

HYDROGEOLOGICAL GROUP

An experimental use of hydrogen  
peroxide in water well rehabilitation  
10<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Professor Rick Brassington

Newcastle University

## Introduction

- **The use of hydrogen peroxide**

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- **Outline of site procedures**



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- **The use of hydrogen peroxide**
- **Outline of site procedures**
- **Example of treatment to restore yield**



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- **The use of hydrogen peroxide**
- **Outline of site procedures**
- **Example of treatment to restore yield**
- **Example of treatment to destroy PAH**



Centre for  
Environmental and  
Water Quality  
Research

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## Collaborators

**Solvay Interlox Ltd, Warrington**



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## Collaborators

**Solvay Interox Ltd, Warrington**

**J.P. Whitter (Water Well Engineers) Ltd**



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## Yield restoration

**Example of yield restoration**

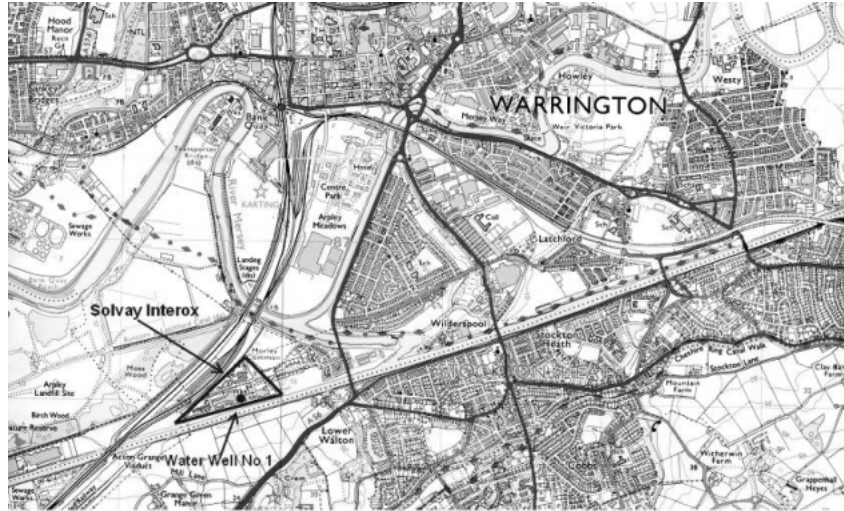
**Solvay Interox, Warrington**



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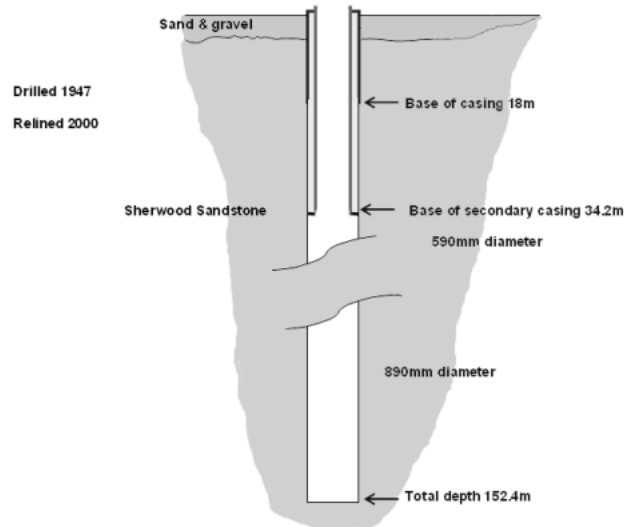
## Site Location



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## Borehole details



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## History of treatment

- **September 2000 – borehole relined & cleaned**



## History of treatment

- **September 2000 – borehole relined & cleaned**
- **November 2003 – headworks modified**



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## History of treatment

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## History of treatment

- **September 2000 – borehole relined & cleaned**
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- **June 2007 – borehole treated**



