



# **BRAC Innovation**

## **National Defense Industrial Association**

***Richmond, Virginia***

***April 8, 2003***

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# The BRAC Process

Turning a  
*Sow's Ear*  
into a  
*Silk Purse*

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# **BRAC Goals**

- **Divestiture of DoD real estate**
- **Public and regulatory acceptance**
- **Minimization of costs and ongoing liability**



# **Beneficial Approaches**

- **Phytoremediation**
- **Constructed Wetlands**
- **Composting**
- **Landfill Redevelopment**
- **Microturbine Revenues**

# Phytoremediation

Use of plants  
to remediate  
contaminated  
soil and / or  
groundwater.

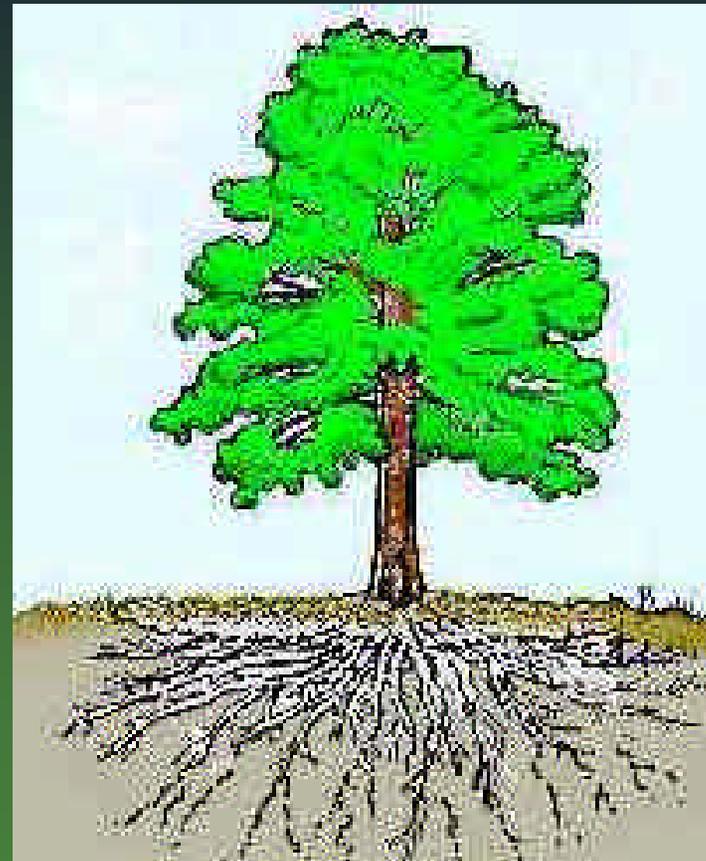


Image by Gleba et al., 1999

# Phytoremediation: The Approaches

**Phytoremediation:** the use of plants and soil amendments for the removal of contaminants from soil (greek *phytos*=plant)

**Phytoextraction:** the use of plants and soil amendments for the removal of concentrated contaminants in roots and above-ground shoots

