



**THEME 3: CREATE MORE RELIABLE NRC
RESPONSE**

OCTOBER 2010

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Decommissioning
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QUESTION #1

Should NRC's programs be modified to ensure greater consistency when addressing low risk, high public interest/confidence issues?

- Should NRC's oversight programs be modified to include more specific guidance on responding to reported incidents where risk is low but there is high stakeholder interest? Should this guidance address the follow up and disposition of a licensee's immediate actions, extent of condition, root cause, corrective action, and communication with the stakeholders?

RESPONSE TO QUESTION #1

- The NRC's oversight programs should respond consistently to reported groundwater incidents.
- The NRC should be proactive with respect to radioactive releases to groundwater.
 - Nuclear is different;
 - Nuclear is held to a higher standard;
 - As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) theme; and
 - Public perception issue.



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Case Study (Background)

- In 1950's through the 1970's NFS utilized tetrachloroethylene (PCE) at the plant site
- Characterization efforts began in late 1990's
- Discovered PCE groundwater plume in alluvial aquifer on and off site
- Discovered dissolved uranium groundwater plume in alluvial aquifer on site
- Alluvial aquifer is a non drinking water aquifer (no risk)



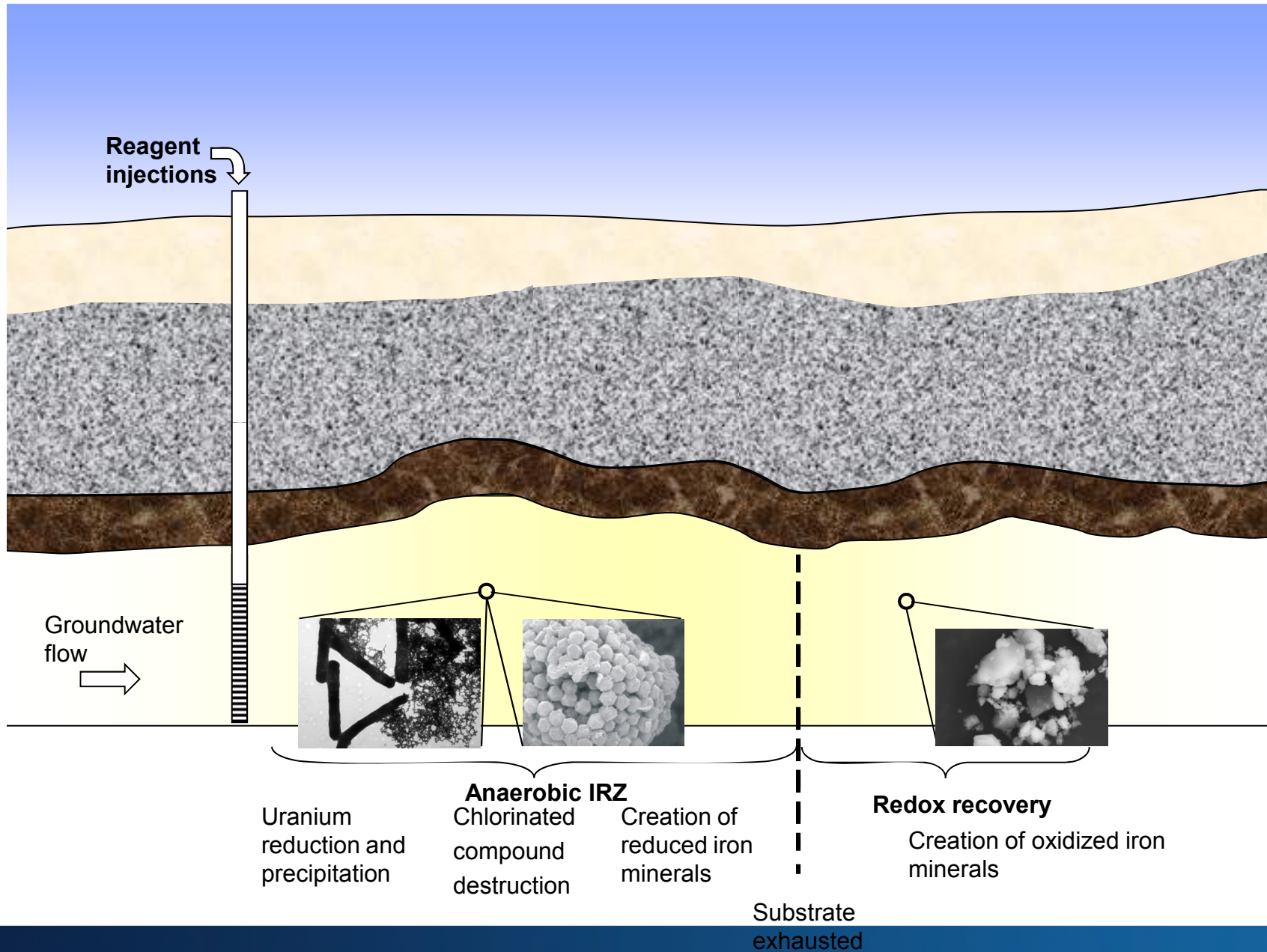
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Case Study (Background)

