conducted carefully, using adequate safety precautions. Serious burns to an individual resulted from an accident in 2000 during ISCO at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Piketon, OH in which sodium thiosulfate was improperly added to a concentrated NaMnO₄ solution.

Reactions involving H₂O₂ are exothermic and release large volumes of O₂(g), especially at high H₂O₂ concentration. This reaction (and O₃ sparging) can result in enhanced volatilization and dispersal of organic vapors which may represent an exposure risk or an explosion or fire hazard. Specifically, accumulation of flammable vapors in basements, buildings, crawl spaces, etc., could result in unacceptable indoor air quality and exposures to humans, or explosion or fire hazards. In 1997, an explosion and fatality was reported in Wisconsin at a residence near a chemical oxidation project at a petroleum-contaminated site where gasoline vapor migration had occurred in sewer lines.

O₃ has adverse respiratory effects, and exposure to harmful levels must be avoided. O₃ injected during ISCO should be fully reacted in the subsurface. O₃ released into the air could be inhaled by site workers or others in the area. O₃ monitoring in air at the ISCO site should be an integral component to the routine monitoring to prevent unacceptable exposures. Additionally, O₃ production, storage equipment, and delivery lines should be monitored routinely for leaks through appropriate detection and pressure testing procedures.

Na₂S₂O₈ can decompose in storage under conditions of moisture and/or excessive heat, causing release of oxides of sulfur and O₂ that support combustion. Decomposition could result in high-temperature conditions. Airborne persulfate dust may be irritating to eyes, nose, lungs, throat, and skin upon contact and may cause difficulty in breathing (FMC, 2006). A review of potentially incompatible ISCO materials (with Na₂S₂O₈) should be performed prior to use of this oxidant.

III.E.7. Treatment Trains

Treatment trains involving other technologies used before, during, or after ISCO can be used to enhance treatment performance.

NAPL Removal: Removal of NAPL prior to ISCO is an important first step in source area treatment and is generally more efficient and effective than ISCO. This will decrease the mass of oxidant required for contaminant destruction. Additionally, this will increase the NAPL surface area for chemical oxidation, reduce the potential mass transfer limitations that results from $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ deposition at the NAPL interface, and reduce NAPL mobility during ISCO. Different technologies have been developed for the purpose of NAPL removal (Newell *et al.*, 1995; API, 1996; U.S. EPA, 1996; U.S. EPA, 2001b).

Excavation: Soil excavation of heavily contaminated soils may be a viable option at some sites to reduce contaminant mass and leaching of contaminants to ground water. The topographical depression in the subsurface may also serve as an infiltration trench for the delivery of oxidant to contaminants residing at lower elevations.

Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE): SVE can be used prior to ISCO to control, capture, and remove volatile organics from the unsaturated zone. Prior to permanganate injection at the Union Chemical Company Superfund Site (South Hope, ME), SVE was used to remediate the unsaturated soils (Connelly, 2003). Remedial objectives for SVE are to remediate the unsaturated zone and to prevent recontamination of ground water during/after ISCO. Due to the enhanced volatilization effects that occur during in-situ Fenton oxidation and O_3 sparging, SVE could be used to prevent volatile emissions, reduce exposure pathways, and minimize uncontrolled loss and accumulation of flammable vapors. SVE can also provide better distribution of O_3 in the unsaturated zone.

Oxidation:Reduction: Contaminant mixtures may be comprised of chemicals that are not entirely vulnerable to oxidation. Under this condition, another reaction mechanism such as reductive transformation may be needed to fully transform the contaminant mixture. Sequencing oxidation and reduction reactions, or, reduction and oxidation reactions, may be needed. Chemical reduction using dithionite followed by chemical oxidation (H_2O_2 and Fe) was laboratory-tested for a mixture of halogenated alkanes, halogenated alkenes, and aromatics (Tratnyek *et al.*, 1998). Dithionite is a reductant that reduces Fe(III) to Fe(II). Subsequently, carbon tetrachloride (CT) is reductively transformed via Fe(II), but is poorly oxidizable by chemical oxidants. Ideally, dithionite is used first to reductively transform CT, and is followed by Fenton oxidation to transform the other contaminants. However, it proved difficult to achieve successful results with the sequential application of reductant and oxidant due to the reaction between the oxidant and residual reductant. The

sequential application of reductants and oxidants, and vice versa, involves a broad range of competing redox reactions. Ideally, this approach has a wide range of application, but is not currently a well-developed technology.