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## History of treatment

- **September 2000 – borehole relined & cleaned**
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- **June 2007 – borehole treated**
- **July 2007 – cctv survey repeated**



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- **July 2007 – borehole restored to service**



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## History of treatment

- **September 2000 – borehole relined & cleaned**
- **November 2003 – headworks modified**
- **May 2006 – pump failed**
- **December 2006 – cctv survey**
- **June 2007 – borehole treated**
- **July 2007 – cctv survey repeated**
- **July 2007 – borehole restored to service**
- **November 2007 – step test undertaken**



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## Treatment details

- **5 m<sup>3</sup> of 35% hydrogen peroxide injected**



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## Treatment details

- **5 m<sup>3</sup> of 35% hydrogen peroxide injected**
- **Injection at 10 levels from 70m depth upwards**



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## Treatment details

- **5 m<sup>3</sup> of 35% hydrogen peroxide injected**
- **Injection at 10 levels from 70m depth upwards**
- **Borehole rested for 24 hours before cctv survey**



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## Treatment details

- **5 m<sup>3</sup> of 35% hydrogen peroxide injected**
- **Injection at 10 levels from 70m depth upwards**
- **Borehole rested for 24 hours before cctv survey**
- **Submersible pump reinstalled**



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- **Presence of peroxide using standard indicator paper**



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## Treatment details

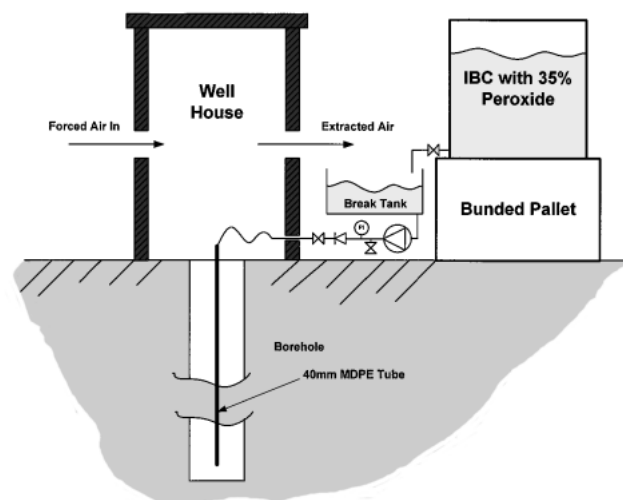
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- Borehole returned to service