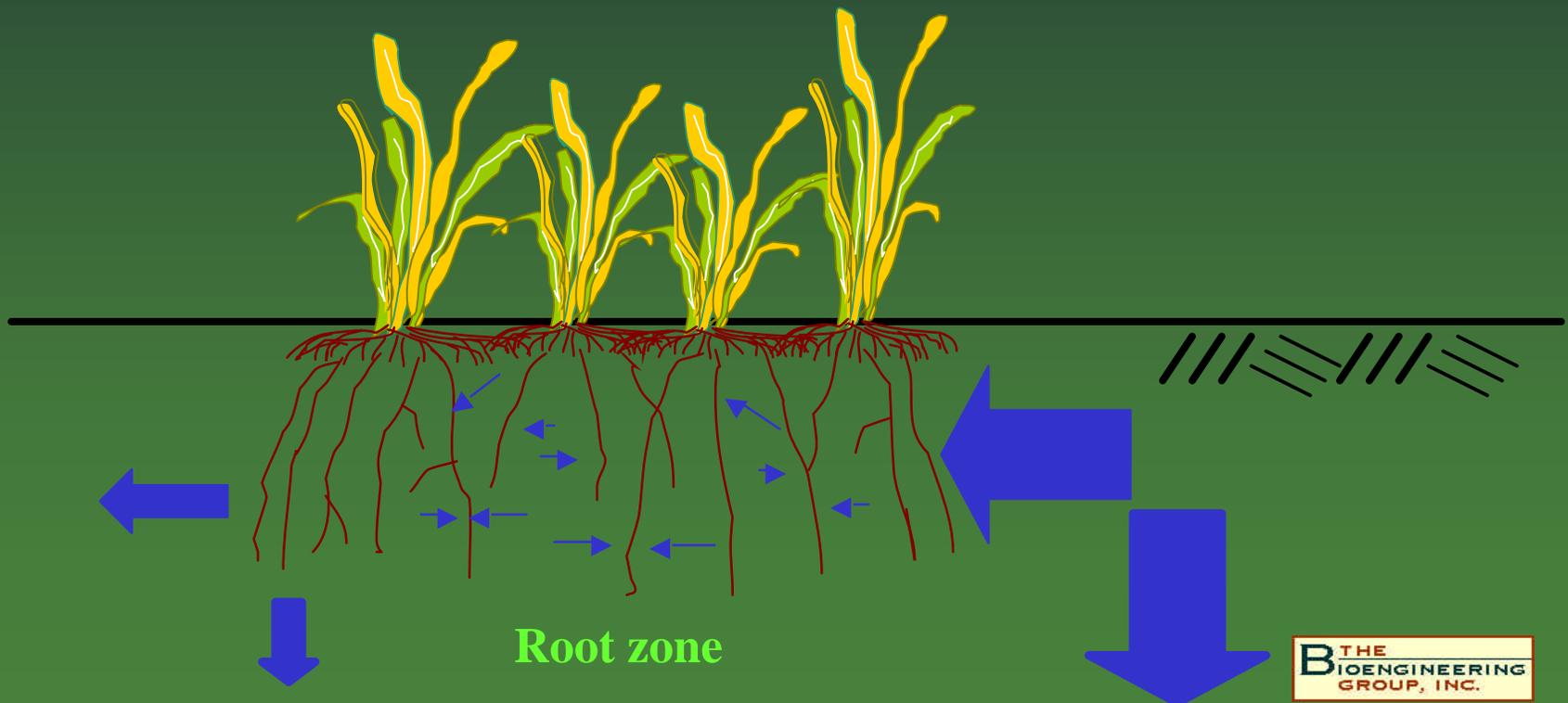
**Phytostabilization:** the use of plants and soil amendments for chemical sequestration and physical containment

**Multi-tier Approach:** the use of more than one of the above approaches



# Phytoremediation: The Processes

Certain plants and the bacteria associated with their root zones are capable of: selective uptake of targeted heavy metals, degradation of hydrocarbons, breakdown of complex chemicals, and changes in soil hydrology



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# Phytoremediation: The Advantages

## Cost:

Low capital and operating costs  
Metal recycling provides further economic advantages

## Performance:

Permanent treatment solution  
In situ application avoids excavation  
Applicable to a variety of contaminants  
Can augment conventional remediation

## Other:

Public acceptance; aesthetically pleasing  
Compatible with risk-based remediation

# Phytoremediation: Cost Effectiveness

## Soil

(all figures in dollar per ton)

Chemical Treatment	\$100-\$500	Soil Washing	\$75-\$200
Soil Flushing (in situ)	\$40-\$190	Vitrification (reag)	\$75-\$90
Vitrification (thermal)	\$250-\$425	Thermal Desorp.	\$150-\$500
Thermal Treatment	\$170-\$300	Electrokinetics	\$20-\$200
Incineration	\$200-\$1500	Landfilling	\$100-\$500
	Phytoremediation		\$25-\$100



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# Argonne National Laboratory West, Idaho Falls, Idaho

**Description:** Various sites at the Argonne National Laboratory are contaminated with wastes generated from the scientific and engineering research facilities.