Bioremediation: Sequencing oxidation and reduction reactions may be achieved through biological reductive treatment. Electron donor reagents (i.e., hydrogen releasing compounds, lactate, vegetable oil, etc.) injected into the subsurface can biologically produce reducing conditions and reductive transformations. One site where carbon sources were injected to create an anaerobic reductive dechlorination environment after permanganate ISCO was the Union Chemical Company Superfund Site near South Hope, ME (Connelly, 2003; ITRC, 2005).

Enhanced or naturally occurring reductive transformation of oxidation-resistant compounds may occur downgradient from the ISCO area provided that sufficient separation can be achieved to allow the predominant redox zones to develop. Post-oxidation enhanced bioremediation may include aerobic biodegradation or aerobic cometabolic biodegradation with addition of co-substrates. Site-specific feasibility testing is necessary to address the uncertainties of sequential oxidation and bioremediation.

It is anticipated that in nearly all cases, natural attenuation will be an integral component to ISCO because it is not economically feasible for ISCO alone to achieve the low cleanup standards specified at many sites for the source area, and/or for the entire plume (refer to Section III.F.5. Impact of ISCO on Natural Attenuation and Biodegradation).

Oxidant Combinations: H_2O_2 is a reactant of $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ that produces the sulfate radical and may be injected as an activator during in-situ persulfate oxidation. Injected H_2O_2 , a low cost oxidant, will react with naturally occurring Fe(II) to form $\cdot\text{OH}$ and oxidize contaminants, and will oxidize reduced aquifer materials, thus lowering the TOD. This pre-treatment step would lower the reaction rate and oxidant demand for MnO_4^- and may be more cost effective.

The sequential injection of persulfate and permanganate was intended to satisfy the NOD with $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ and oxidize the VOCs with MnO_4^- (Droste *et al.*, 2002). The intent of this approach was to minimize the amount of MnO_4^- required to meet the treatment objectives, and subsequently to minimize the accumulation of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ and the potential for permeability loss. However, it was unclear to what extent TCE, DCE and VC were oxidized. The use of combining oxidants requires further investigation, since the impact of persulfate on NOD is

unclear. Others have reported that persulfate is relatively unreactive toward naturally occurring organic matter (Brown and Robinson, 2004).

Ground-Water Pumping: Ground-water recirculation (and oxidant replenishment) or simply ground-water extraction can be used during ISCO to enhance the transport rate and direction of the injected oxidant. Ground-water pump-and-treat may be used to control and contain the migration of contaminants and the injected oxidant, to improve delivery of the oxidant, or to prevent migration to potential receptors.

Thermal Treatment: Thermal treatment, such as radio frequency heating, is likely to be necessary to heat the subsurface sufficiently so that thermally-activated persulfate oxidation can be effective (Liang *et al.*, 2001). The use of solar energy may also serve to economically heat the ground water in warm climate regions.

III.F. Limitations/Interferences/Impacts

III.F.1. Untreated COCs/Rebound

Organic chemicals that are poorly reactive with specific oxidants will persist in the ground water (Table 2). However, these compounds may be vulnerable to other remediation technologies (refer to Section III.E.7. Treatment Trains) or may attenuate naturally with acceptable risk. Persistence of the organic chemicals may also be due to insufficient delivery of oxidant. Causes of insufficient delivery include (1) reactive transport and consumption of the oxidant prior to fully reaching the target zone, (2) underestimating the total oxidant demand, and (3) delivery of oxidant to non-targeted zones. Good site characterization and performance monitoring are needed to determine why contaminants persist and to take steps to assure adequate oxidant delivery.

Contaminant rebound involves the condition in which contaminant concentrations in the presence of oxidants are low or nondetectable, but steadily increase (rebound) in the ground water after oxidant concentrations have diminished. Rebound is attributed to extended periods of slow mass transfer and mass transport mechanisms of the residual contaminants. These mechanisms include the slow dissolution of contaminants from NAPL or through $MnO_2(s)$ precipitate on NAPL, slow desorption from aquifer materials, slow advective transport in ground water, and slow diffusive transport of contaminants usually from low-permeability materials. If monitoring wells are not located near the source zone/ISCO area, the prolonged time required for ground-water transport,

sampling, and detection of contaminants can be delayed and contribute to rebound. In Fenton systems, $O_2(g)$ entrapped in porous media may also interfere with ground-water flow, mass transport, or mass transfer.