- Remediation began in early 2000's
- In-Situ Reactive Zone (IRZ) technology selected
 - Remediating uranium through reductive precipitation and stabilization with ferrous sulfate
 - Remediating PCE through injection of organic carbon and reductive dechlorination
 - Routinely sampled on and off-site monitoring wells

Engineered In-Situ Treatment of Chlorinated Solvents and Uranium





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Groundwater Remediation Activities

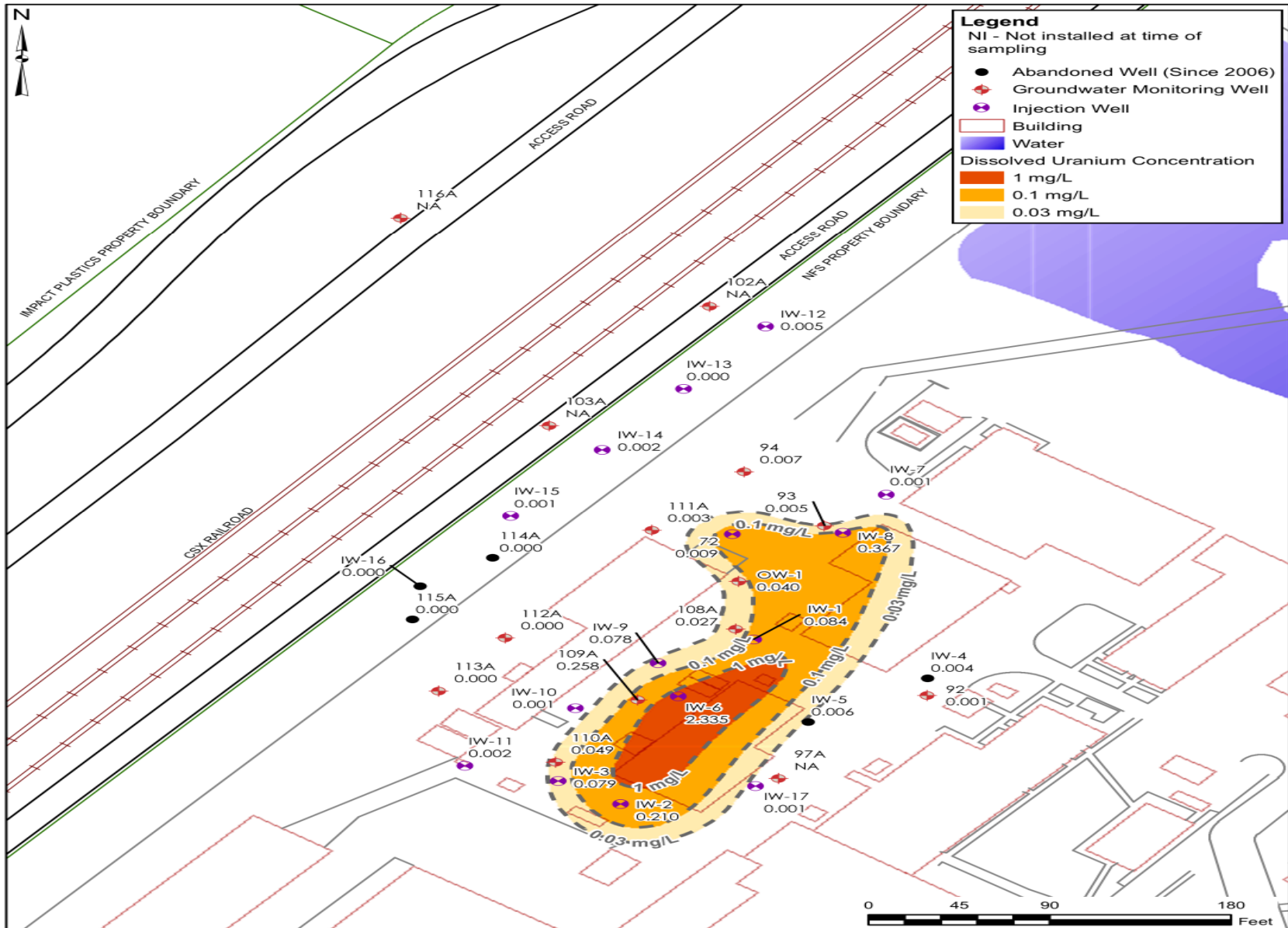
In-Situ Reactive Zone (IRZ) History and Status