**Contaminants:** Heavy metals (chromium, mercury, selenium, silver, zinc)

**Treatment:** Establishment of Prairie Cascade hybrid willow, canola, and kochia



**Results:** Successful implementation of willow

**Cost:** Not provided



# Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, Arden Hills, Minnesota

**Description:** The Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP) is 2,370-acre facility used for production and storage of small arms ammunition and artillery shell materials.

**Contaminants:** Heavy metals (antimony, arsenic, barium, beryllium, chromium, lead, thallium)

**Treatment:** Crop establishment of corn and mustards

**Results:** Reduction of contaminants was limited due to poor quality of soils and inhibited plant growth. Future remediation will include application of fertilizers, irrigation, soil amendments as needed, and deep tilling.

**Cost:** \$30.34 per cubic yard of soil per year

## Watertown Arsenal BRAC Site



**Phytoremediation on Charles River, MDC  
Olmsted Greenway, Watertown, Massachusetts**

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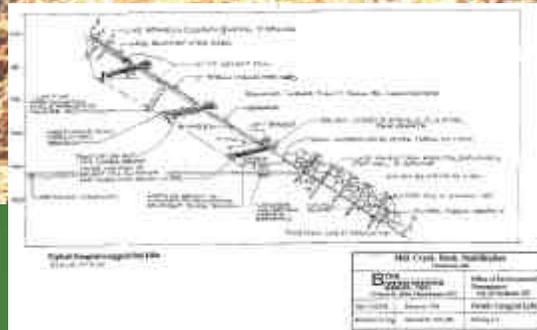
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# Mill Creek, Cincinnati, Phytoremediation Construction Detail



**Geogrid Lift**

**Brush Layer**



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# 2 Years after Construction—Effective remediation and high habitat value



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**The use of plants to remediate contaminated soils in upland and riverbank areas...**



