

### **Department of Energy**

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Mr, Brian Begley Federal Facility Agreement Manager Division of Waste Management Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection 300 Sower Boulevard, 2nd Floor Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Ms. Julie Corkran Federal Facility Agreement Manager U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Begley and Ms. Corkran:

### 2016 UPDATE OF THE PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT SITEWIDE GROUNDWATER FLOW MODEL, DOE/LX/07-2415&D2

Please find enclosed the final 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model, DOE/LX/07-2415&D2, for your acknowledgment. This update is a product of the Paducah Site's Groundwater Modeling Working Group, which is composed of members from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Kentucky Division of Waste Management (KDWM), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and the Environment. The subject document includes edits to the report based on comments received from EPA and KDWM. This document is not defined as a primary or a secondary document by the Federal Facility Agreement.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Rich Bonczek at (859) 219-4051 or David Dollins at (270) 441-6819.

Sincerely,

Tracey Duncan Federal Facility Agreement Manager Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

Enclosures:

- 1. 2016 Update of the PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model-Clean
- 2. 2016 Update of the PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model-Redline
- 3. EPA Comment Response Summary
- 4. KDWM Comment Response Summary

e-copy w/enclosures:

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### DOE/LX/07-2415&D2

# 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model

A Product of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Site Groundwater Modeling Working Group



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#### DOE/LX/07-2415&D2

## 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model

#### A Product of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Site Groundwater Modeling Working Group

Date Issued—July 2017

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of Environmental Management

Prepared by FLUOR FEDERAL SERVICES, INC. Paducah Deactivation Project managing the Deactivation Project at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant under Task Order DE-DT0007774

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## ACRONYMS

amsl abov	ve mean sea level
AOC area	of concern
BC Bay	ou Creek
bgs belo	w ground surface
CAER Cen	ter for Applied Energy Research
	ceptual site model
DNAPL dens	se nonaqueous-phase liquid
DOE U.S.	Department of Energy
EPA U.S.	Environmental Protection Agency
ESI Env	ironmental Simulations, Inc.
EW extra	action well
Geosyntec Geo	syntec Consultants, Inc.
GW grou	Indwater
HPFW High	h Pressure Fire Water
HU hydr	rostratigraphic unit
KDEP Ken	tucky Department for Environmental Protection
KRCEE Ken	tucky Research Consortium for Energy and Environment
LBC Littl	e Bayou Creek
LIDAR Ligh	nt Detection and Ranging
MWG Mod	leling Working Group
PGDP Pade	ucah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
RGA Reg	ional Gravel Aquifer
SP1 Stre	ss Period 1
SP2 Stre	ss Period 2
SVD sing	ular value decomposition
SWMU solid	d waste management unit
TVA Ten	nessee Valley Authority
UCRS Upp	er Continental Recharge System
USGS Unit	ted States Geological Survey
WHAT Web	p-based Hydrograph Analysis Tool
WKWMA Wes	t Kentucky Wildlife Management Area

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### **1. INTRODUCTION**

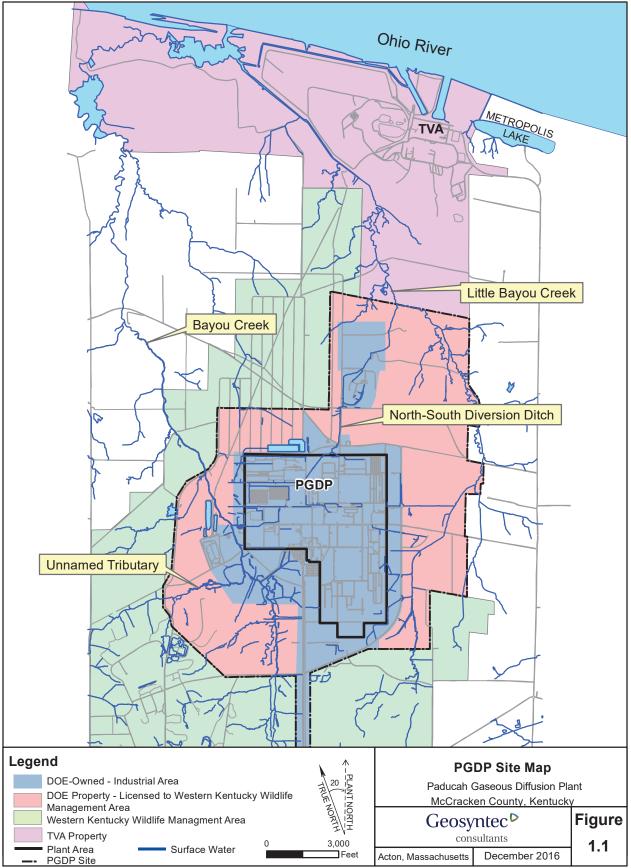
The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model described herein is an update to the current model most recently updated in 2012. The original model, constructed in 1990, has undergone numerous revisions; these are described briefly in Section 1.3 of this report. The 2016 model revisions described herein were developed through consensus of the PGDP Modeling Working Group (MWG), which includes representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP), Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and Environment (KRCEE), and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and their technical consultants. Reference in this report to the PGDP Site generally means the property and facilities at or near PGDP for which DOE has ultimate responsibility, and references to the plant area are defined as the industrialized area of the PGDP Site (see Figure 1.1).

#### **1.1 MODELING OBJECTIVE**

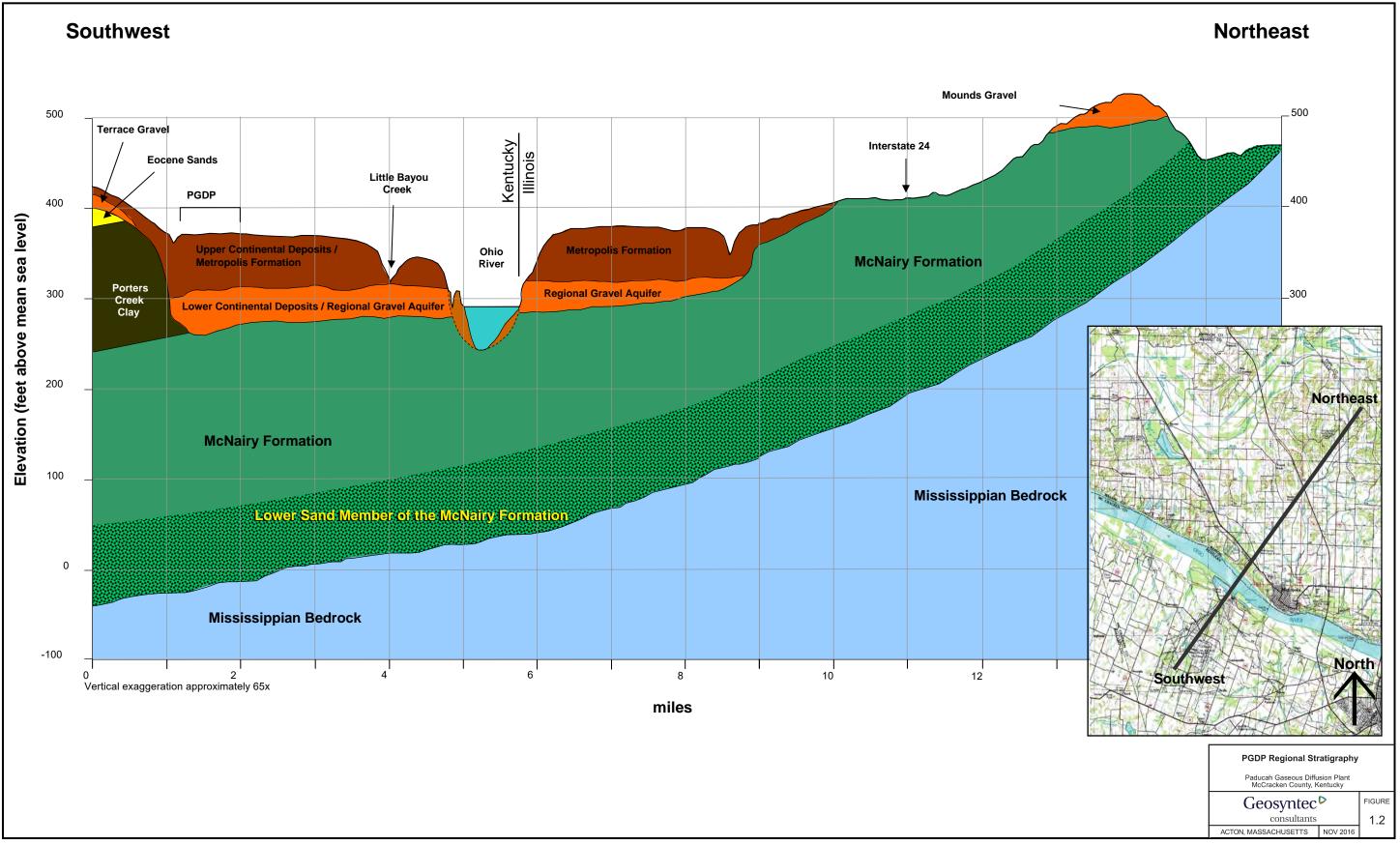
The objective of the ongoing sitewide groundwater modeling effort is to develop a tool that can be relied on to assist in determining additional data needs, evaluating potential remedies (e.g., evaluation of extraction well capture zones), developing cleanup criteria in decision documents (e.g., refinement of soil cleanup levels to protect groundwater and setting of monitoring goals), and providing inputs needed for remedy design. Sitewide groundwater modeling efforts began in 1990, with the most recent model revisions developed in 2008 (DOE 2010) and updated in 2012 (A. D. Laase Hydrologic Consulting 2014). The objective of the 2016 model revisions documented in this report is to update the 2012 model to include more recent PGDP Site data collected from the period 2012 to 2016 and to refine model boundary conditions. Summaries of the 2008 model and subsequent 2012 model update, as well as the revisions implemented in 2016, are provided in the following sections.