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## Site set-up

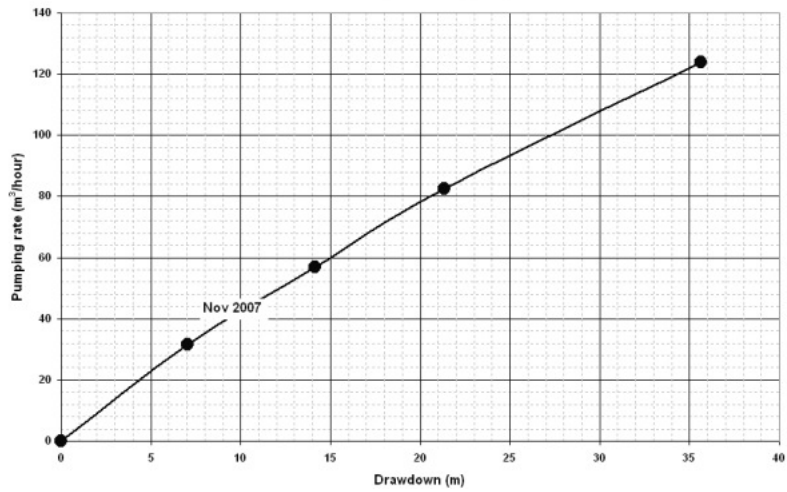


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# Well performance

Water Well No 1 - Specific Capacity Curve

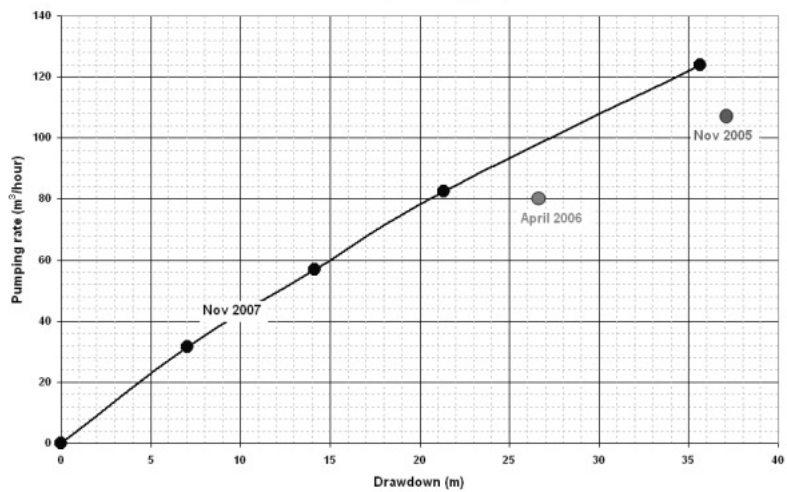


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# Well performance

Water Well No 1 - Specific Capacity Curve

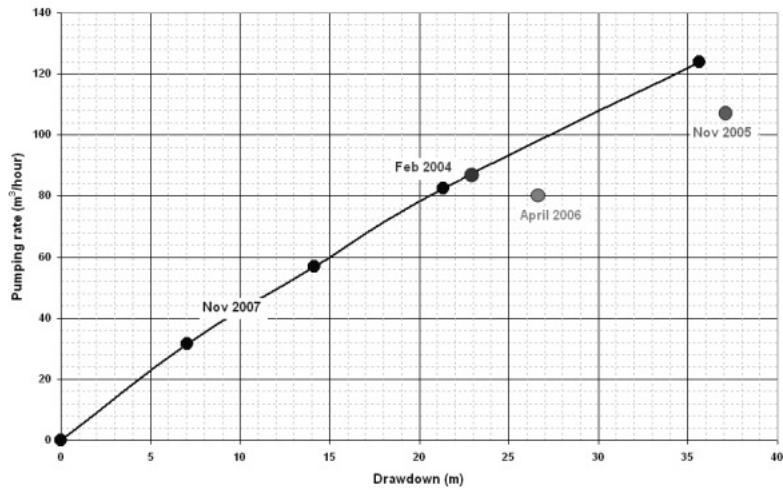


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# Well performance

Water Well No 1 - Specific Capacity Curve

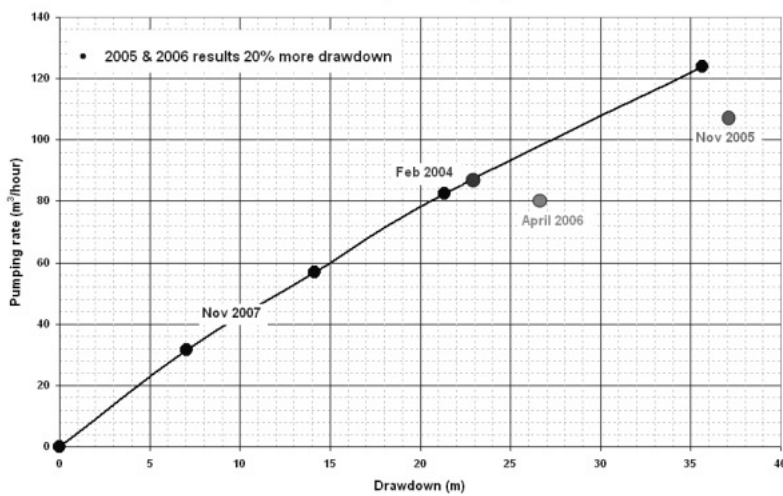


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Water Well No 1 - Specific Capacity Curve

