

LSE Completes Startup of Remediation System at Former Middletown Dry Cleaner Site

Following a thorough characterization of a contaminant plume at a former dry cleaner site in Middletown, RI, LSE completed a design for a remediation system based on technology known as multi-phase extraction (MPE). The remediation system was started in July and is currently removing 5 pounds per day of contamination.

The historical release of dry cleaning solvent beneath the building's floor presented many challenges to cleanup including limited access and very tight soil conditions. LSE drilled seven small diameter MPE wells inside and five angular MPE wells outside of the building then performed a field pilot test of the MPE wells to confirm the design criteria for the full scale system.

The system's 25 horsepower vacuum pump extracts groundwater and soil gas from the contaminated soil zone, thereby allowing the volatile solvent perchloroethylene to be extracted from the ground and filtered with activated carbon. "The system is performing exactly as designed and contaminant removal rates are better than anticipated" says Dave Hazebrouck, president of LSE. "We are very please with startup performance thus far and expect the system to operate for one to two years".