

Emerging Drivers for Subsurface Remediation

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Abstract. Over the past thirty years, depletion of subsurface releases of anthropogenic compounds has been a goal towards which little progress has been made. Regrettably, much of what has been released remains in the ground. In recent years a trend towards more frequent efforts to deplete subsurface releases has emerged. This paper explores potential drivers for this phenomena including:

- The ever increasing number of sites
- Maturation of many sites in the regulatory process
- Recognition of vapor transport as a plausible pathway for adverse risk
- Development of better and cheaper technologies
- Growing acceptance of the limitation of available technologies
- An increasing need to redevelop contaminated lands in urban areas
- An increased awareness of sustainability as a critical social and economic theme

Each of these topics will be explored through a review of ongoing research activities at the Center for Contaminant Hydrology in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University.

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