2000-2002

- Pilot Test Utilizing In-Situ Reactive Zone (IRZ) Technology Conducted for Uranium and Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)
 - ~60% Reduction of Dissolved Uranium
 - ~83% Reduction of PCE

2002 – Present

- IRZ Implemented Full Scale
 - Uranium – reduced from approximately 0.75 acres to approximately 0.28 acres
 - PCE - reduced from approximately 2 acres to approximately 0.19 acres



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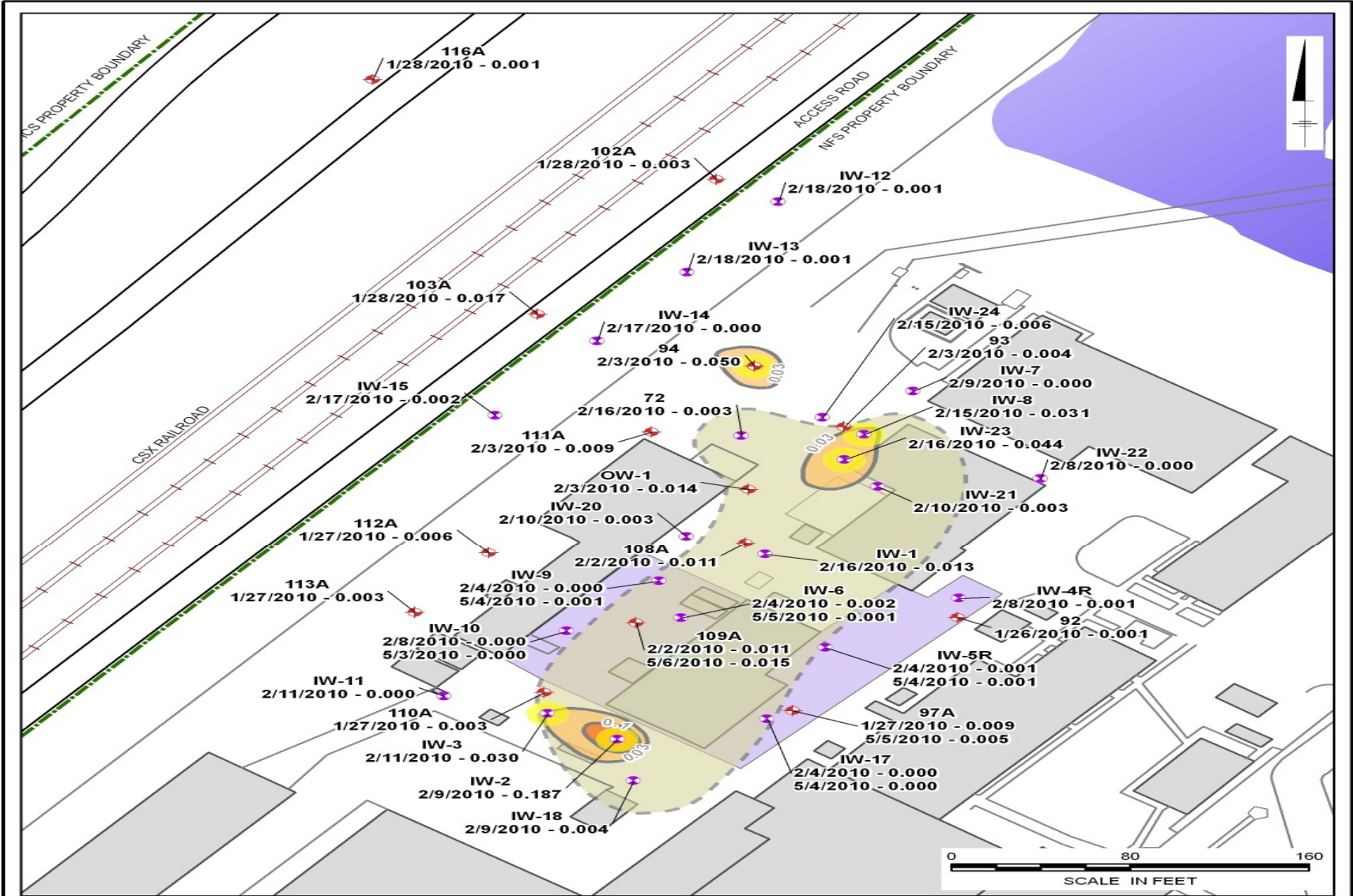
Project Manager:
Beryn Ilgner

