



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Waste Management

Beverly Eaves Perdue
Governor

Dexter R. Matthews
Director

Dee Freeman
Secretary

August 11, 2010

J. Felecia Owen
QROS
1609 Ebb Drive
Wilmington, NC 28409

Re: QED technology evaluation and use

Dear Ms. Owen:

Thank you for taking the time to conduct presentations and provide field data related to QED technology. Our evaluation of the limited preliminary information provided so far is that QED technology appears to be an acceptable analytical screening tool which could be useful in assessing soil and groundwater contaminated by leaking underground storage tanks. We will evaluate your August 6th submittal as soon as possible.

At this point, we have identified several phases of site assessment where QED technology may be useful and cost-competitive with other technologies. There certainly may be others, but I wanted to bring these to your attention.

First, QED technology may be useful during initial response activities when contaminated soil is being excavated and when defining the extent of contaminated soil is necessary. Existing task descriptions allow QED technology to be used, and the costs reimbursed, like any other screening tool. During this phase, many costs are reimbursed as "lump sums," which include the costs of screening technologies, and, in many instances, there are less expensive screening technologies that consultants and responsible parties may prefer.

Secondly, QED technology may be even more useful during the Limited Site Assessment and Comprehensive Site Assessment phases of UST release investigations. Although QED analyses cannot simply be substituted for present EPA-approved analytical methods (it does not provide constituent-specific results now required), it could be used as part of a field screening effort, at least in some instances, which may provide quicker and more accurate delineations of contaminant plumes, allow more optimal placement of monitoring wells, and define the horizontal and vertical extent of soil contamination more accurately. While the application of the field screening approach to the assessment phases would require additional time for onsite activities, the costs of those could be reimbursable through existing assessment supervision and sample collection tasks.

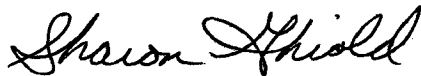
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In the long run, field screening could potentially save both time and money by more accurately defining the extent of soil and groundwater contamination, by reducing the time facilities must be out of operation, by reducing mobilization costs, and by providing consultants real-time information, allowing them to move on to other tasks quicker. Cost savings and time savings would be attractive to responsible parties and to consultants, and these are attributes that may help market QED technology to them. In addition, we will inform our regional incident managers that QED technology is available as a screening tool so that they are aware of its potential applications and benefits.

The Innovative Technology Committee has received your application and has begun to evaluate the QED. We will notify you of our findings as soon as possible.

Again, we appreciate your time and effort.

Sincerely,



Sharon Ghiold

cc: George Matthis
Grover Nicholson
Jared Edwards
Bob Davies