

# PROPOSED CLEANUP GUIDELINES for SMALL CRUDE OIL SPILLS using BIOREMEDIATION (PROCESS SELECTION FLOW CHART)\*

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\*Prerequisites for Acceptance by Small Independent Oil Producers are that Guidelines be SIMPLE, EFFECTIVE & LOW COST



# **Type of Treatment**

Ex-Situ Bioremediation using a Small Consolidated Treatment Cell



## How Clean is Clean?

Absence of Petroleum Odor?

✤ 1% Petroleum Hydrocarbons?

1000 mg/kg Petroleum Hydrocarbons?

State ARARs

 Removal of Carcinogenic PAHs (4-6 Ring PAHs Absent)



Select a Moderately Well Drained, Accessible Site at Least 300 Feet from the Nearest Potable Water Supply Well, and 100 Feet from the Nearest Surface Water.

The Required Area is Proportional to the Volume of Petroleum-Contaminated Soil to be Treated (2,000 ft<sup>2</sup> average)

# Soil Excavation & Consolidation

Excavate Petroleum-Contaminated Soil & Transport to the Consolidated Treatment Cell. Cover soil prior to treatment to prevent loss of VOCs.



### Treatment Cell Construction (requires tech. support)

\* break up subgrade surface to prevent compaction

\* add 2 inches of composted hardwood bark or chopped hay/straw

 add 500 lb finely pulverized agricultural limestone per 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (12 Ton/Ac)

\* add 2 inches of sand (or clean soil, sandy loam or coarser (USDA)



### Treatment Cell Construction (continued)

\* add 2 inches of petroleum-contaminated soil/sediment

 add 1/4 of total N + all required P & K, based on a C:N:P:K ratio of 50:1:0.2:0.1 and 75% C in petroleum residues

 rototill until soil and bulking agents are well blended (6-7 times)



# Select a Preferred Treatment Option

\* Active Land Treatment

(weekly tillage)

### (or)

Phased Treatment
 (2 months weekly tillage, then seeded to TPH tolerant grasses)

#### $(\mathbf{or})$

Passive Treatment, seeded to TPH tolerant grasses



# **O & M Requirements**

### **\***Add N Fertilizer Monthly

\* Till to a full 6-inch working depth

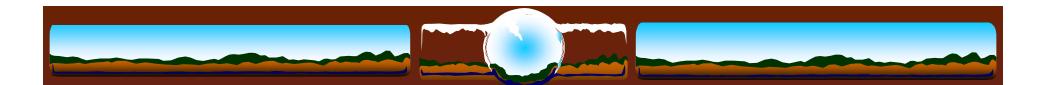


**Treatment Cell Reuse** 

# **\*Use one half the original TPH loading**

\*Soil quality improves with time

Cell can be reused indefinitely



## Assumptions

Initial Soil TPH4 to 6% (est.)

 Estimated Time for Treatment About 1 Year
 (based on 1 full-scale field study)

\* How Clean is Clean? – Absence of Petroleum Odor After 4 Months



# Allegany, New York Site

Develop Simple, Effective, Low-Cost Bioremediation/ Phytoremediation Methods to Independent Oil Producers for Treatment of Small Crude Oil Spills



# Objectives – Allegany, New York Site

# Field Testing of Proposed Guidelines Treatment Effectiveness Comparison

### Adverse Effects of Petroleum Hydrocarbons on Soil Quality

### Soil Effects

- Hydrophobic
- Degraded structure and consistence
- Poor aeration
- Reduced pH and nutrient buffering

### Soil Quality Improvement

- Avoid compacting treatment cell surface/loosen if required
- ✤ Add large quantity of bulking agents (1:1 ratio or more)
- Add large quantity of limestone (10 tons/acre 6 inches)
- Add fertilizer to attain C:N of 40:1 using Monthly Additions -Avoid High Soil Salinity