Cartography By:
Robbi McKinney

Date:
10/19/07

**Baseline
 Dissolved Uranium Concentrations
 August 2002**
 Erwin, TN

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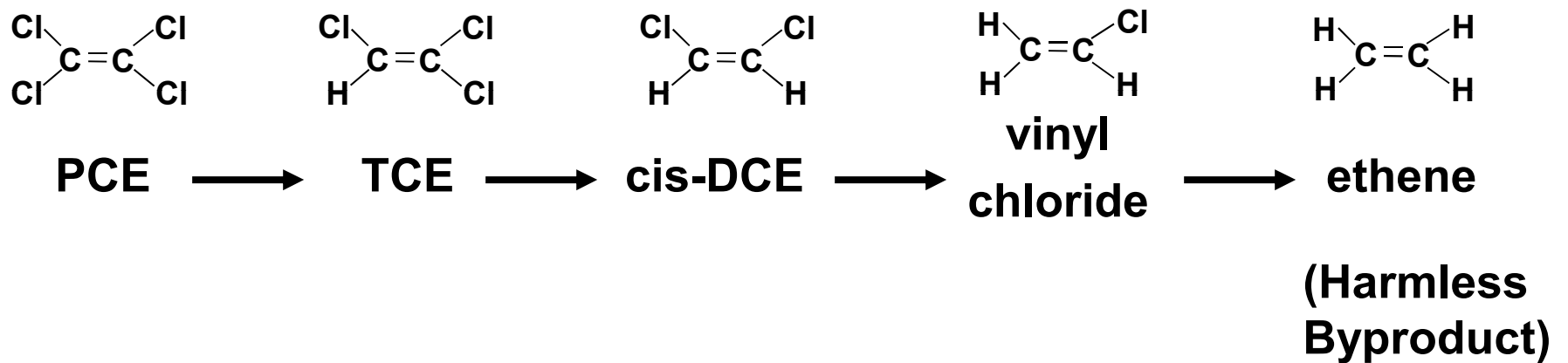
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 ERWIN, TENNESSEE