Few sites where ISCO has been implemented, if any, have achieved the treatment objectives in a single application. Because of the high probability of rebound, multiple applications should be budgeted and planned. In general, this involves an iterative approach of monitoring diagnostics and reapplications of the oxidant (refer to Section III.E.2. General Conceptual Approach). Rebound underscores the importance of establishing an efficient monitoring well network, long-term monitoring, and multiple oxidant applications.

III.F.2. Toxic Reaction Byproducts

Metals: An increase in heavy metals concentration in ground water may result from heavy metals impurities contained in the permanganate, and mobilization of pre-existing redox- or pH-sensitive heavy metals (in-situ) by the oxidant. Field investigations generally reveal that these metals attenuate through various mechanisms and within acceptable transport distances (refer to Section II.C.1.f. Metals Mobilization/Immobilization).

Organics: Reaction byproducts are generally less toxic, more biodegradable, and more mobile than the parent compound. For example, reaction byproducts from the oxidation of MTBE by Fenton's or persulfate include *tert*-butyl formate, TBA, and acetone (refer to Section II.C.2.b. Contaminant Transformations). Ketones (e.g., acetone) and alcohols are reaction byproducts from the oxidation of petroleum hydrocarbons by MnO_4^- (Fatiadi, 1987). These byproducts may not be acceptable and should be monitored and evaluated on a site-specific basis. Further transformation of reaction byproducts is possible, assuming sufficient oxidant is available. Enhanced biodegradation and/or natural attenuation may be feasible and acceptable under some conditions.

Other: Nitrate (NO_3^-) is one of the nitrogen byproducts from the oxidation of high explosives HMX and RDX (Zoh and Stenstrom, 2002). Oxidation of high concentrations of these contaminants could potentially result in the accumulation of NO_3^- in excess of the U.S. EPA maximum concentration level (10 mg/L, as nitrogen).

III.F.3. Process Residuals

Process residuals from $KMnO_4$ can include a sludge that accumulates in mixing, storage, or distribution tanks.

The sludge may contain water-insoluble sand/silica solids that are additives to “free-flowing” grade of dry oxidant granules to prevent clumping during handling. The sludge may also include $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ and particulate permanganate ($\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$). Causes for $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ include (1) inadequate mixing of the oxidant solution, (2) exceeding the solubility of MnO_4^- during preparation, and (3) reductions in temperature during storage (i.e., this lowers the KMnO_4 solubility, resulting in precipitation reactions). Injection or precipitation of $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ can cause permeability reductions in or near the injection well. However, given sufficient time, $\text{KMnO}_4(\text{s})$ will dissolve into the aquifer. Redevelopment of a well may be needed to restore the permeability where the responsible mechanism is not reversible under ambient conditions.

III.F.4. Geochemical Impacts

The immediate geochemical impact of injecting oxidants is to increase the oxidation state of the aquifer. Oxidation reactions change the solubility of many inorganic species, resulting in the precipitation of soluble mineral species. The four most common reduced inorganic species are Fe, Mn, As, and sulfides (Brown and Robinson, 2004). Long-term post-oxidation rebound in reducing conditions, possibly through microbially-driven reactions, results in the dissolution of precipitated (solid phase) minerals. The extent to which this pattern of redox conditions and geochemical reactions occurs is dependent on site-specific conditions. The elements O, S, Fe, and Mn are injected at high concentrations during ISCO and are predominant participants in ground-water redox processes. Secondary effects from the injection of these oxidants include the geochemical impact by enhanced microbial activity (refer to Section III.F.5. Impact of ISCO on Natural Attenuation and Biodegradation). Numerous site-specific inorganic and organic reactants exist in the subsurface that strongly influence a wide range of geochemical outcomes. It is beyond the scope of this Engineering Issue Paper to address the complex and broad nature of geochemical impacts of ISCO. Probable chemical reactions and byproducts involving these elements are covered in detail elsewhere (Stumm and Morgan, 1996). The long-term geochemical impact of these oxidants and reagents has not been well-documented.