**...results in improved water quality and enhanced ecological habitat value.**

# Constructed Wetlands

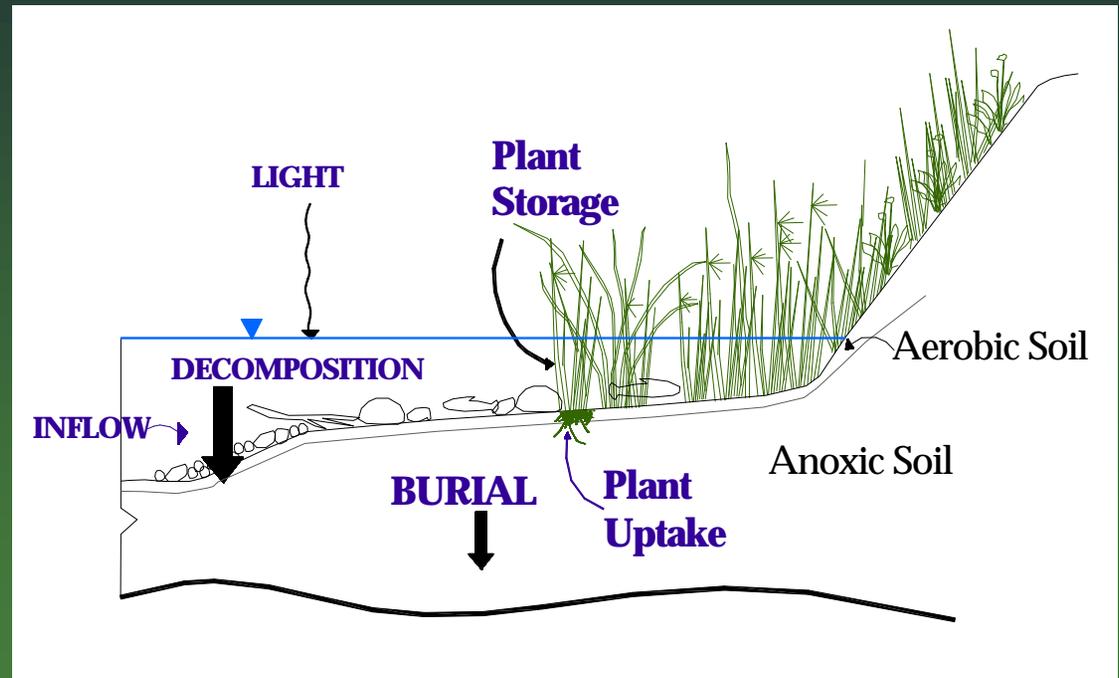


Wetlands can effectively remove ***explosives*** and ***trace metals*** from surface and groundwater.

(Best et al. 2000, Knight et al. 1999, Best et al. 1997, Price et al. 1997, Goodrich-Mahoney 1996, Gupta et al. 1994)

# Mechanisms for Explosives and Metal Removal

- Binding to soils, sediments, particulates
- Precipitation
- Uptake by plants, including algae and bacteria





# Wetland Efficiencies for Removal

## Explosives

**TNT 79-99 %**

**RDX 50-99%**

**TNB 99%**

**HMX 50-99%**

**24DNT 58%**

**26DNT 61%**

**(Best et al. 2000)**

## Heavy Metals

**Cu 63-96 %**

**Cd 70-99%**

**Al -33-63%**

**Fe 58.2-80%**

**Mn 43-98%**

**Pb 65-83%**

**(Kadlec and Knight 1996)**



# Constructed Wetlands: Issues

- **Explosive and metals toxicity for submersed and emergent vegetation**
- **Possibility of bioaccumulation**
- **Long-term reliability for metals**
- **Remediation**
- **Limited research**
- **“...an environmentally-friendly and cost-effective alternative for traditional methods”**

**Best et al. 2000**

# Constructed Wetlands: Case Studies

The USACE has performed numerous studies to evaluate the effectiveness of wetland treatment for explosive and heavy metals removal. Studies include experiments in:

- Chattanooga, TN 2000
- Burlington, IA 1998
- Grand Island, NE



**These studies included the evaluation of both surface and subsurface wetland systems.**

# BRAC Site, Devens, Massachusetts



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## Treatment wetlands and composting

**Devens: high public satisfaction and successful results**



# Composting

## Potential Treatment for Explosives and Other Military Contamination





# Compost Can Degrade . . .

- **Explosives**
  - TNT
  - DNT
  - RDX
  - HMX
- **Refined petroleum fuels**
- **Crude Oil**
- **PAHs**
- **Propellants**
- **PCP**

**(Peramaki 1999)**

# Composting Process

- **Ex situ process**
- **Soils are mixed with bulking agents and soil amendments**
- **Aerobic process**
- **Microbes digest contaminants**