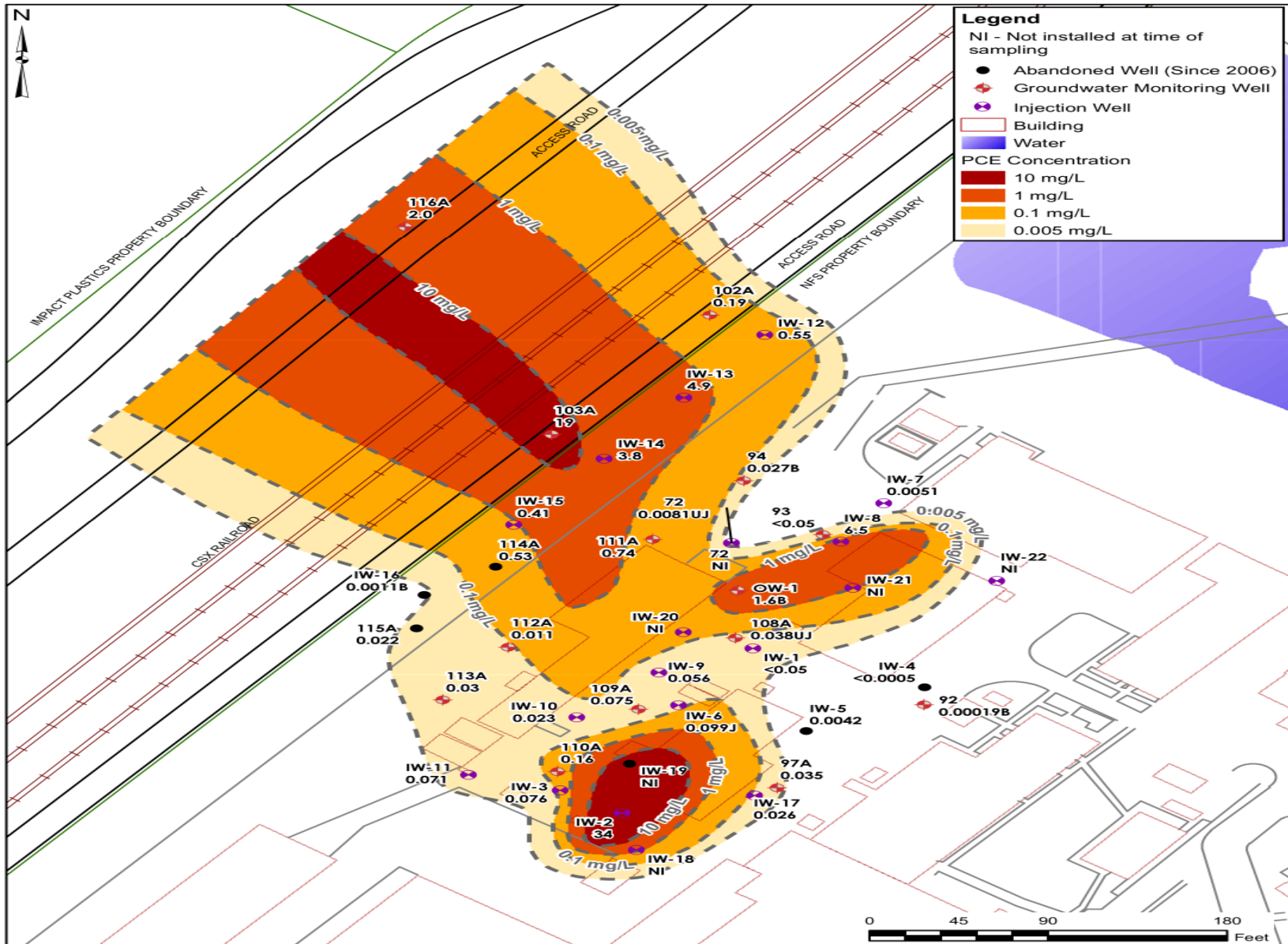
1ST SEMI-ANNUAL 2010 FULL SCALE IRZ STATUS REPORT