III.F.4.a. Oxidants

After oxidation is complete (i.e., MnO_4^- reacted), $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ and Mn^{+2} are the predominant manganese species. $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ can be found under a wide pH range (pH 2 to 14) and will likely be the predominant form of manganese. $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ can dissolve under reduced conditions (pH <8),

resulting in an increase in Mn^{+2} in the ground water. The persistence of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ or the impact of Mn^{+2} in aquifers have not been rigorously established; however, dissolution under reducing conditions in sediment/surface water systems has been reported (Hem, 1985; Drescher *et al.*, 1998). At pH >8, various manganese solid phase minerals (oxides, hydroxides, carbonate species) form. Mobilized manganese species (Mn^{+2} , colloidal $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$) could be an aesthetic concern in drinking water if recovered in water-supply wells (refer to Section II.C.1.g. EPA Drinking Water Standard). $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ may impact NAPL mass transfer and permeability, and serve as a sorbent for heavy metals (refer to Sections II.C.1.e. Impact of $\text{MnO}_2(\text{s})$ Accumulation and II.C.1.f. Metals Mobilization/Immobilization).

In general, in-situ Fenton oxidation involves injection of large quantities of H_2O_2 , injection of various chemical reagents, and release of heat and $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ in the subsurface. After H_2O_2 is fully reacted, the predominant residuals in the injection zone are dissolved oxygen, $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$, and heat. Similarly, in O_3 oxidation, after O_3 is fully reacted, the predominant residuals are $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ and dissolved oxygen. In either case, $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ will slowly dissolve into the ground water and maintain elevated dissolved oxygen concentrations and redox conditions in the injection area. With Fenton oxidation, the heat will slowly dissipate and ultimately the site will return to ambient temperature. Although it is unknown how long these conditions will persist, the potential geochemical impact is site-specific and involves many potential reactions and mechanisms (refer to Section II.C.2.e. $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ Generation and Exothermic Reaction; Section II.C.2.f. Injected Reagents; and Section III.F.5. Impact of ISCO on Natural Attenuation and Biodegradation).

Persulfate oxidation results in high concentrations of SO_4^{2-} in the aquifer. Under reducing conditions, SO_4^{2-} can be reduced to sulfide (HS^-). Both SO_4^{2-} and HS^- are highly soluble and mobile in ground water. Elevated concentrations of these species in ground water could exceed the secondary drinking water standard (refer to Section III.D.3. Regulatory Constraints on Injection of Reagents). In calcium-rich environments, the mineral gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) may form which is a relatively insoluble form of sulfate.

III.F.4.b. Natural Organic Matter

Permanganate is most reactive with natural organic matter (NOM) of the four oxidants used in ISCO, and persulfate is relatively unreactive towards NOM (Brown and Robinson, 2004). The role of natural organic material in

Fenton-driven oxidation reactions has not been systematically investigated and remains uncertain. Watts *et al.* (1990) found that the ratio of pentachlorophenol (PCP) and H₂O₂ consumption rates in soil suspensions was inversely related to NOM, suggesting that NOM successfully competed with PCP (and H₂O₂) for ·OH. In a different study involving FeSO₄ and H₂O₂ addition, the oxidation of benzo(a)pyrene was inhibited by the presence of non-target organics including glucose, cellulose, and lignin (Kelley *et al.*, 1990). Conversely, humic acids promoted O₃ decomposition and ·OH formation, and any activity of humic acids as ·OH scavengers was offset by the enhanced formation of free radicals (Masten, 1990). Fenton-driven degradation of 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene was greater in a system amended with fulvic acid than in another containing humic acid. Enhanced kinetics was attributed to accelerated Fe(III) reduction (Li *et al.*, 1997). Fenton oxidation and ·OH production was enhanced in the presence of peat by one or more peat-dependent mechanisms (Huling *et al.*, 2001). Fe concentration and availability in the peat, reduction of Fe(III) to Fe(II) by the organic matter, and reduction of organic-complexed Fe(III) to Fe(II) were probable causes. Contaminated aquifer material containing this type of organic material may exhibit similar mechanisms that enhance Fenton oxidation. Humic material (i.e., NOM) can facilitate electron transfer for Fe(III) reduction in microbial systems (Lovley *et al.*, 1996; Scott *et al.*, 1998), and similar redox coupling can be provided by constituents of humic materials (quinones, hydroquinones) in Fenton systems (Chen and Pignatello, 1997). Such reactions may provide an additional mechanism for Fe(III) reduction to Fe(II), resulting in more efficient ·OH production.