NY and PA Crude Oil Highly Treatable by Bioremediation

\$93% n-alkanes
\$90% TPH removal in 5-month treatability study



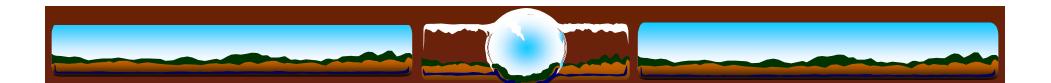
# Regional & Soil Limitations

4-month treatment season
fine textured soil
poor drainage



# Requirements for Success

# DRAINAGE Soil Quality Improvement (SQI)



# Treatments Tested in 2004/2005

- Active land treatment
- Phased treatment
- Passive treatment with vegetative cover

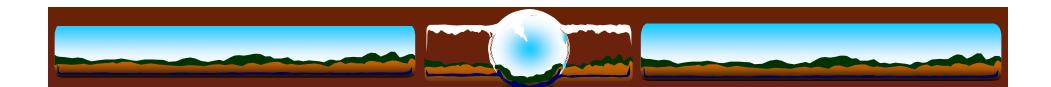
# Treatment Effectiveness Comparison

- 2-Year Field Test (2004/2005)
- Experimental design randomized block design/4 blocks
- First Year/Results
  - 3.2% TPH  $\rightarrow < 1\%$
  - No significant difference between treatments

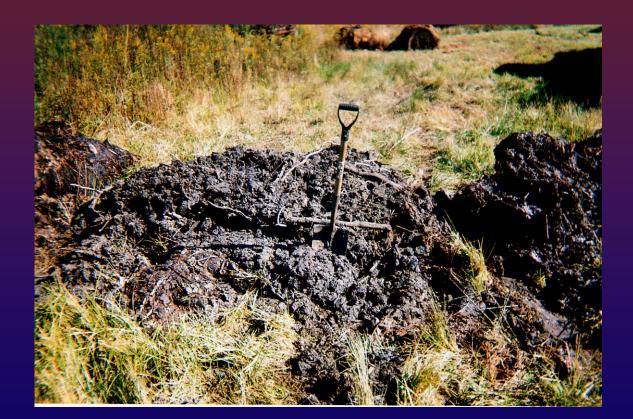


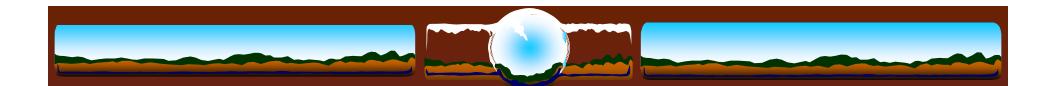
# Guidelines for Independent Oil Producer Cleanups

**\* MUST BE:**\* SIMPLE
\* EFFECTIVE
\* LOW COST

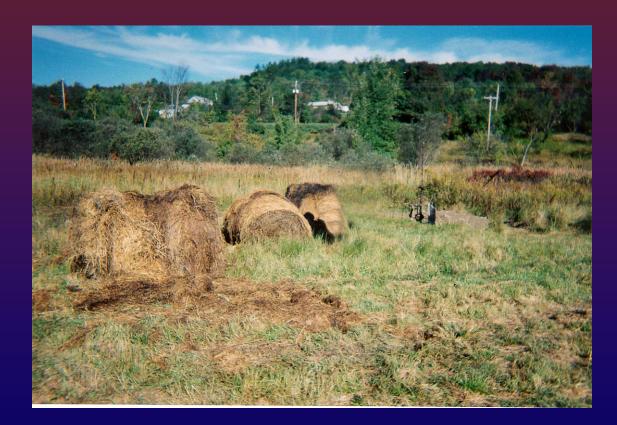


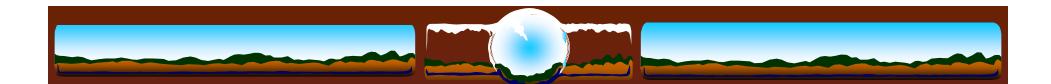
### Initial Soil Stockpiles September 2003