#### **1.2 GEOLOGIC AND HYDROGEOLOGIC SETTING**

PGDP is located in the Jackson Purchase region of western Kentucky, approximately 10 miles west of Paducah, Kentucky, and 3.5 miles south of the Ohio River. At depth beneath PGDP, Cretaceous marine sediments of the Mississippian Embayment, comprising the McNairy Formation, unconformably overlie Mississippian-age carbonate bedrock. Buried Pleistocene fluvial deposits of the ancestral Tennessee River, in turn, unconformably overlie the Cretaceous marine sediments directly beneath and north of PGDP. The Pleistocene fluvial deposits in contact with the marine sediments included in the McNairy Formation consist of a gravel unit that ranges in thickness from 30 ft to 50 ft, with the top of the unit encountered at a general depth of 60 ft below ground surface (bgs) at the plant area. This gravel unit is the primary member of the uppermost aquifer, the Regional Gravel Aquifer (RGA), beneath the plant area and north to the Ohio River. The RGA pinches out to the south, southeast, and southwest along the buried slope of the Porters Creek Clay Terrace, which is overlain to the south by the Terrace Gravel flow system. The Upper Continental Recharge System (UCRS) overlies the RGA and Terrace Gravel. The RGA is the main conduit for groundwater flow to the north, where groundwater discharges to the Ohio River, and the main pathway for off-site contaminant plume migration. Figure 1.2 presents a general cross section of the geology across the region, while Figures 1.3 and 1.4 illustrate the main features of the geology and groundwater flow systems near the PGDP Site (PRS 2009).

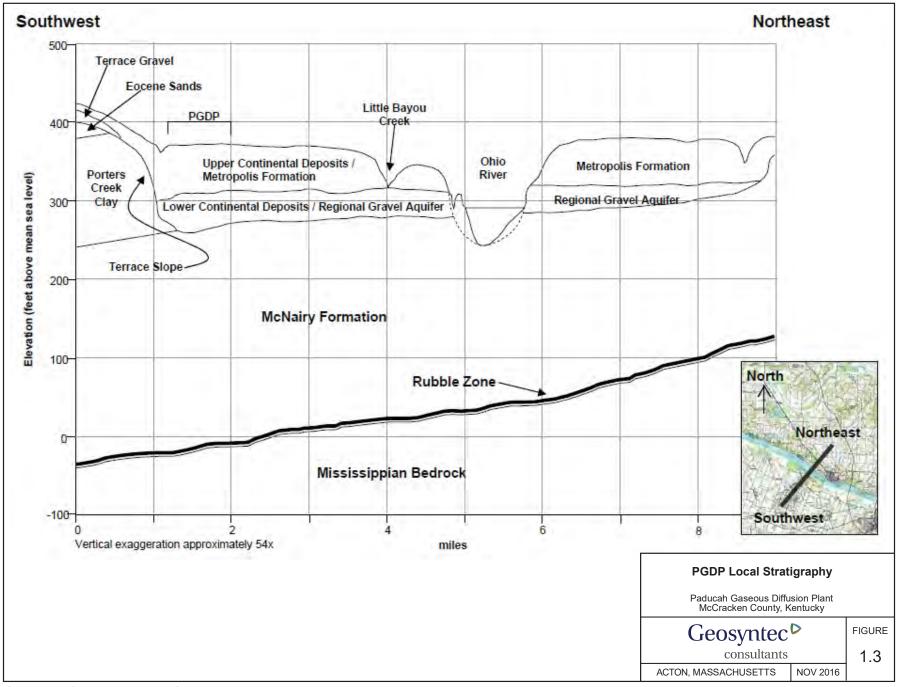


Source: Fluor GIS database, 2016

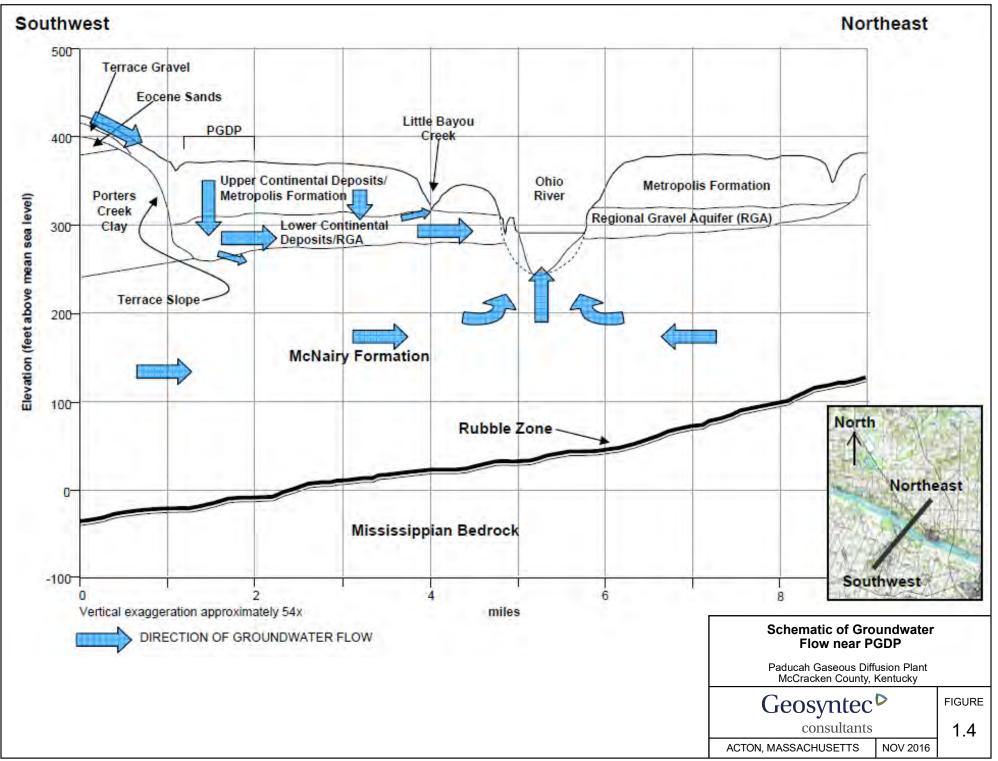


Source: Adapted from Paducah Remediation Services, 2009; Figure 1 Note: Regional Gravel Aquifer thickness is variable. See Figure 3.4.

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Source: Adapted from Paducah Remediation Services, 2009; Figure 2



#### **1.3 EVOLUTION OF THE SITEWIDE GROUNDWATER MODEL**

Numerous numerical modeling configuration and calibration efforts have been conducted for the PGDP sitewide groundwater model. The first groundwater flow model was developed in 1990 followed by several revisions through 1997 and the development of a transport model in 1998 and 1999. The next substantial revision was conducted in 2008. The details of the 2008 revisions, as well as a more detailed summary of the earlier groundwater and transport models, are documented in the 2008 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow and Transport Model (DOE 2010).