It has been proposed that NOM is oxidized during ISCO, resulting in the release of sorbed contaminants. An apparent release of RDX from the sorbed phase was measured during KMnO₄ oxidation (Struse *et al.*, 2002b). Increased bioavailability of chlorinated compounds by NOM oxidation was proposed for the observed increased rate of biological reductive dechlorination (Droste *et al.*, 2002). A portion of sorbed PAHs were released from the oxidation of NOM by S₂O₈²⁻ (Cuypers *et al.*, 2000). Additionally, a lag time was reported before TCE and TCA oxidation by S₂O₈²⁻ and was attributed to the oxidation of soil organic carbon followed by contaminant transformations (Liang *et al.*, 2001; 2003). Overall, these studies suggest that NOM oxidation corresponds with a release (desorption) of compounds, especially those less amenable to oxidation, such as TCA. Consequently, a temporary increase in contaminant concentrations could result, but would decline from the application of additional oxidant.

III.F.4.c. pH

pH is a master variable in geochemical equilibrium and can be significantly impacted during ISCO either by injection of an acid reagent or by the acidity/alkalinity produced by chemical reactions. A decline in pH is generally undesirable due to the potential for enhanced transport of some pH-sensitive metals under acidic conditions. The magnitude, direction, and permanence of the pH change are dependent on the buffer capacity of the aquifer material, the amount and type of contaminant oxidized, and the mass of oxidant and/or acid injected. All of these parameters are site-specific, suggesting that pH changes that occur during ISCO can be varied.

Permanganate oxidation can affect the pH differently depending on the target analyte. Oxidation of PCE and TCE will lower the pH by release of H⁺; and oxidation of DCE and VC raises the pH by release of OH⁻ (Table 3, reactions 4 to 7). The direction of pH change could therefore increase or decrease depending on the type and quantity of contaminants present (Siegrist *et al.*, 2001, and references therein).

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| PCE: | 8 moles H ⁺ /3 moles PCE |
| TCE: | 1 mol H ⁺ /1 mol TCE |
| DCE: | 2 mol OH ⁻ /3 mol DCE |
| VC: | 7 mol OH ⁻ /3 mol VC |

Reduction in pH is consistently observed as a result of ISFO. pH modification during ISFO can result from injecting acid to enhance Fenton oxidation (refer to Section II.C.2.f(3) Acidification), from the Fenton reactions (Table 4, reactions 1 to 3), and from the oxidation of organic compounds. Reduction in pH may also occur from the oxidation of organic compounds by S₂O₈²⁻ (Liang *et al.*, 2001; Huang *et al.*, 2002) or O₃.

III.F.4.d. Cation Exchange Capacity

The cation exchange capacity (CEC) is a measure of the aquifer material's ability to adsorb exchangeable cations. Common cations include H⁺, K⁺, Na⁺, NH₄⁺, Ca⁺², Mg⁺², and Al⁺³. Changes in ground-water chemistry caused by the injection of oxidants and from various chemical reactions can impact the CEC. For example, injection of NaMnO₄, KMnO₄, or Na₂S₂O₈ at high concentration may displace some of the common cations or possibly heavy metals. In porous media containing a high percentage of clay, displacement of cations by Na⁺ (i.e., NaMnO₄, Na₂S₂O₈) could contribute to the dispersion of soil particles, elimination of macropores, and deterioration of soil structure making the media

impervious to water penetration. Although reduction in permeability is rarely measured/reported in ISCO, the potential consequences of injecting high concentrations of sodium-based oxidants and excessive Na^+ in clay-rich environments should be evaluated.

III.F.5. Impact of ISCO on Natural Attenuation and Biodegradation

III.F.5.a. Impact on Natural Attenuation

Natural attenuation is expected to play an important role in the overall remedy at most sites where ISCO is deployed. Permanent inhibition of microbial activity by the injected oxidants is undesirable since biotic processes are an integral component in natural attenuation. However, H_2O_2 , MnO_4^- , O_3 , and $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$ are antiseptics and will inhibit or kill microorganisms at much lower concentrations than are typically used in ISCO. Additionally, oxidant-induced changes in redox potential and pH can also inhibit some microbial species. The post-oxidation decline in the diversity of microbial species suggests that some microorganisms are also sensitive to pH (Kastner *et al.*, 2000) or elevated redox potential and become inactive or die. Historically, H_2O_2 injection has been problematic for enhanced bioremediation due to rapid H_2O_2 decomposition, microbial toxicity, limited solubility of O_2 , loss of $\text{O}_2(\text{g})$ to the unsaturated zone (Spain *et al.*, 1989; Huling *et al.*, 1990; Pardiek *et al.*, 1992), reduction in permeability (Weisner *et al.*, 1996), and excessive heat.