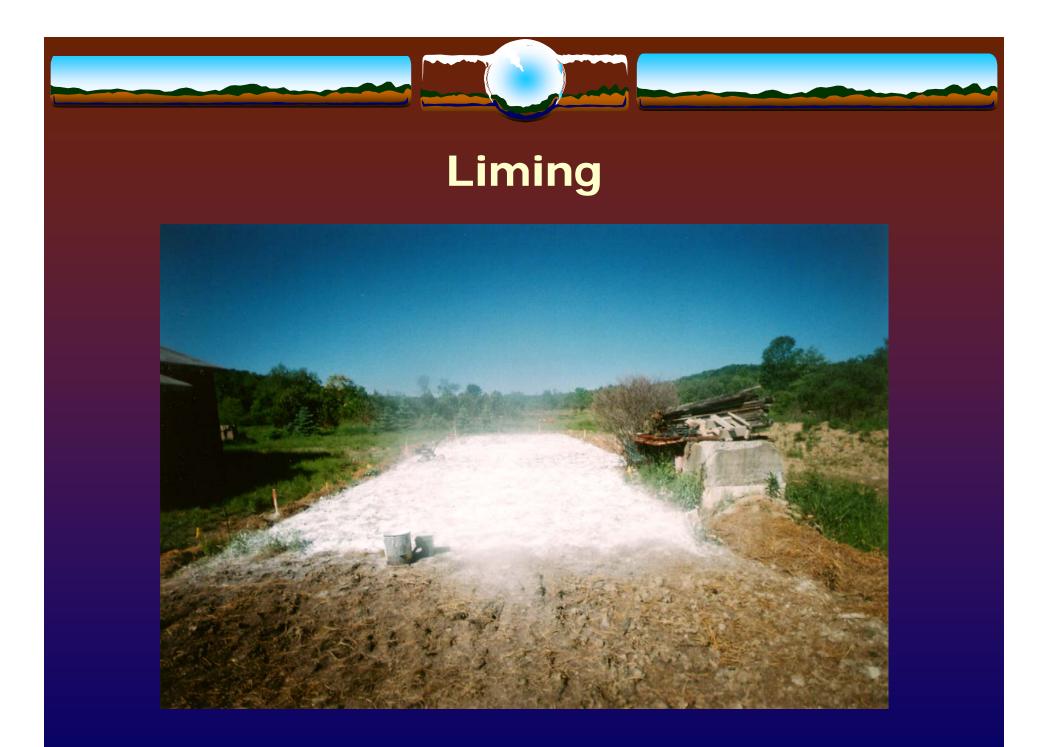
### Weathered Hay as Bulking Agent

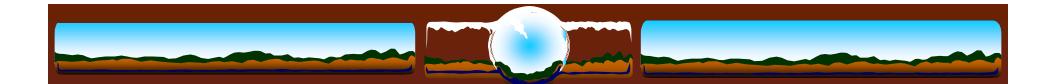




### Loosening Compacted Subgrade

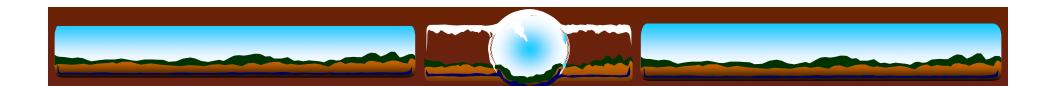






### Treatments October 2003





### Mulched Surface (Piezometer in Foreground)





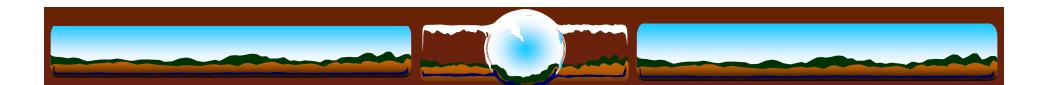
# Treatment Cell Construction Issues: (do it right the first time)

Some construction management required
Raised sand bed for poorly drained sites
Bulking agent [1/3 vol] - commercial compost (\$) vs grass hay (binds on tiller)
Blended on-site soil (stony) vs sand (\$) [1/3 vol)