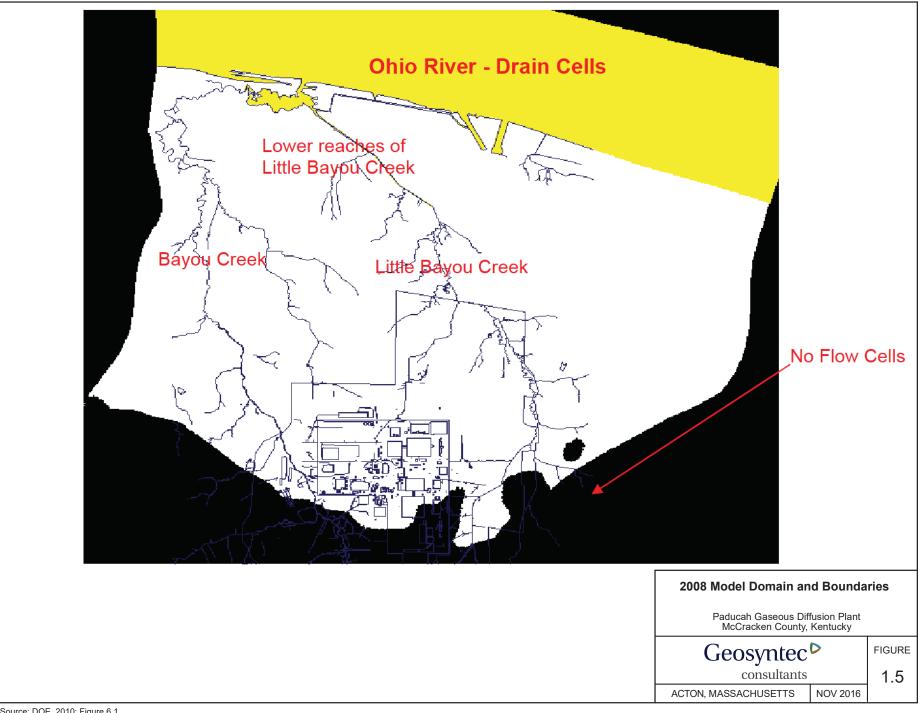
#### 1.3.1 2008 Sitewide Groundwater Model

The 2008 model was developed collaboratively to complete the modeling tasks described in the Paducah Risk Methods Document (DOE 2008a). These modeling tasks were developed to assist in determining additional data needs, evaluating potential remedies, calculating cleanup criteria in decision documents (e.g., refinement of soil cleanup levels to protect groundwater and setting of monitoring goals), and developing inputs to design selected remedies.

The 2008 model simulated flow in the RGA and excluded flow in the UCRS and McNairy from the modeling domain. The UCRS and McNairy were represented by recharge and no flow boundary conditions, respectively. The rationale for representing the UCRS by recharge boundary conditions is that groundwater flow within the UCRS is primarily vertical; the unit is, for all practical purposes, only a conduit for recharge to the underlying RGA; and the McNairy is represented by a no flow boundary condition because the volume of groundwater flowing through the McNairy is much less than the volume of water flowing through the RGA. The numerical model was discretized into 582 rows and 627 columns with a constant computation cell width of 50 ft. The top elevation of model layer 1 corresponded to the top of the RGA (i.e., the contact of the RGA and the UCRS), and the bottom of model layer 3 represented the top of the McNairy (i.e., the base of the RGA). The RGA was divided numerically into three layers of equal thickness to allow a future, appended transport model to simulate more accurately the observed vertical movement of dissolved contamination within the RGA. The east, south, and west boundaries were specified as no-flow, and the northern boundary corresponded to the Ohio River. The Ohio River and lower reaches of Bayou Creek (BC) and Little Bayou Creek (LBC) were simulated as drain cells in layer 1. The model was calibrated to a single water level dataset measured in February 1995, prior to the start of pump-and-treat operations. Figure 1.5 depicts the 2008 model domain and boundary conditions as presented by DOE 2010.

#### **1.3.2 2012 Sitewide Groundwater Model Update**

The objective of the 2012 model revision was to evaluate how potential variability in anthropogenic recharge rates can influence extraction well capture performance. Details of the 2012 model revisions were not documented in a formal report, but were described in a 2014 presentation to the MWG on January 29 and 30, 2014, in Lexington, Kentucky (A.D. Laase Hydrologic Consulting 2014). The 2012 model was based on the 2008 model that simulated groundwater flow within the RGA using a single steady-state stress period. The 2012 groundwater flow model was configured using seven steady-state stress periods and one transient stress period with each of the seven steady-state stress periods having unique calibrated anthropogenic and ambient recharge rates. Particle tracking capture zone analysis was performed using the seven calibrated recharge regimes. The 2012 model update included updating the bottom and top RGA elevations based on an in-depth review of KRCEE data and calibrating the model to seven synoptic water-level measurement dates and the ten-day Northwest Plume extraction system performance test. The



concept behind including multiple sets of water-level data in the calibration was to capture better the potential anthropogenic recharge variability at PGDP. While the long-term trajectories of the Northeast and Northwest Plumes suggest that the anthropogenic recharge variability does not impact contaminant migration significantly, it was included in the model to evaluate the influence of anthropogenic recharge variability on capture performance of the two Northwest Plume extraction wells (referred to as EW232 and EW233). Specifically, the single 1995 steady-state stress period from the 2008 model was expanded to include five more steady-state stress periods from third quarter 2005 to October 2011. Ten one-day transient stress periods were added to simulate the October 2010 pumping test in EW232 and EW233 in the Northwest Plume. Calibration targets included heads in monitoring wells, trajectory targets along the Northwest and Northeast Plumes, flux targets in LBC and the Ohio River, and drawdown targets during the 2010 transient pumping test.

#### 1.3.3 2016 Model Revisions

The 2016 PGDP Sitewide Groundwater (GW) Model is based on the 2012 configuration that simulated groundwater flow within the RGA. The model was revised to include revisions identified by the MWG from review of site data and technical discussions that took place from March to October 2016. Minutes of the MWG meetings are included in Appendix A. The following are the primary model revisions implemented in 2016 and documented in this report:

- Optimizing calibration periods, building on calibrations performed prior to 2016;
- Converting the lower reaches of BC, LBC, and the Ohio River from drain to river boundary conditions;
- Including groundwater flow originating upgradient of the model from the Terrace Gravel;
- Revising the southern model boundary at the limit of the RGA;
- Updating anthropogenic recharge zonation in the plant area; and
- Supporting data analyses and detailed descriptions of the revisions are provided in subsequent sections.

#### **1.4 REPORT ORGANIZATION**

The following are the contents of the report.

Section 2, Technical Approach, discusses the technical approach used for the groundwater flow model development and calibration.

Section 3, Data Analysis, describes data evaluation and analysis performed as part of the updated flow modeling exercise.

Section 4, Conceptual Site Model, presents the site hydrogeologic conceptual site model (CSM) as a summary of the volumetric inflows and outflows of the system and the factors influencing groundwater movement.

Section 5, Model Configuration, describes the groundwater flow model configuration, which is the process by which the site hydrogeologic CSM is translated into a numerical model.

Section 6, Model Calibration, discusses groundwater flow model calibration, sensitivity analysis, and model validation.

Section 7, Calibration Summary, provides an evaluation of the revised and calibrated groundwater flow model and summarizes model assumptions and limitations.

Section 8, Conclusions and Recommendations, assesses whether the modeling objectives are satisfied and provides recommendations regarding the updated groundwater flow.

Section 9, References, includes a list of references cited in the text.

## 2. TECHNICAL APPROACH

The 2016 groundwater flow model update is based on the existing 2012 MODFLOW model described previously in Section 1.3.2. Model revisions were developed by the MWG consisting of personnel from DOE, EPA, KDEP, KRCEE, and contractors to these organizations. Subcontractors, Drummond Carpenter, Navarro Research and Engineering (Navarro), Environmental Simulations, Inc., (ESI), and Geosyntec Consultants (Geosyntec), performed the modeling. Navarro and Geosyntec chaired the discussion group.

The MWG agreed on the following revisions to incorporate more recent site data and improve upon the existing model. The following are the primary model revisions:

- Revising RGA top and bottom elevations based on digital lithologic, stratigraphic, hydrostratigraphic, and subsurface material interval information for PGDP compiled in the KRCEE database (Revision 8) (CAER KRCEE 2016);
- Converting drain cells representing the Ohio River and lower reaches of BC and LBC to river cells, accounting for river/creek bathymetry and observed creek river stages;
- Adding recharge zones along the southern model boundary to represent groundwater flow off the Terrace from the East and West Terrace Basins;
- Revising recharge zonation to represent anthropogenic recharge in the plant area that is reflective of plant use and UCRS lithology; and
- Simulating two steady-state stress periods representing unique periods of operation and annual precipitation conditions with associated water-level elevation targets derived from synoptic water level collection across the model domain to optimize runtime and model representativeness.