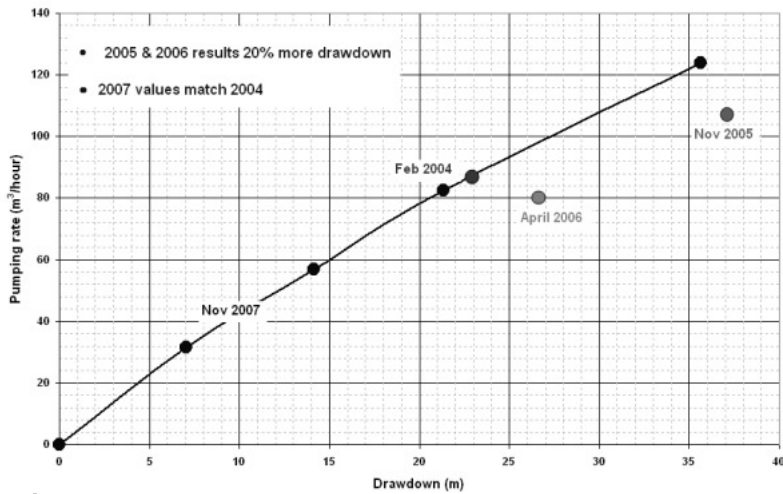


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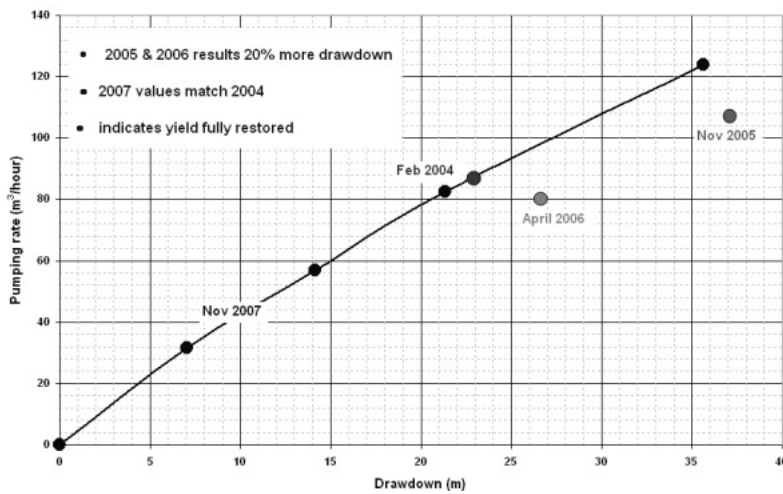


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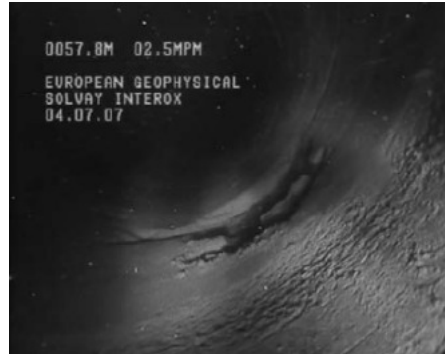
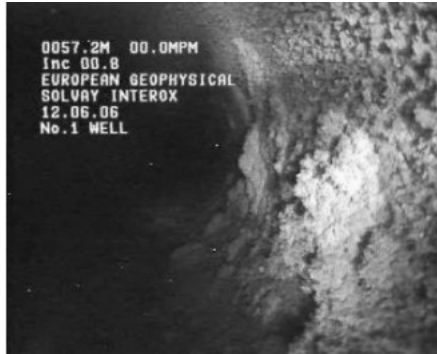