# Monitoring?

# TPH in soil VOCs in groundwater (state issue)



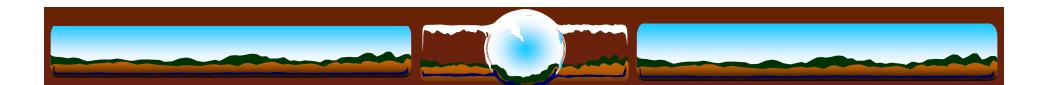
### Piezometer for BTEX Monitoring





Preferred Treatment? Based on Cost + Labor vs Rate of Treatment

Passive, vegetated = low cost; low labor
Active = higher cost; higher labor
Phased Treatment = Moderate cost and labor
Rate of Treatment – No difference after 1 year



### End of Year 1 – October 2004

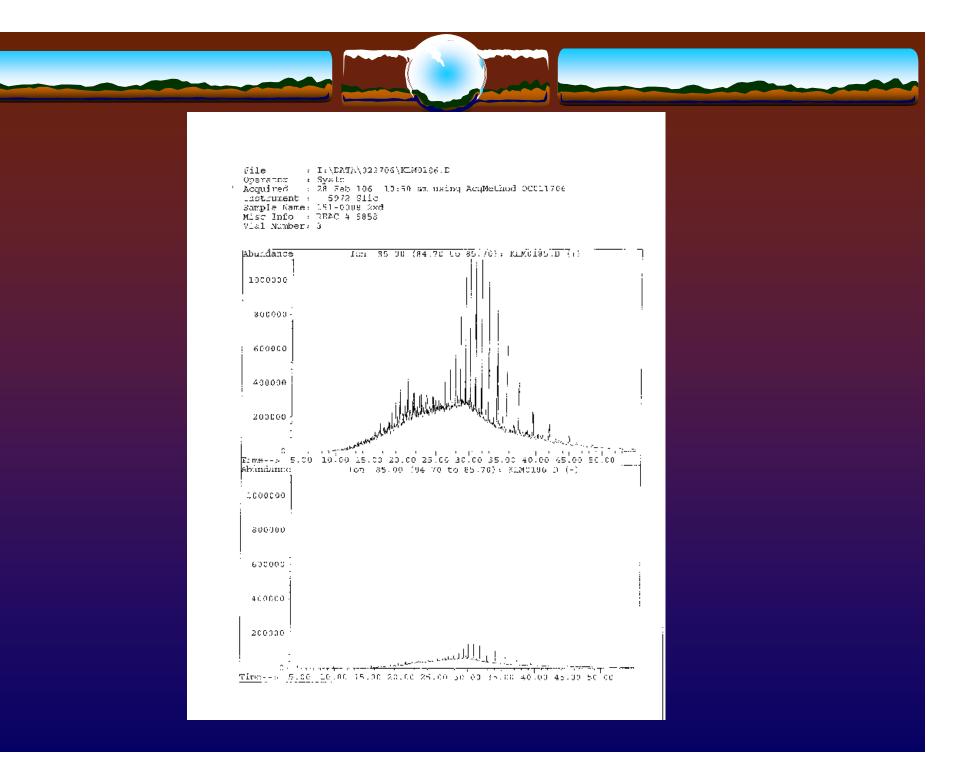




### October 2004



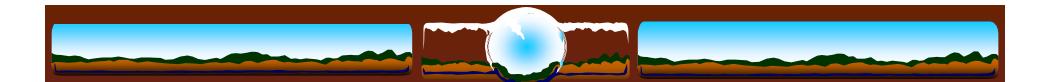
TPH Tolerant Grasses: • annual ryegrass • perennial ryegrass • tall fescue





# Time to Attain 1% TPH Endpoint?

1 year - 2004
Reuse indefinitely if soil TPH is 1% to 2%



# Treatment Cell Reuse Benefits

Low Cost
Soil Quality Improved
Increased Soil Organic Matter
Improved structure, aeration, permeability
Improved drainage with time