Short-term laboratory oxidation studies involving complete-mix soil slurry batch reactors, and flow-through column studies allow complete hydraulic control and excellent contact between oxidant, aquifer material, and microbes. These testing conditions result in a high impact of the oxidant on microbial activity (Hrapovic *et al.*, 2005). Laboratory studies conducted in this manner provide insight into the potential effect of the oxidant on microbial activity. However, they do not fully represent the nonideal mechanisms and long-term time frames associated with ISCO under field conditions that strongly influence microbial survival and activity under harsh oxidative conditions. Differences between laboratory and field conditions help explain discrepancies between microbial inhibition results from laboratory studies and the seemingly low impact of ISCO on microbial activity at field-scale.

Preferential pathways in heterogeneous porous media result in hydraulic short-circuiting of the injected oxidants. Hydraulic short-circuiting and microniches pre-

vent full contact between the oxidant and microbes, providing shelter and permitting the survival of microorganisms during rigorous applications of oxidants. Laboratory oxidation studies involving complete-mix soil slurry batch reactors allow excellent contact between oxidant, aquifer material, and microbes, which generally results in a high impact of the oxidant on microbial activity. Laboratory investigations are useful for several reasons and provide insight to the potential effect of the oxidant on microbial activity, but they do not fully represent the nonideal mechanisms under field conditions that strongly influence microbial survival under harsh oxidative conditions.

In sequential H_2O_2 -driven oxidation and biodegradation, more extensive PAH and PCP degradation was measured than from biodegradation alone. An initial decline in the microbial population occurred after H_2O_2 (1 to 2%) was applied, but was followed by a significant increase a week later that surpassed the original microbial numbers (Allen and Reardon, 2000). In a field study where large volumes and high concentrations of H_2O_2 were injected, the abundance and activity of microorganisms declined, but rebounded in six months (Chapelle *et al.*, 2005). Microbial activity in TCE- and cis-1,2-DCE-contaminated soil and ground water was measured before and after treatment with KMnO_4 (11,000 gal., 0.7%) (Klens *et al.*, 2001). Two weeks after injection, the redox potential of the ground water was >800 mV and viable populations of anaerobic heterotrophs, methanogens, and nitrate- and sulfate-reducing microbes were present, but at lower levels than under pre-oxidation conditions. Three months after injection, the nitrate-reducing microbial populations had increased. Six months after injection, the redox potential of the ground water was about 100 mV, MnO_4^- was absent, and the aerobic heterotroph population in ground water had increased by several orders of magnitude greater than the pre-oxidation population. In other studies involving KMnO_4 , the rate of biological reductive dechlorination of TCE increased after treatment (Rowland *et al.*, 2001), and no changes in the site's microbial community structure were measured (Azadpour-Keeley *et al.*, 2004). In three case studies involving the injection of high concentrations and/or large quantities of permanganate, ISCO did not sterilize the aquifer, nor was microbial activity permanently inhibited (Luhrs *et al.*, 2006). At one site, reductive dehalogenation of CVOCs following biostimulation with sodium lactate, and at the other two sites, a significant increase in the post-oxidation microbial biomass, and the post-oxidation presence of a viable and diverse microbial consortia capable of degrading a wide range of organic chemicals, were measured.

Sequential injection of $S_2O_8^{2-}$ and MnO_4^- was originally proposed to satisfy the natural oxidant demand with $S_2O_8^{2-}$, oxidize the VOCs with MnO_4^- , and minimize the amount of MnO_4^- required and the accumulation of $MnO_2(s)$ (Droste *et al.*, 2002). It was unclear to what extent TCE, DCE, and VC were oxidized; however, monitoring data including reductive dechlorination daughter products, Cl⁻ mass balance, and measurements of H_2 , SO_4^{2-} , dissolved iron, and phospholipid fatty acids, strongly suggested that enhanced reductive dechlorination had occurred. It was proposed this could have resulted from (1) increasing the amount of SO_4^{2-} and sulfate-reducing bacterial activity, (2) increased microbial activity due to simpler substrates from VOC oxidation, and (3) increased VOC bioavailability from the oxidation of sorbate (natural organic matter) (Droste *et al.*, 2002).

ISCO is often deployed in a source area which is generally small in size relative to the ground-water plume that extends downgradient. In the source area where the oxidant is injected, direct contact between the oxidant and microorganisms is possible and could inhibit microbial activity. Additionally, the elevation in redox potential can inhibit reductive dehalogenation activity until terminal electron accepting conditions shift back to iron- and sulfate-reducing conditions. Consequently, in systems where anaerobic and reductive transformations play a significant role, the post-oxidation impact of ISCO on natural attenuation would be greater and sustained than aerobic conditions. Reaction of the oxidant near the injection location (source area(s)) lessens the downgradient impact of the oxidant on microbial activity where polishing effects of natural attenuation occur.