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## CCTV



**Removal of bacterial growths for well face**



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## CCTV



**Water clear after treatment**



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## Site procedure



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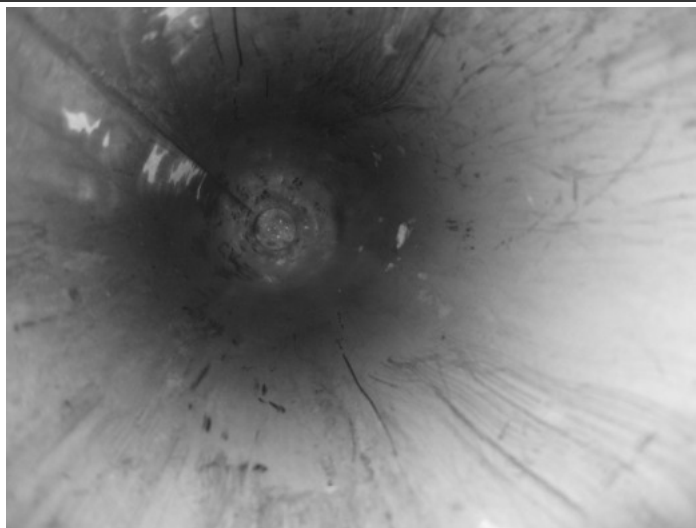
## Site procedure



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## Site practice



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## Peroxide decomposition

- **Spontaneous decomposition**



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## Peroxide decomposition

- **Spontaneous decomposition**
- **Decomposition rate depends on temperature**



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## Peroxide decomposition

- Spontaneous decomposition
- Decomposition rate depends on temperature
- Decomposition rate depends concentration



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## Peroxide decomposition

- Spontaneous decomposition
- Decomposition rate depends on temperature
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- Decomposition rate depends presence of catalysts



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## Peroxide decomposition

- Spontaneous decomposition
- Decomposition rate depends on temperature
- Decomposition rate depends concentration
- Decomposition rate depends presence of catalysts
- $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$



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## Peroxide decomposition

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- Decomposition rate depends presence of catalysts
- $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$
- Large quantities of oxygen produced



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- $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$
- Large quantities of oxygen produced
- Only other breakdown product is water



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## Peroxide decomposition

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- Decomposition rate depends on temperature
- Decomposition rate depends concentration
- Decomposition rate depends presence of catalysts
- $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$
- Large quantities of oxygen produced
- Only other breakdown product is water
- Exothermic reaction produces heat



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## Fenton's Reagent

- **Ferrous iron acts as catalyst**



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## Fenton's Reagent

- **Ferrous iron acts as catalyst**
- **Reaction is very vigorous**



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- **Ferrous iron acts as catalyst**
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- **Produces free hydroxyl radicals**



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## Fenton's Reagent

- **Ferrous iron acts as catalyst**
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- **Produces free hydroxyl radicals**
- **Increases oxidation and biocide properties**



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## Fenton's Reagent

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- Increases oxidation and biocide properties
- $\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{OH} + \text{OH}^-$



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- $\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{OOH} + \text{H}^+$



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## PAH contamination

### Example of contaminant removal



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## PAH contamination

- Location confidential



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## PAH contamination

- **Location confidential**
- **Borehole 92.3m deep & 300mm diameter**



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## PAH contamination

- **Location confidential**
- **Borehole 92.3m deep & 300mm diameter**
- **PAH contamination from carbon black**



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## PAH contamination

- **Location confidential**
- **Borehole 92.3m deep & 300mm diameter**
- **PAH contamination from carbon black**
- **Treated with hydrogen peroxide on two occasions**



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## PAH contamination

- **Location confidential**
- **Borehole 92.3m deep & 300mm diameter**
- **PAH contamination from carbon black**
- **Treated with hydrogen peroxide on two occasions**
- **First treatment 1,500 litres used**



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## PAH contamination

- Location confidential
- Borehole 92.3m deep & 300mm diameter
- PAH contamination from carbon black
- Treated with hydrogen peroxide on two occasions
- First treatment 1,500 litres used
- Second treatment 720 litres used + ferrous sulphate



