

Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health

From: Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 11:49 AM
To: 'Leonard Niles'
Cc: Vicki ZumBrunnen; 'Marc Cunningham'
Subject: RE: RO0002483 former grand Auro, 4240 Internation Blvd., Oakland

Leonard,

The additional parameters are useful in evaluating data quality where surface breakthrough is an issue, sites with potential for methane generation, and the potential for bioattenuation. However, I have again reviewed the site conditions and types of VOCs detected to date and find these parameters may not be necessary given the site-specific conditions. Therefore, the additional parameters may be deleted.

Regards,
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From: Leonard Niles [<mailto:leonard@allwest1.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:00 AM
To: Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health
Cc: Vicki ZumBrunnen; 'Marc Cunningham'
Subject: RO0002483 former grand Auro, 4240 Internation Blvd., Oakland

Jerry,

I have a question regarding your letter of September 6, 2012, in response to our sub-slab soil vapor investigation workplan of August 1, 2012. You requested us to analyze for oxygen, carbon dioxide and methane by ASTM D1946 in addition to the VOCs by TO-15 and helium by ASTM D1946 we had previously. I have not been able to find any requirement for these analyses in the latest DTSC Vapor Intrusion Guidance (October 2011) or Active Soil Gas Investigations Advisory (April 2012). What is the purpose of these, and what useful data is derived from them?

I know that measurements of O_2 , CO_2 and CH_4 are often taken using a meter during some purge methods using vacuum pumps in order to determine the proper purge volumes when these measurements stabilize. However, I don't believe that method is possible when using a Summa canister to purge as we are. And I don't see how collecting a single analytical sample of these gases at the end will give any useful information on the proper purge volume, or anything else. The reason I make an issue of this is that these analyses are quite expensive and will add significantly to our analytical costs for this investigation, so unless they provide useful information I don't see why they should be required. Please let know what the rationale is.

Thanks,

Len

Leonard Niles, P.G., C.H.G.

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