

I followed up having received two voice mail messages forwarded from the former caseworker. I spoke with the current station operator, Mr. Lam Truong, for approximately 30 minutes regarding activities occurring at the site. An AS/DPE pilot test was to be performed by the RP- Exxon - commencing in late June of this year and apparently the pilot test is on-going. Mr. Truong expressed his concerns to me.

1. As I understand it, Mr. Truong is of the opinion that the work being performed was not being performed correctly. For the first few weeks at the start of the pilot test there were two workers operating the equipment. Later there was only one worker. Mr. Truong asked the one worker what the depth to water was. The worker replied that he did not know. Mr. Truong expressed the opinion that the one worker was not following the SOPs as when two workers were performing the test.
2. Mr. Truong is concerned that, because of the drought, the water level was below the zone of contamination. He stated that as the depth to water increased the contaminant concentrations decreased, making the test inappropriate for current site conditions.

I explained that a DPE system draws both soil vapor and contaminated water from the well and if the groundwater is below the zone of contamination contaminated soil vapor is being extracted.

3. The one worker indicated he was about to conclude the test and take his equipment to Texas. Mr. Truong thought this meant the case was being closed, that remediation was completed, and that he would be left with a contaminated site.

I explained the case was not closed but the pilot test was wrapping up and that ACEH would receive a report evaluating the appropriateness of AS/DPE for site cleanup. As for closure, I told him that ACEH makes the determination against State policy on whether the case is closable, not Exxon.