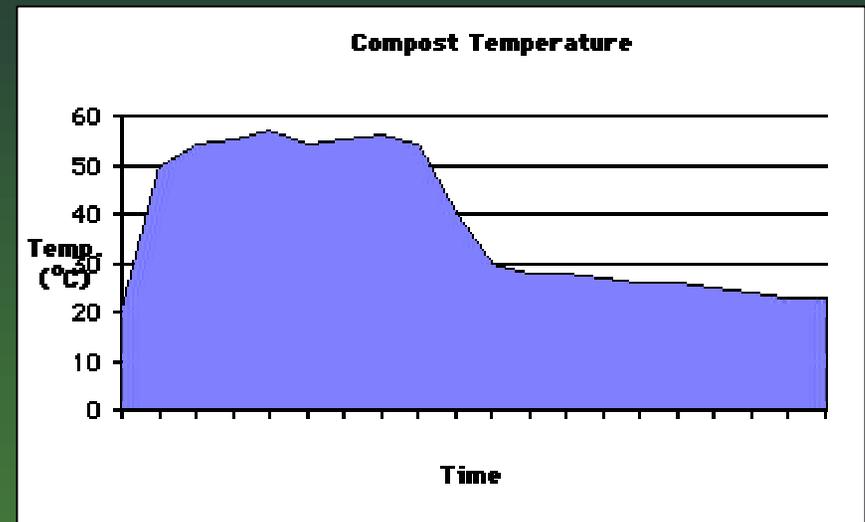
Courtesy of Cornell WMI

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# Composting Process

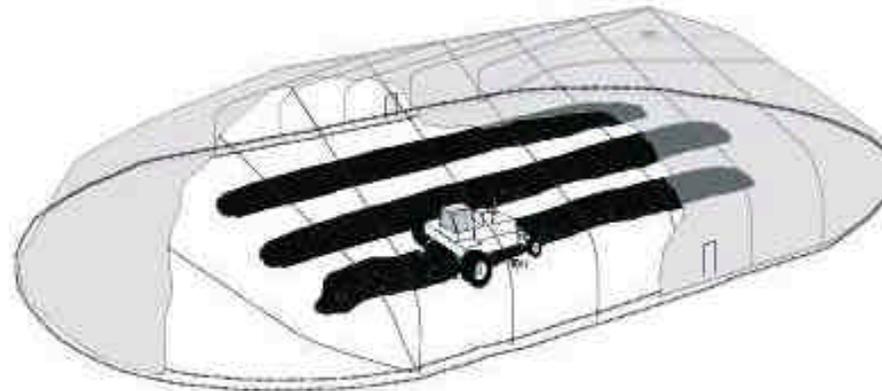
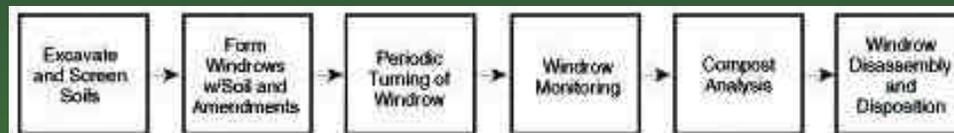
- Metabolic activity of the microbes raises the temperature of the mixture to 55 – 65°C
- Process typically takes 15 – 20 days
- The compost is then removed to a “curing area” for several months, after which it is ready for land application



Courtesy of Cornell WMI

# Typical Compost Mix

- 30% contaminated soil
- Bulking agents (wood chips, straw)
- Soil amendments (manure, alfalfa)



4-10 94P-2346 622-94

Courtesy of FRTR

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# Best Applications

- **Contamination to depths of less than 20 feet**
- **Contaminants which are biodegradable**
- **Contaminants which form strong bonds with humic substances**



# Advantages

- **High temperatures allow bioremediation during cold seasons**
- **High temperatures accelerate soil chemical reactions**
- **High humic content increases soil reactivity**
- **Simple and inexpensive**
- **End product is non-toxic**
- **Potential revenue from sale of finished compost**



## **Umatilla Army Depot, OR**

- **Contaminated during decommissioning of bombs in the 1950s and 1960s**
- **TNT, RDX and HMX**
- **Full-scale remediation**
- **Achieved non-detect levels**
- **Cost: \$351/ton**
- **Saved \$2.6 million over incineration**

**(Wright 1996, EPA 1997)**



# Hawthorne Army Depot, NV

- **Contaminated by the disposal of explosives-laden water**
- **TNT, RDX, HMX, yellow-D**
- **Full-scale pilot study**
- **All explosives degraded to goal levels within 28 days**
- **Also degraded PCP in pallets used for wood chips**
- **Cost: \$250/cu yd**

(Brunner, 1999)



# **Other Military Sites Using Compost for Remediation**

- **Pueblo Chemical Depot, CO**
- **Sierra Army Depot, CA**
- **Naval Surface Warfare Center, IN**
- **Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, IL**
- **Bangor Naval Submarine Base, WA**
- **Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, LA**
- **Badger Army Ammunition Plant, WI**
- **Tooele Army Depot, UT**
- **Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, NC**

**(EPA 1997, Gray 1999, Block 2001)**



**USACE estimates that  
\$200 million could be  
saved by using compost  
to clean the remaining  
US munitions sites across  
the country.**