Dissolved Uranium Concentrations

FIGURE
PRELIMINARY
 3-7

Reductive Dechlorination Process





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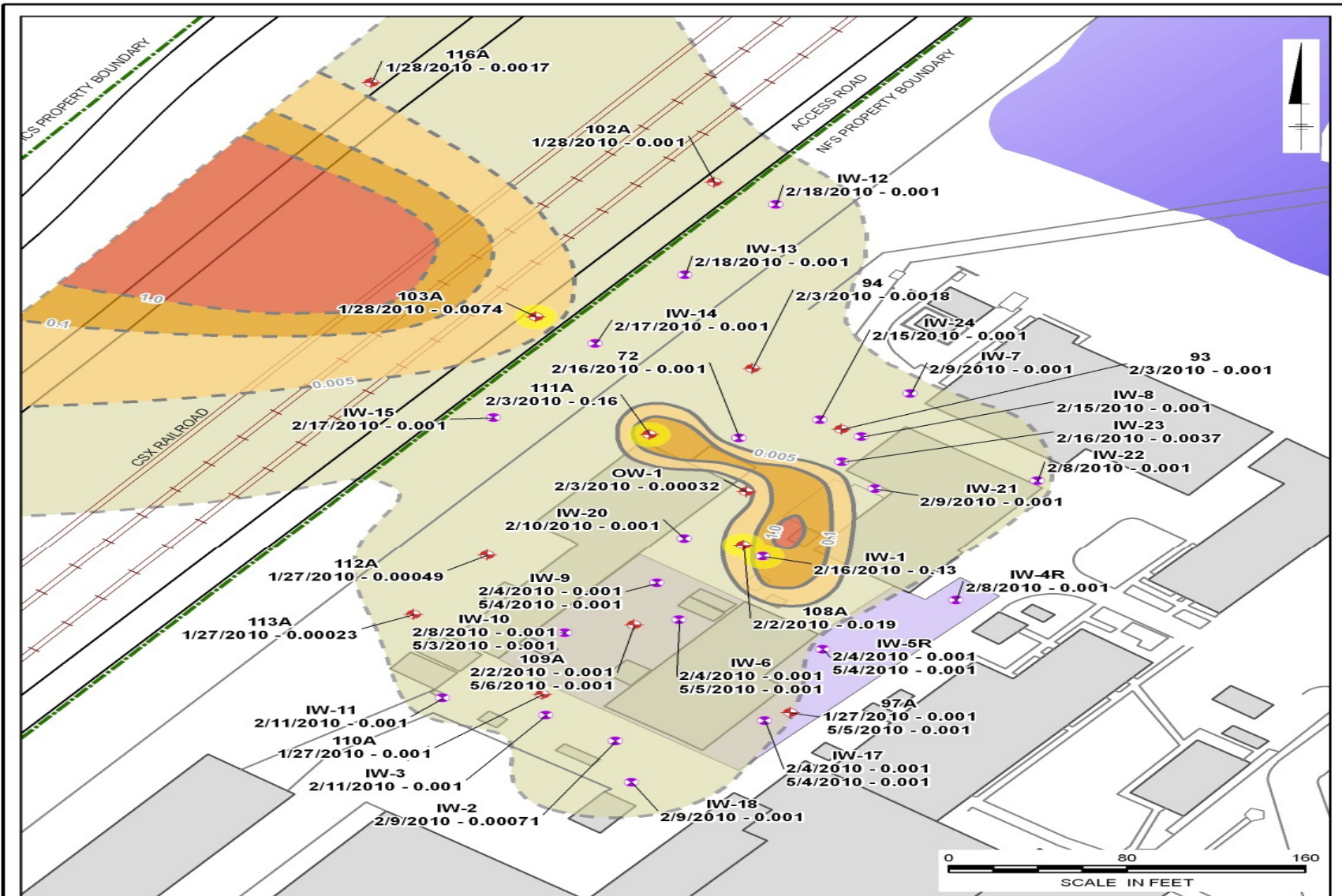
Project Manager:
Benny Ilgner

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Date:
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**Baseline PCE Concentrations
August 2002**

Erwin, TN



- LEGEND:**
- Injection Well
 - Groundwater Monitoring Well
 - Building
 - Closure Monitoring Zone
 - PCE Baseline
 - >0.005 mg/L
 - >1.0 mg/L
 - >0.1 mg/L
 - >0.005 mg/L
 - Approximate Isopleth
 - Inferred Isopleth

NOTES:
 mg/L - milligrams per liter
 PCE - Tetrachloroethene

YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED LOCATIONS EXCEED 0.005 MG/L.

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 ERWIN, TENNESSEE
1ST SEMI-ANNUAL 2010 FULL SCALE IRZ STATUS REPORT

PCE Concentrations

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QUESTION #2

How can the NRC improve communications and support to other regulatory agencies, such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the States, in understanding and exercising respective roles and responsibilities related to groundwater protection?



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RESPONSE TO QUESTION #2

- Evaluate Defaulting Regulatory Oversight of Groundwater Issues to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Communicate
 - Facility Action Plan (FAP) workshop
 - Invite the NRC to the FAP
 - NRC Public Meetings
 - Invite the State and EPA