Modeling was initiated by evaluating and analyzing recent site data, including groundwater and surface water levels, subsurface hydraulic properties, ambient and anthropogenic recharge potentials, well construction details, and plume geometries. These data serve to constrain the model regarding expected parameter distributions and typical groundwater flow patterns and discharge volumes. Details regarding the data evaluation effort are presented in Section 3 of this report.

Groundwater flow modeling was performed using MODFLOW 2005 (Version 1.1.00), a widely-used and accepted finite-difference code developed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) (Harbaugh 2005). Pre- and post-processing of model data were accomplished using the industry standard graphical user interface Groundwater Vistas (Version 6.89, build 23) developed by ESI (ESI 2011). Model calibration was conducted using PEST (Version 13.6) and PEST-SVD Assist coupled with pilot points (Doherty 2015; Doherty 2016). PEST is a parameter estimation code used to determine parameter values for model calibration. PEST-SVD Assist is an updated version of PEST that facilitates faster execution times. Parameters are model input values that are adjusted during model calibration. Common examples are recharge and river cell conductance. Pilot points take parameter estimation a step further and determine parameter distributions for model calibration, given specific boundary configurations and target values. For this application, pilot points were used to determine hydraulic conductivity distributions for the calibrated model. A detailed description of parameter estimation, pilot points, and model calibration methodology is presented in Section 6.

After completing the model calibration, a sensitivity analysis (Section 6.7) was performed to determine which input parameters have the greatest influence on the resulting calibrated flow model. Typically, a sensitivity analysis is conducted by individually adjusting input parameters and evaluating related changes to the water level calibration statistics. While the water level statistics provide an assessment of how input parameter adjustment influences predicted water levels, this sensitivity analysis does not evaluate how parameter changes influence predicted plume trajectories, which is ultimately more important regarding the potential to simulate the influence of remedial action on contaminant plume behavior in groundwater. For this model, the sensitivity analysis evaluated how individual parameter adjustment (one at a time) affects simulated plume trajectories.

### **3. DATA ANALYSIS**

A thorough analysis of site data previously was conducted in 2008 to develop a representative site conceptual model to support the configuration of the 2008 groundwater model (DOE 2010). Additional data analysis regarding RGA elevations and lithology using the KRCEE database was conducted for the 2012 model revision. For the 2016 model, revisions relied on LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data updated in 2013, an updated KRCEE Database (Revision 8), additional monitoring well data, maps of plant facilities, site reconnaissance, and information regarding historical operations provided by the site facilities manager. Specifically, model revisions were made to RGA elevations and thickness; the location of the southern model boundary; recharge along the southern boundary to account for inflow from the Terrace Gravel; anthropogenic recharge rates and zonation; water level calibration targets (additional synoptic gauging events, monitoring wells, and monitoring well datum surveys); and Ohio River and creek boundary conditions.

#### **3.1 RGA EXTENT**

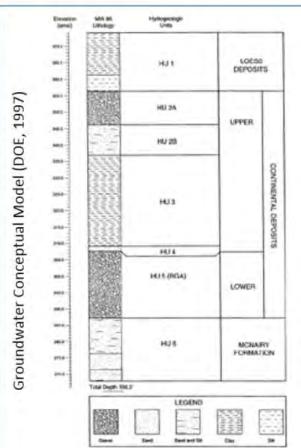
#### **3.1.1 RGA Elevation and Thickness**

The top of model layer 1 (top of RGA, bottom of UCRS) and the bottom of model layer 3 (bottom of RGA, top of McNairy) were revised to incorporate the most recent and comprehensive evaluation and compilation of digital lithologic, stratigraphic, hydrostratigraphic, and subsurface material interval information for PGDP and its environs by KRCEE, referred to as Revision 8 (CAER KRCEE 2016). The 1996 Hydrostratigraphic Unit (HU) Conceptual Model and the update to that Conceptual Model, used as a basis for the development of Revision 8 of the Lithologic Database, are illustrated in Figure 3.1. For this model revision, the top of the RGA (bottom of UCRS) was identified as either the top of HU5 characterized as RGA sand and gravel or, when present, the top of HU4 characterized as sand or silty sand beneath HU3. The bottom of the RGA (top of McNairy) was identified by KRCEE as either the bottom of HU5 or, when present, the bottom of HU5A characterized as fine sands occurring contiguous to HU5.

The top of RGA dataset included 810 data points, 376 of which were within the plant area. The bottom of RGA (top of McNairy) dataset included 549 data points, 166 of which were within the plant area (Figures 3.2 and 3.3). Top and bottom surfaces for the RGA were generated by performing an inverse distance weighted interpolation (with an additional spline interpolation step for smoothing) on the datasets. In limited portions of the model, particularly near the Terrace slope and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) discharge pond, the interpolated surfaces showed thin sections of the RGA with thicknesses less than 10 ft. The model thickness in these sections was constrained to a minimum of 10 ft to promote numerical stability. The bottom elevation of model layers 1 and 2 were adjusted to maintain three model layers of equal thickness. The revised model RGA top and bottom elevations are illustrated in Figures 3.2 and 3.3, respectively, and the model thicknesses across the domain are shown in Figure 3.4.

#### 3.1.2 Revised Model Boundary

The southern model boundary was revised to represent more accurately the southern extent of the RGA. For the southwestern model boundary, this was accomplished by adjusting the boundary to coincide with the overlap of the interpolated top and bottom RGA surfaces, which corresponds to the limit of the RGA along the Terrace slope. Along the southeastern model boundary, an upper RGA elevation of 320 ft to 325 ft above mean sea level (amsl) was used to distinguish the RGA from Terrace Gravel. The base of