A localized decline in microbial activity will result from direct contact between the oxidant and microbe, or from the highly oxidizing conditions. Microbes that are sensitive to oxidative treatments will decline in population and activity, while others that are insensitive to the change in redox potential may be unchanged or may respond favorably. Due to spatial separation between the source area where the oxidant is injected and downgradient areas, the impact of the oxidant may be low or nonexistent in downgradient microbially active areas. The length of time for “microbial rebound” is unclear, but given sufficient time after ISCO, microbial populations, microbial activity, and the rate of biodegradation increase, possibly to levels above pre-oxidation conditions. Proposed theories for increased bioactivity include improved bioavailability of trace constituents, lower concentration of challenging chemicals, more available simple substrate resulting from contaminant or natural organic matter oxidation, less competition (with other microbiota) for available nutrients and sub-

strate, die off of microbial predators (Allen and Reardon, 2000), elevated temperatures, and more available terminal electron acceptors (TEAs). No cases were found where aquifer material was sterilized or where microbial activity had been permanently inhibited.

III.F.5.b. Mechanisms Which Potentially Enhance Biotically-Driven Natural Attenuation

Microorganisms obtain energy and carbon for new cell material through biochemical redox reactions in which electrons are transferred from organic contaminants to terminal electron acceptors. Under aerobic conditions, oxygen is the most energetically favorable TEA. However, due to the low solubility of oxygen, dissolved oxygen (DO) is rapidly depleted in ground water. Subsequently, anaerobic conditions may result where the biochemical oxidation of organic compounds continues to occur (Lovley and Phillips, 1986; Suffita *et al.*, 1988; Hutchins *et al.*, 1998). The sequential order of TEA utilization under anaerobic conditions is nitrate (NO_3^-), manganese (Mn(IV)), ferric iron (Fe(III)), sulfate (SO_4^{2-}), and carbon dioxide (CO_2). The TEAs O_2 , NO_3^- , SO_4^{2-} , and CO_2 are generally found in the aqueous phase. Fe and Mn species and reducible organic matter are the primary sources of solid-phase TEA in aquifers (Heron *et al.*, 1994). The total TEA (aqueous + solid phase) available in the subsurface is predominantly attributed to the solid-phase fraction, and the aqueous phase constitutes a minor fraction (Huling *et al.*, 2002). Currently, the reducibility of aquifer organic matter is poorly understood and unquantifiable, and manganese species typically only contribute 2 to 5% of the total transferrable electron equivalents. Ferric iron is found in abundance and is present in the solid phase since it is slightly soluble in the near neutral pH range. In sulfate-rich environments, SO_4^{2-} may also be derived from aquifer sediments.

There are several mechanisms in which ISCO could be beneficial to natural attenuation. The exothermic reaction of H_2O_2 will raise the temperature and increase bioactivity. The injection of phosphate stabilizers during ISFO by some vendors introduces phosphorus, an essential element in the production of microbial energy and new cell material. Acidification resulting from the injection of acid or as a reaction byproduct may lower the pH and increase bioavailability of some microbial nutrients. The injection of each oxidant results in the addition of various TEAs including DO from H_2O_2 and O_3 ; SO_4^{2-} from $S_2O_8^{2-}$; and Mn^{+4} from MnO_4^- . The injection of Fe during ISFO also contributes to the total TEA, but is expected to be minor in most cases relative to the quantity of naturally occurring Fe. Oxidation of reduced aquifer

sediments via H_2O_2 proceeds rapidly relative to microbially mediated decomposition (Barcelona and Holm, 1991; Korom *et al.*, 1996). Each of the oxidants involved in ISCO can oxidize the reduced TEAs (i.e., Fe^{+2} , Mn^{+2} , etc.) in the aquifer sediments. Therefore, while oxidant injection is intended for immediate contaminant oxidation and could result in short-term, localized microbial inhibition, it also introduces TEAs into the aquifer and oxidizes aquifer sediments. At one site, a shift from sulfate-reducing to Fe(III)-reducing conditions resulting from H_2O_2 injection may have decreased the efficiency of reductive dechlorination in the injection zone (Chapelle *et al.*, 2005). However, it could also shift the predominant terminal electron accepting process from an inefficient one (methanogenesis) to more efficient processes such as aerobic biodegradation and/or Fe, Mn, and SO_4^{2-} reduction (Huling *et al.*, 2002) and provide a sustained long-term source of TEA.