**(EPA 1997)**

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# Landfill and Other Contaminated Site Redevelopment



## Brownfields

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# **BRAC Installation Turnover Challenges**

- **Former landfill sites**
- **Range locations**
- **Other areas with residual contamination**
- **Local Redevelopment Authority / Restoration Advisory Board concerns**



# **Specific Landfill Redevelopment Issues**

- **Methane hazards**
- **Post-closure care O&M costs**
- **Differential settlement issues**
- **Buried hazardous wastes**

# Carson Town Center, California Landfill Redevelopment

- Built atop Golden Eagle Landfill
- Former petroleum refinery
- 150,000 sf department store with parking
- Expansion in progress
- LFG protection and GW investigation



# Industry Hills Resort Complex, California

## Landfill Redevelopment

- Built atop landfill
- 400 room Sheraton Hotel
- Golf courses, tennis center, parking
- LFG systems – heat all hot water



# Ironwood Sport Complex, Lorton, Virginia Landfill Redevelopment

- Built atop municipal landfill
- Driving range, miniature golf, and batting cages
- LFG systems and site consulting



# Bank One Ballpark, Phoenix, Arizona Brownfields Redevelopment

- Environmental assessments, investigation, and remediation
- 276 sites
- Asbestos, USTs, historical buildings



# **Bishops Canyon Recreation Complex**

## **Los Angeles, California**

### **Brownfields Redevelopment**

- **Landfill closure and end-use plans**
- **Baseball and soccer fields**
- **Nature walks and bike trails**
- **Overlooks Dodger Stadium**



# Roger Penske Auto Raceway, Fontana, California Brownfields Redevelopment

- **Constructed 14-acre membrane cap**
- **In-situ soil vapor extraction**
- **On-site soil treatment**
- **Off-site disposal:  
7,000 cy of soils,  
21,000 tons of  
residuals**





# **Microturbine Technology Characteristics**

- **Applicable to smaller landfills (e.g., military)**
- **Tolerates lower methane content (e.g., 30% to 35%)**
- **Extremely low air emissions**
- **Sizes: from 30 to 250 kW**



# Microturbine Economics

- **Total Capital Cost:**  
**\$1,800 to \$3,000 per kW**
- **Long-Term O&M Cost:**  
**2.0¢ to 2.5¢ per kWh**



# **Optimal Circumstances**

- **Retail Deferral**
- **High Power Cost Region**
- **Multiple Units**
- **Need for Hot Water**
- **Availability of Incentives**

# LFG Fired Microturbine Design & Design/Construct Experience

<u>Location</u>	<u>Size/Type</u>	<u>On Line</u>	<u>Scope</u>
Jamacha LF San Diego, CA	300 kW Honeywell	June 01	DC
Jamacha LF San Diego, CA	280 kW I-R	Feb 02	DC
OII LF Monterey Park, CA	420 kW I-R	July 02	DC
Acme LF Martinez, CA	280 kW I-R	July 02	D
Calabastas LF Calabastas, CA	300 kW Capstone	July 02	DC
Eastern Regional LF Truckee, CA	120 kW Capstone	Oct 02	D



# **Air Force Landfill Power Generation Potential**

- **Fifteen Air Force landfills greater than 10 acres in size are present at seven bases in California**
- **Fourteen are closed and one is open**
- **Very preliminary landfill gas estimates:  
4,340 kW = \$5.1M per year @ 13.5¢/kWh  
retail rate or \$1.5M per year @ 4.0¢/kWh  
wholesale rate**



# Change the Dynamics ...

## *Enhanced Remediation Paradigm--Restoration*

- ✓ **Beneficial Use of Sites**
- ✓ **Ecological Outputs**
- ✓ **Utilization of Problem Resources**
- ✓ **Improved Economics**
- ✓ **Favorable Public Relations**



## *Opportunities?.....*

- ✓ **Sites with dispersed / residual contaminants**
- ✓ **Particularly challenging landfill and other disposal sites**
- ✓ **Sites with sensitive resources**
- ✓ **High profile Public Relations challenges**