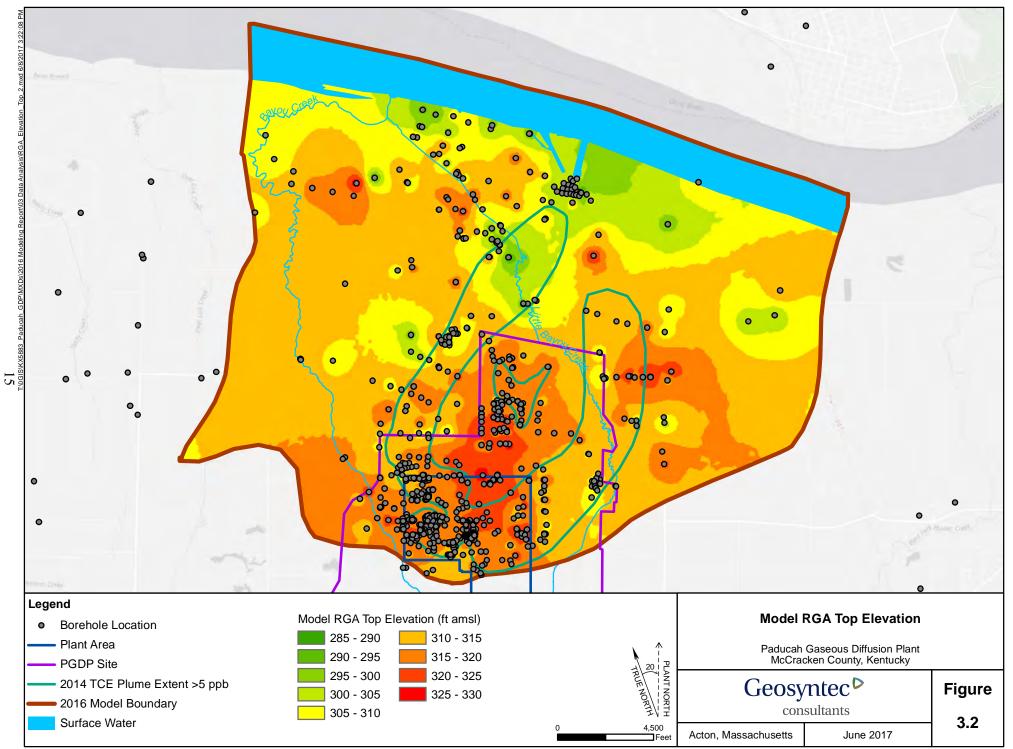


Lithology	Hydrogeologic Units	PGDP Flow System	Stratigraphy	Hydrogeologic Unit Conceptual Model Revision 8 (R8r2v2) (February 2017)
	HUI	Lots	LOESS DEPOSITS	HU1 Loess Silt/Clay ~ Clay/Silt*
RADIO		-	DEPOSITS	HU2 discretized as HU2A and HU2B **
2.1	HU2A	(UCRS)		HU2A Interval identification***
-		yster		HU2B (Lower HU2) breakout ****
2		in the S	0	HU2B Sand horizon 340-345' amsl
	HU2B	Upper Continental Recharge System (UCRS)	Continental UPPER	HU2B Gravel and Sand locally present in
		critice	ent	lower HU2 (below 335' amsl)
	HU3	Jpipér C		HU3 discretized to Clay, Silt, clayey Silt, silty
CALLS	HU4	- 2	Deposits	Clay or sandy clay contiguous to top of RGA
	110.1	quifer	sits	HU4 discretization (SAND or Silty SAND below HU3
	HU5	Regional Gravel Aquifer (RGA)	LOWER	HU5 gravel, gravel & sand, sand/gravel, gravel sand
		Registr		fine sands occurring beneath and contiguous
(20-52)	HU5A			to HU5 gravel/sand discretized as HU5A
	HU6	McMainy Flow	McNairy Formation	Silt or Clay as primary material w/minor sand or gravel (above 365' amsi very local gravel/sand more frequent)     Losss-HU2 Break – Lower silt/clay units overlying HU2A likely UCD (KGS) = Metropolis Formation (ISGS). Included
		Mc		<ul> <li>in Losss.</li> <li>Losss-HU2A break based on change to inclusion of gravel/sand. HU2A contiguous down to sit/clay or change to fine sand</li> <li>Breakout to HU2B to focus evaluation of lower HU2 material distribution. Upper surface ID/ed as sit or clay immediately below coarse HU2A material and/or change to fine/very fine sand</li> </ul>

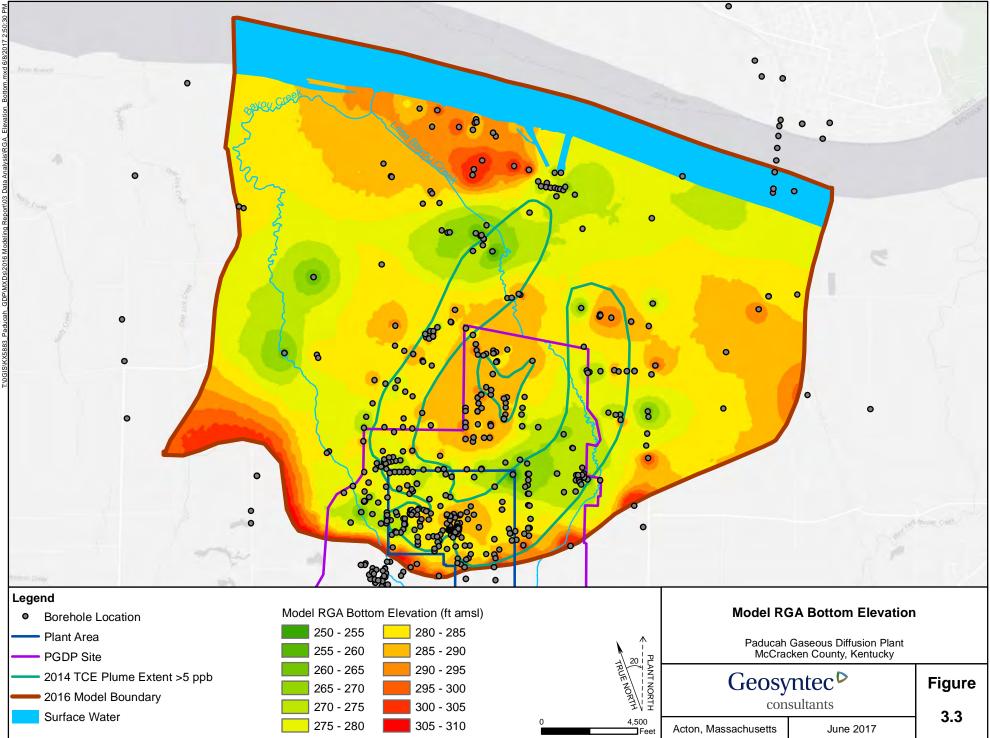
Conceptual Model typical of stratigraphy and HU distributions underlying PGDP Industrial Site. The Parters Creek Clay terrace bounds the lateral extent of HU4/5/5A on south side of Industrial Site. Eacene Sands/Terrace Gravel (HU4T) occur on top of terrace. HU's 6B, C, D are harizons in HU6, occur at depth and are not illustrated. HU7 (bedrack) is not shown.

Schematic of Lithologic Units			
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant McCracken County, Kentucky			
Geosyntec	FIGURE		
consultants	3.1		
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS			

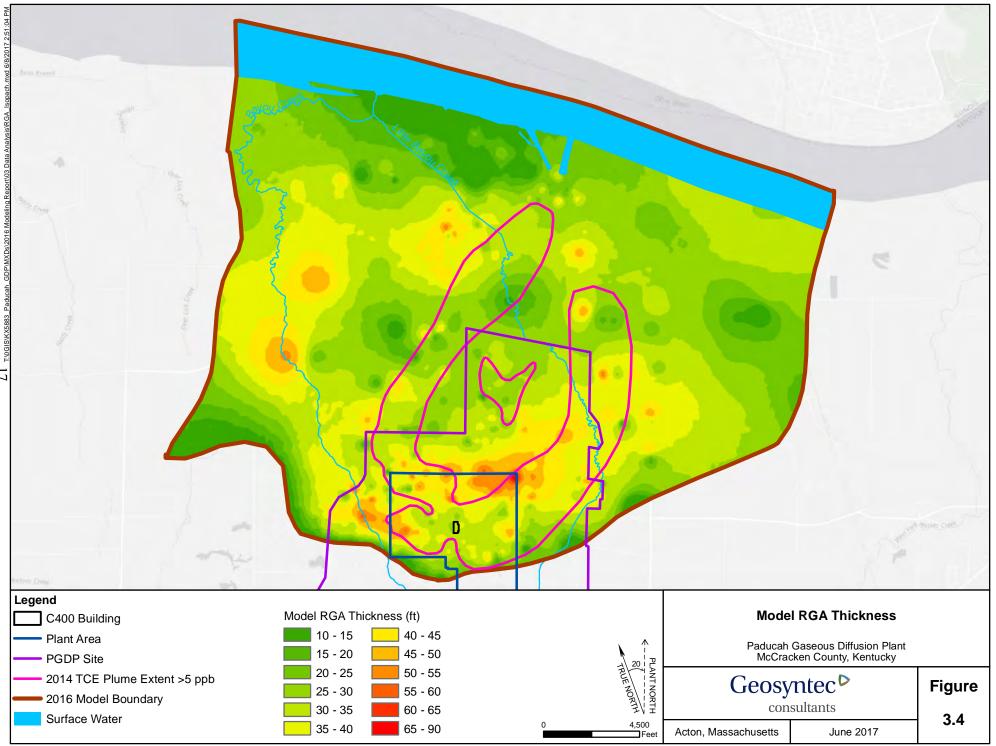
14



Elevation Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016 Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Elevation Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016 Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Elevation Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016 Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2 gravel in soil borings P2-S9, P3-S25, and P4-H1 is at 333 ft to 339 ft amsl, which places these borings south of the RGA. Borings MW151, P3-S17, and AH-209 appear to be at the southern margin with a very thin to thin RGA layer thickness, and P2-S8, P4-G7, and P4-H6 have RGA presence. The southeastern model boundary was adjusted to be consistent with this interpretation. The layer overlap used to define the southwestern model boundary and the borings used to define the southeastern model boundary are illustrated in Figure 3.5.