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## Original PAH contamination

Depth		15m	22m	58m	63m	68m	75m	81m	82m
Sample type		P	P	D	P	D	D	D	P
Fluoranthene	ng/l	<0.3	1,020	3,370	2,650	4,730	5,090	2,220	3,450
Benzo 1,12, perylene	ng/l	1.6	106	356	294	520	526	253	374
Benzo 11,12, fluoranthene	ng/l	0.7	94.8	360	283	492	527	230	376
Inendo (1, 2, 3- cd) pyrene	ng/l	<0.1	97.1	281	253	401	391	218	310
Benzo-3, 4- fluorathene	ng/l	1.5	286	1,050	817	1,430	1,520	670	1,070
Benzo-3, 4-pyrene	ng/l	1.0	207	773	618	1,060	1,130	502	801



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## After first treatment

Sample depth		25m	60m	72m	76m
Fluoranthene	ng/l	12.4	<2.4	3.4	4.7
Benzo 1,12, perylene	ng/l	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3
Benzo 11, 12, fluoranthene	ng/l	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6
Inendo (1, 2, 3- cd) pyrene	ng/l	1.9	1.9	2.2	1.6
Benzo-3, 4-fluorathene	ng/l	1.3	1.1	0.9	<0.7
Benzo-3, 4-pyrene	ng/l	0.5	<0.4	0.5	<0.4



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## After second treatment

Date		26/1/2008	27/1/2008	28/1/2008	25/3/2008
Duration of pumping		90 mins	24 hours	36 hours	53 days
Fluoranthene	ng/l	34.7	<2.4	5.9	<2.4
Benzo 1,12, perylene	ng/l	10.7	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3
Benzo 11, 12, fluoranthene	ng/l	4.6	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6
Inendo (1, 2, 3- cd) pyrene	ng/l	7.9	<0.7	<0.7	0.7
Benzo-3, 4-fluorathene	ng/l	6.4	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7
Benzo-3, 4-pyrene	ng/l	8.0	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4



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## After second treatment

Date		7/5/2008	20/5/2008	21/5/2008	22/5/2008	23/5/2008
Fluoranthene	ng/l	<2.4	<2.4	<2.4	<2.4	<2.4
Benzo 1,12, perylene	ng/l	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3	<1.3
Benzo 11, 12, fluoranthene	ng/l	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6
Inendo (1, 2, 3-cd) pyrene	ng/l	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7
Benzo-3, 4-fluorathene	ng/l	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7	<0.7
Benzo-3, 4-pyrene	ng/l	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4



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## Summary

- **Appears to restore bore hole yield**



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- **Appears to restore borehole yield**
- **Oxide deposits removed from borehole face**



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- **Likely to be scrubbing affect of oxygen bubbles**



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## Summary

- **Appears to restore borehole yield**
- **Oxide deposits removed from borehole face**
- **Likely to be scrubbing affect of oxygen bubbles**
- **Fenton's Reagent produces free hydroxyl radicals**



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## Summary

- **Appears to restore borehole yield**
- **Oxide deposits removed from borehole face**
- **Likely to be scrubbing affect of oxygen bubbles**
- **Fenton's Reagent produces free hydroxyl radicals**
- **Acts as strong biocide**



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## Summary

- **Appears to restore borehole yield**
- **Oxide deposits removed from borehole face**
- **Likely to be scrubbing affect of oxygen bubbles**
- **Fenton's Reagent produces free hydroxyl radicals**
- **Acts as strong biocide**
- **Residual materials are oxygen and water**



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## Summary

- **Appears to restore borehole yield**
- **Oxide deposits removed from borehole face**
- **Likely to be scrubbing affect of oxygen bubbles**
- **Fenton's Reagent produces free hydroxyl radicals**
- **Acts as strong biocide**
- **Residual materials are oxygen and water**
- **Further trials are currently underway**



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