III.G. Summary

Over the last 10 years, significant development of ISCO has dramatically advanced the state of the science, state of the practice, and the effectiveness of this technology. ISCO has been used at thousands of hazardous waste sites in the U.S. and is the fastest growing subsurface remedial technology used today. Wide application of this technology under variable site conditions has provided valuable field experience. Such field experience in conjunction with continued research and development will improve both the state of the practice and state of the science. These improvements will include the identification of site-specific parameters needed to assess the feasibility of ISCO, the development of predictive tools that allow an improved assessment of the potential benefits and adverse effects prior to ISCO deployment. Ultimately, this will contribute to more effective and efficient use of the technology and lower remedial costs.

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VI. QUALITY ASSURANCE STATEMENT

All research projects making conclusions or recommendations based on environmentally-related measurements and funded by the Environmental Protection Agency are required to participate in the Agency Quality Assurance (QA) program. This project did not involve physical measurements and as such did not require a QA plan.

VII. ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SYMBOLS

| | |
|--------|----------------------|
| (g) | gas |
| (s) | solid |
| η | oxidation efficiency |
| AFB | Air Force Base |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| aq | aqueous | °C | degrees Celsius |
| BTEX | benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene | ORNL | Oak Ridge National Laboratory |
| CB | chlorobenzene | OSC | on-scene coordinator |
| CEC | cation exchange capacity | OSHA | Occupational Safety and Health Administration |
| CERCLA | Comprehensive Emergency Response, Compensation, and Liability Act | OU | operable unit |
| CF | chloroform | PAH | polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon |
| CHP | catalyzed hydrogen peroxide | PCB | polychlorinated biphenyl |
| cm | centimeter | PCE | perchloroethylene |
| COC | contaminant of concern | PCP | pentachlorophenol |
| COD | chemical oxygen demand | pH | negative log of hydrogen ion concentration |
| CT | carbon tetrachloride | pK _a | negative logarithm of the acid dissociation constant, K _a |
| CVOC | chlorinated volatile organic compound | ppm | parts per million |
| DCA | 1,1-dichloroethane | psi | pounds per square inch, unit of pressure |
| DCE | dichloroethylene | PVC | polyvinyl chloride |
| DNAPL | dense nonaqueous phase liquid | RCRA | Resource Conservation and Recovery Act |
| DO | dissolved oxygen | RDX | cyclotrimethylenetrinitramine, (cyclonite), (hexogen), (T4), high explosive |
| EDTA | ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid | RPM | remedial project manager |
| E _h | oxidation-reduction potential | rxn | reaction |
| EPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | scfm | standard cubic feet per minute |
| EPCRA | Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act | SDWA | Safe Drinking Water Act |
| Eqn | equation | sec | second |
| f _{oc} | fraction of organic carbon | SMCL | secondary maximum contaminant level |
| ft | foot | SVE | soil vapor extraction |
| g | gram | TBA | tertiary butanol |
| gpm | gallons per minute | TCA | 1,1,1-trichloroethane |
| HMX | octogen, or cyclotetramethylenetetra-nitramine (high explosive) | TCE | trichloroethylene |
| hr | hour | TEA | terminal electron acceptor |
| ISCO | in-situ chemical oxidation | TOC | total organic carbon |
| ISFO | in-situ Fenton oxidation | TOD | total oxidant demand |
| kg | kilogram | U.S. EPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| kWh | kilowatt-hour | UIC | Underground Injection Control |
| lb | pound | UV | ultraviolet |
| L | liter | V | volt |
| LNAPL | light nonaqueous phase liquid | VC | vinyl chloride |
| m | meter | VOC | volatile organic compound |
| MC | methylene chloride | WEF | Water Environment Federation |
| MCL | maximum contaminant level | wt | weight |
| mg | milligram | | |
| MGP | manufactured gas plant | | |
| min | minute | | |
| mL | milliliter | | |
| MNA | monitored natural attenuation | | |
| mol | gram molecule | | |
| MTBE | methyl tertiary butyl ether | | |
| mV | millivolt | | |
| n | porosity | | |
| NAPL | nonaqueous phase liquid | | |
| NOD | natural oxidant demand | | |
| NOM | natural organic matter | | |
| NTA | nitrilo-triacetic acid | | |

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