#### **3.2 TERRACE RECHARGE**

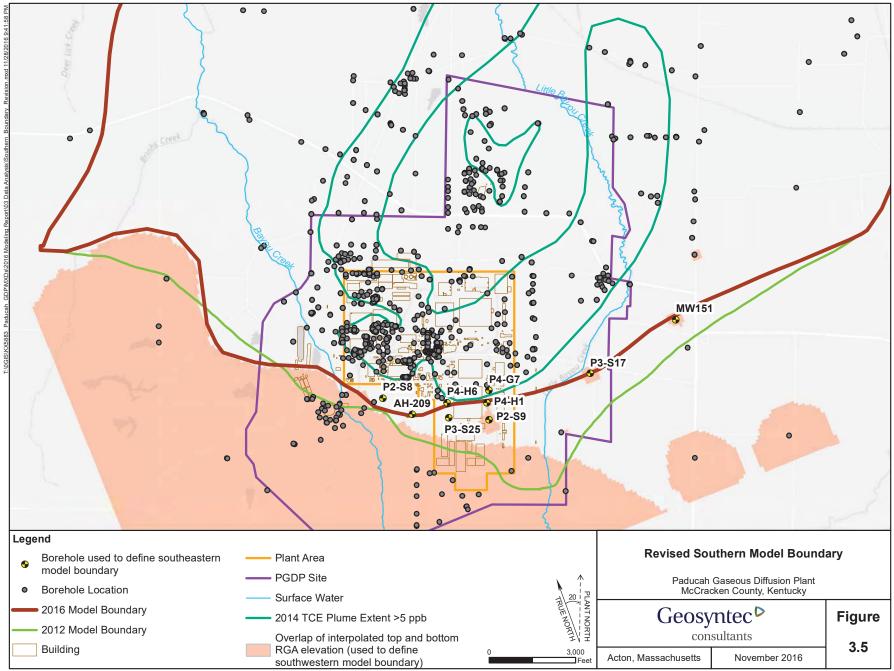
Underflow across the Terrace slope recharges the RGA along its southern boundary; however, recharge from Terrace underflow was not included in the 2008 and 2012 model revisions. Outcrops of Porters Creek Clay located immediately south of the Terrace slope force groundwater flow to discharge to BC; thus, Terrace underflow in the upper BC drainage basin is expected to be negligible, but significant underflow is expected in Terrace drainage basins to the west and east of the upper BC basin (DOE 1997). A delineation of these three drainage basins based on 5-ft resolution LIDAR data from spring 2013 (http://kygeonet.ky.gov/kyfromabove/), along with measurements of the area of each basin (upper BC, west and east), is illustrated in Figure 3.6.

To estimate the recharge to the RGA from Terrace underflow, stream flow data for BC were evaluated at two USGS gauging stations, Station 45 and USGS 03611800 (Figure 3.6). The baseflow in BC is assumed to be representative of groundwater flow in the upstream BC basin. Division of baseflow volume by drainage area provides an estimate of the recharge rate across the Terrace. Assuming the recharge rate is uniform across the Terrace, the estimated recharge rate for the BC basin can be used to determine the underflow from the East and West Terrace Basins across the Terrace slope.

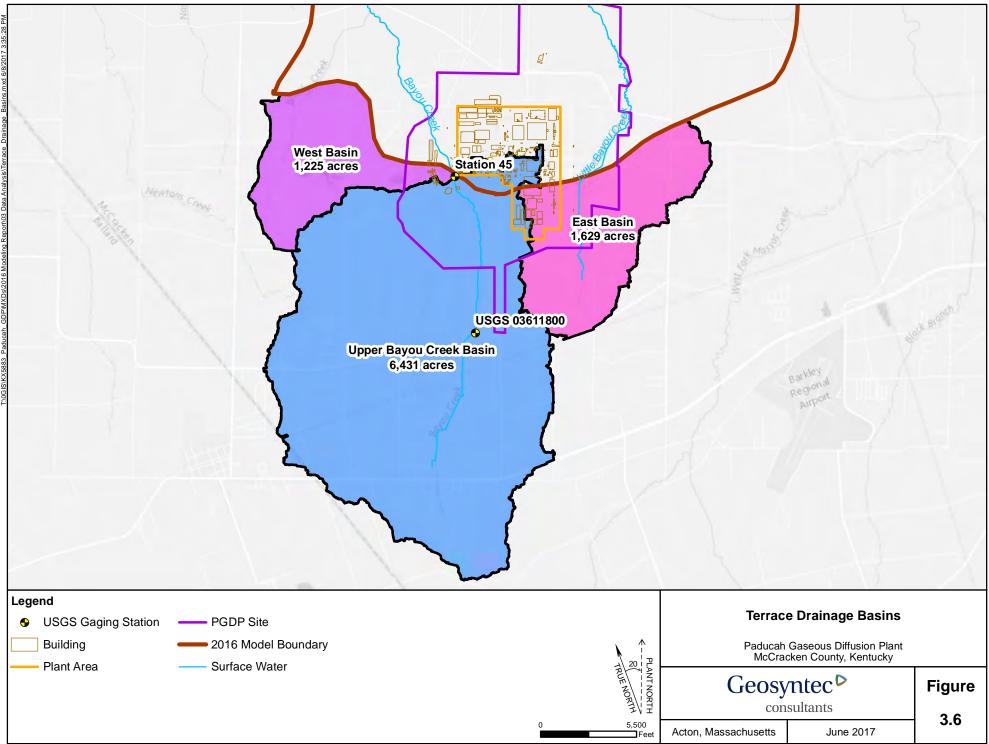
USGS Station 03611800 at BC near Heath, Kentucky, has stream flow data available from 1990 through 2010. The Web-based Hydrograph Analysis Tool (WHAT)<sup>1</sup> was used to estimate baseflow at this gauging station (Lim et al. 2005). WHAT has three different baseflow separation techniques available: the local minimum method, a one parameter digital filter (the "BFLOW" filter), and a recursive digital filter (the "Eckhardt" filter). Each separation method was used to determine the annual average baseflow and the September baseflow for each year with available data, and the results are presented in Table 3.1. The September baseflow was included in the analysis to understand dry season conditions. The average of the three separation techniques was calculated; from that, an average annual recharge rate and average September recharge rate were calculated for the Terrace. The recharge rate was determined from estimated baseflow divided by the USGS reported drainage area for the gauging station (6.55 square miles or 4,192 acres). The median of the estimated average annual recharge rates is 2.6 inches/year, with minimum and maximum estimates of 1.4 inches/year and 4.6 inches/year, respectively. The median of the estimated average rates is 0.45 inches/year, with minimum and maximum estimates of 0.28 inches/year, respectively.

Station 45 is located at the edge of the Terrace. The location of this station makes it ideal for estimating Terrace recharge, but it cannot be used to assess temporal variability because stream measurements are available only for a single date. Streamflow data were collected by the USGS at Station 45 in August 1989 during baseflow conditions (Evaldi and McClain 1989). The measured baseflow was 0.3 ft<sup>3</sup>/second [135 gal per minute (gpm)]. Based on the drainage area of the upper BC basin upstream of Station 45 (6,431 acres, Figure 3.6), this flow rate translates to a recharge rate of 0.41 inches/year for the Terrace. This value is consistent with the estimated Terrace recharge rates for the dry season based on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://engineering.purdue.edu/mapserve/WHAT/



Elevation Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016 Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015a; Figure C.2



Note: LIDAR data retrieved from http://kygeonet.ky.gov/kyfromabove/ (Kentucky, 2013) was used to delineate basins.

Year <sup>2</sup>		Annual Averag (gallons/r			Estimated Average Annual Terrace Recharge Rate	September Base Flow <sup>3</sup> (gallons/minute)				Estimated Average September Terrace Recharge Rate	
	<b>Recursive Filter</b>	Local Minimum	<b>One-Parameter Filter</b>	Average	(inches/year)	Recursive Filter Local Minimum		One-Parameter Filter Average			
1990~1991	763	314	673	583	2.69	63	81	67	70	0.32	
1993~1994	673	583	628	628	2.90	76	99	76	84	0.39	
1994~1995	494	269	449	404	1.87	85	108	94	96	0.44	
1995~1996	404	180	359	314	1.45	162	112	148	141	0.65	
1996~1997	1,122	853	1,032	1,002	4.63	63	67	67	66	0.30	
1997~1998	539	224	449	404	1.87	58	63	58	60	0.28	
1998~1999	673	359	583	539	2.49	72	81	81	78	0.36	
1999~2000	404	180	359	314	1.45	112	94	112	106	0.49	
2000~2001	449	449	404	434	2.00	193	108	175	159	0.73	
2001~2002	1,122	494	987	868	4.01	166	63	126	118	0.55	
2002~2003	987	673	942	868	4.01	139	112	135	129	0.59	
2003~2004	359	314	359	344	1.59	72	72	76	73	0.34	
2004~2005	673	539	628	613	2.83	148	130	148	142	0.66	
2005~2006	673	314	628	539	2.49	1,019	81	763	621	2.87	
2006~2007	763	449	718	643	2.97	99	117	103	106	0.49	
2007~2008	942	539	808	763	3.52	67	76	72	72	0.33	
2008~2009	853	539	763	718	3.32	597	606	588	597	2.76	
2009~2010	673	404	583	554	2.56	108	72	90	90	0.41	
Minimum	359	180	359	299	1.38	58	63	58	60	0.28	
Median	673	426	628	576	2.66	103	88	99	96	0.45	
Maximum	1,122	853	1,032	1,002	4.63	1,019	606	763	796	3.68	

Table 3.1. Estimated Base Flow at USGS Station 03611800 Bayou Creek near Heath, Kentucky<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Data obtained through the Purdue University WHAT Web site: https://engineering.purdue.edu/~what/.

 $^{2}$  Years 1991 to 1993 were excluded from the analysis because of missing data.

<sup>3</sup> For a description of the base flow estimation methods used to populate this table using USGS daily stream flow data, see Lim et al. 2005.

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September baseflow data at USGS 03611800. Note that the dry season values are an order of magnitude lower than the annual average recharge values presented in Table 3.1. The baseflow separation analysis performed for the full period of record at USGS Station 03611800 indicates that baseflow in upper BC is lowest in August and September. The recharge values estimated for USGS Station 03611800 for the month of August from 1990 to 2010 range from 0.25 inches/year to 2.72 inches/year with a median value of 0.55 inches/year, which is also consistent with the recharge estimated from Station 45. This check helps validate the use of the baseflow separation technique at USGS Station 03611800 for determining Terrace recharge. This analysis also demonstrates the importance of seasonal variability in Terrace recharge estimates. Because most of the sitewide groundwater monitoring events at PGDP occur during the dry season (see Section 3.4), the modeled Terrace recharge reflects seasonal steady-state conditions that are representative of the dry season rather than the annual average conditions.

The volumetric flow rate calculated from Terrace recharge is the flow available to recharge the RGA via underflow across the Terrace slope. The volumetric Terrace flow rate from the West and East Terrace Basins was determined by multiplying the estimated Terrace recharge rates by the respective East and West Terrace Basin areas south of the model boundary. The estimated drainage areas for the West and East Terrace Basins are 1,225 acres and 1,629 acres, respectively (Figure 3.6). The median annual average volumetric flow value for the West and East Terrace Basins is 168 and 224 gpm, respectively, and the median September volumetric flow value for the West and East Terrace Basins is 30 and 39 gpm, respectively. The estimated range of underflow from each basin is presented in Table 3.2.

In the model, the area specified for Terrace recharge to the RGA was calculated by multiplying the number of model cells adjacent to the boundary of the West and East Terrace Basins by the area of each cell. There are 252 model cells along this boundary for the West basin and 172 cells for the East Terrace Basin. Because each cell is 50 ft by 50 ft, the total area of recharge to the RGA from the West and East Terrace Basins is 14.5 acres and 9.9 acres, respectively. The model simulates underflow from the Terrace as additional recharge applied to the model cells along the West and East Terrace Basins boundaries. The recharge rate for these model cells is calculated by dividing the volumetric flow rate by the total area of the cells along each basin (14.5 acres and 9.9 acres for the West and East Terrace Basins, respectively). The results are presented in Table 3.2. The median annual average recharge rate applied to each model cell along the boundary for the West and East Terrace Basins is 225 inches/year and 439 inches/year, respectively. The median recharge rates are used as initial calibration recharge rates. The maximum annual average recharge rates are used as maximum calibration constraints (392 and 764 inches/year for the West and East Terrace Basins, respectively). Instead of using the minimum annual average recharge rates, the minimum average recharge rates for September are used as minimum recharge constraints (23 inches/year and 46 inches/year for the West and East Terrace Basins, respectively) so that a dry season steady-state condition can be represented in the model (see Section 3.4 for discussion of available water level datasets).

#### **3.3 ANTHROPOGENIC RECHARGE**

Various sources of anthropogenic recharge (i.e., recharge that is caused or produced by human activity) are present in the plant area, such as leaking water lines, infiltration from drainage ditches, leakage from lagoons, and runoff from compromised roof drains. Estimated average recharge rates over the PGDP area range from 4.1 inches/year to 48 inches/year (DOE 2010). The wide range of estimates illustrates the variability in potential anthropogenic recharge rates. The recharge contributed to the groundwater system by anthropogenic sources depends on the quantity of water released from the source and the underlying lithology. For example, if the hydraulic conductivity of the formation beneath a drainage ditch is low, then water in the ditch would tend to be lost to evapotranspiration or runoff rather than percolating to the

Basis of Estimate	Basin	Statistic	Volumetric Flow (gal/minute)	Recharge <sup>2</sup> (inches/year)
		Minimum	87	117
	West Basin	Median	168	225
Average	Dasiii	Maximum	293	392
Annual Recharge	East Basin	Minimum	116	228
Reenarge		Median	224	439
		Maximum	389	764
	West Basin	Minimum	17	23
		Median	30	39
Average September	Dasin	Maximum	181	243
Recharge		Minimum	23	46
0	East Basin	Median	39	77
		Maximum	241	473

 Table 3.2. Potential Range of Recharge to RGA<sup>1</sup> off the Terrace

<sup>1</sup> RGA indicates Regional Gravel Aquifer.

<sup>2</sup> Recharge rate applied to model cells along each basin's Terrace boundary to simulate Terrace underflow.

water table. The following subsections consider the effects of both lithology and land use on anthropogenic recharge potential. These considerations serve as the basis for assignment of maximum calibration constraints to anthropogenic recharge zones and revision of anthropogenic recharge zonation in the plant area.

#### 3.3.1 Lithologic Based Recharge Potential

UCRS lithology can be used to constrain anthropogenic recharge estimates. To do so requires correlating lithology to hydraulic conductivity. Groundwater flow in the UCRS is primarily vertical and, as such, is controlled by vertical hydraulic conductivity. Under unity hydraulic gradient (i.e., 1 ft/ft, the commonly observed UCRS vertical gradient), the maximum possible gradient for gravity drainage, the maximum potential recharge rate is equivalent to the effective bulk vertical hydraulic conductivity. Harmonic averaging yields the bulk hydraulic conductivity for systems with groundwater flow perpendicular to lithologic layering. Hydraulic conductivity, percent silt/clay, and percent sand/gravel are used as input to the harmonic average equation to determine the effective bulk vertical hydraulic conductivity, as shown in Equation 3.1.

$$K_{\nu} = \frac{b_T}{\frac{b_{cs}}{K_{cs}} + \frac{b_{sg}}{K_{sg}}}$$
(3.1)

where:

 $K_{\nu}$  is the effective bulk vertical hydraulic conductivity

 $b_T$  is the total thickness (100%)

 $b_{cs}$  is the thickness of clay/silt as a percentage of the total thickness

 $b_{sg}$  is the thickness of sand/gravel as a percentage of the total thickness

 $K_{cs}$  is the vertical hydraulic conductivity of clay/silt

 $K_{sg}$  is the vertical hydraulic conductivity of sand/gravel

Several slug tests have been performed in the UCRS in previous investigations. To avoid bias, only wells with screen intervals spanning a single lithology were used for determination of  $K_{cs}$  and  $K_{sg}$ . Vertical hydraulic conductivity was assumed to be one-tenth of horizontal hydraulic conductivity. Slug tests were performed on site monitoring wells during field investigations conducted in 1991 and 1992 using either a pneumatic displacement device or a displacement cylinder (DOE 1991; DOE 1992). The slug test results used for this evaluation are given in Table 3.3, and a statistical summary of the results is presented in Table 3.4. The locations of the wells included in the analysis are shown on Figure 3.7. As shown in Table 3.3, some wells have duplicate slug test results, whereas a single slug test was performed on other wells. To avoid giving additional weight to wells with duplicate slug tests, the geometric mean of duplicate slug tests was used in the statistical analysis so that each well would have only one associated hydraulic conductivity value.

Results from Table 3.4 were used as input to Equation 3.1 for various soil compositions, and the results are provided in Table 3.5. Based on lithologic interpretation of percent clay/silt provided in the KRCEE database (Revision 8), the spatial variation of clay/silt in the UCRS was interpolated across the Plant area (Figure 3.8). The distribution was used to constrain the upper allowable recharge value used in the calibration for plant area recharge zones. For example, the minimum percent clay shown on Figure 3.8 is

Well ID	Reference Well <sup>2</sup>	Easting <sup>3</sup> (feet)	Northing <sup>3</sup> (feet)	Lithology	Hydraulic Conductivity (feet/day)	Reference
MW127	MW121	-5,664.1	6,161.2	Clay/Silt	5.98E-04	Phase I Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1991
MW157	MW155	-4,025.7	-1,688.6	Clay/Silt	7.00E-02	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW160	MW158	3 -6,945.9	-971.9	C1. /0:1/	1.53E-02	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
IVI VV 100				Clay/Silt	2.40E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW170	MW169	-5,557.6	-175.8	Clay/Silt	4.62E-04	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
IVI VV 170		-3,337.0			2.81E-01 <sup>4</sup>	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW177	MW178	-4,073.8	-1,227.5	Clay/Silt	7.97E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW189	MW188	MW188 -6,997.6	-2,057.3	Clay/Silt	1.21E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
IVI W 189					1.21E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW164	MW163	-2,034.2	-1,415.6	Sand/Gravel	1.85E+00	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW167	MW169	W168 -4,822.5 -908	008.7		1.03E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992
MW167	M W 168		-908.7	Sand/Gravel	1.03E-01	Phase II Site Investigation, CH2M Hill, 1992

Table 3.3. Slug Test Results for UCRS<sup>1</sup> Monitoring Wells Screened in a Single Lithologic Interval

<sup>1</sup> UCRS indicates Upper Continental Recharge System.

<sup>2</sup> Independent lithologic logs are not available for the slug test wells. Instead, the lithology of a deeper, adjacent well (the reference well) is reported for each slug test well.

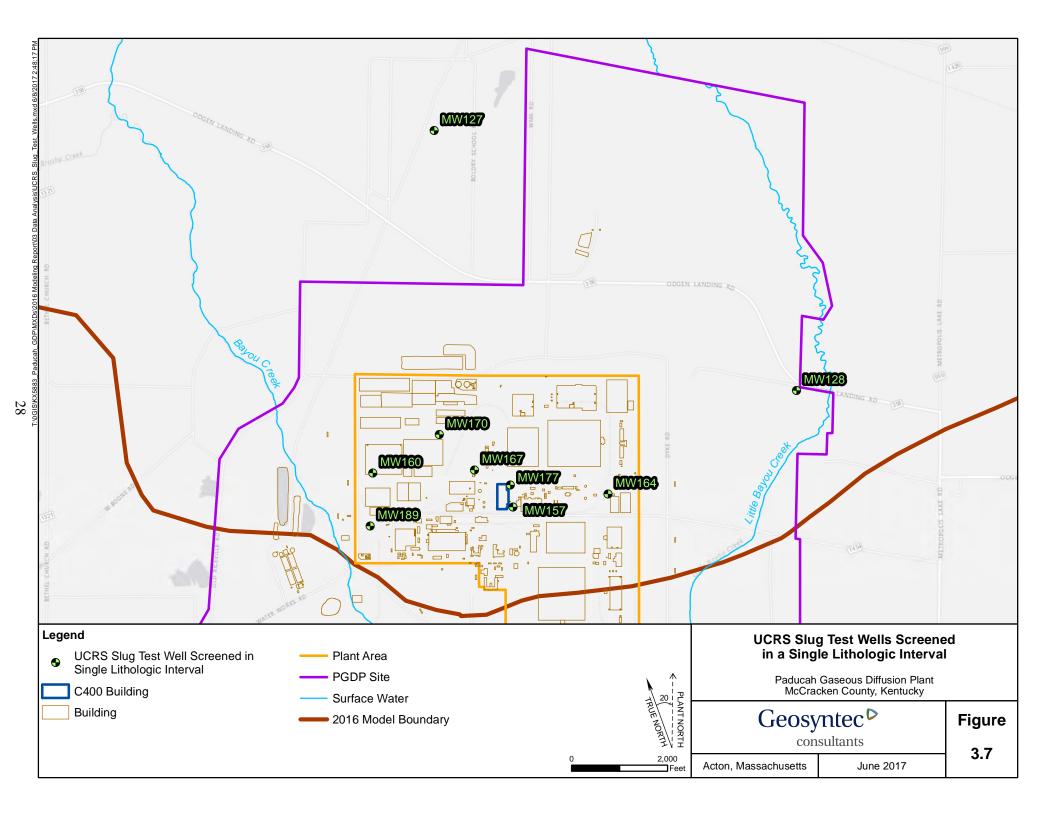
<sup>3</sup> Northing and Easting are referenced to the local Paducah coordinate system.

<sup>4</sup>Duplicate slug test excluded from analysis due to limited test duration.

Statistic	Horizontal Hydra	aulic Conductivity	Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity <sup>1</sup>		
Statistic	Silt/Clay	Sand/Gravel	Silt/Clay	Sand/Gravel	
Minimum (ft/day)	4.62E-04	1.03E-01	4.62E-05	1.03E-02	
Maximum (ft/day)	7.97E-01	1.85E+00	7.97E-02	1.85E-01	
Arithmetic Mean (ft/day)	1.75E-01	9.79E-01	1.75E-02	9.79E-02	
Median (ft/day)	6.53E-02	9.79E-01	6.53E-03	9.79E-02	
Geometric Mean (ft/day)	2.20E-02	4.38E-01	2.20E-03	4.38E-02	

Table 3.4. Statistical Summary of Slug Test Results

<sup>1</sup> Vertical hydraulic conductivity assumed to be 10% of horizontal hydraulic conductivity.



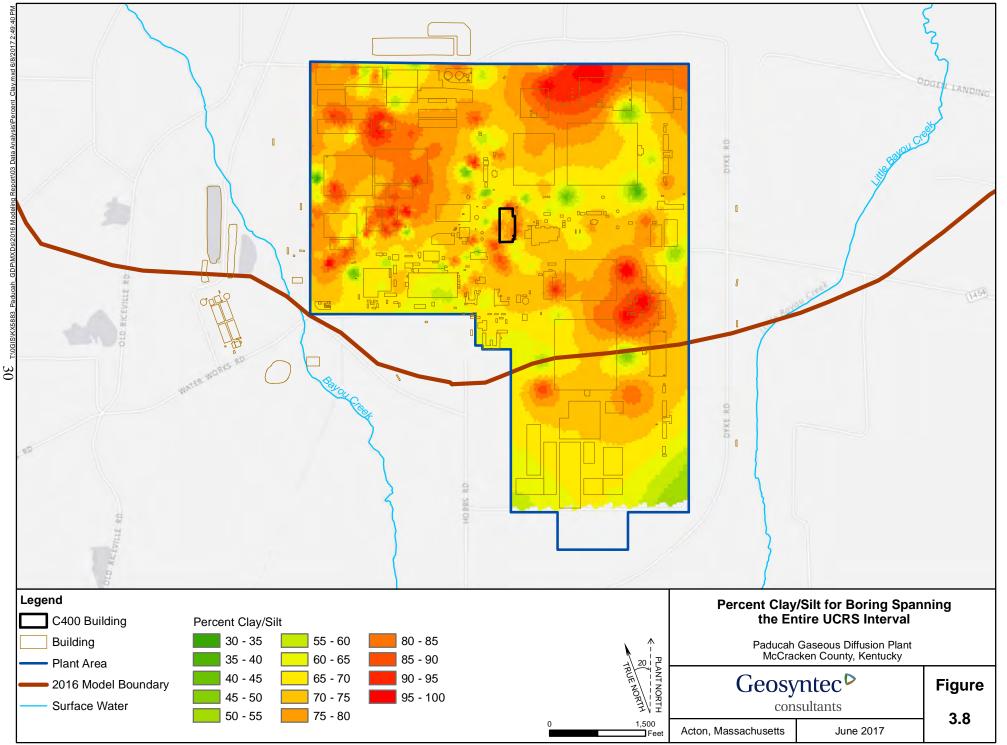
		Potential Maximum Recharge (inches/year)						
Percent Sand/Gravel	Percent Clay/Silt	Maximum Hydraulic Conductivity**	Arithmetic Mean of Hydraulic Conductivity**	Median of Hydraulic Conductivity**	Geometric Mean of Hydraulic Conductivity**			
0	100	349	77	29	10			
5	95	359	80	30	10			
10	90	370	83	32	11			
15	85	382	87	33	11			
20	80	394	92	35	12			
25	75	407	96	37	13			
30	70	421	102	40	13			
35	65	436	107	42	14			
40	60	452	114	46	16			
45	55	469	122	49	17			
50	50	488	130	54	18			
55	45	508	140	59	20			
60	40	530	151	65	22			
65	35	554	164	73	25			
70	30	581	180	83	29			
75	25	610	199	95	33			
80	20	642	223	113	40			
85	15	677	254	138	50			
90	10	717	294	179	66			
95	5	761	349	252	99			
100	0	812	429	429	192			

Table 3.5. Maximum Potential Recharge Based on Lithology\*

Typical grain size distribution observed in plant area (see Figure 3.8).

\* Potential Maximum Recharge = Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity × 1 ft/ft Gradient × 4,380 inches/year per feet/day. See Section 3.3.1 for basis of recharge calculation

\*\* See Tables 3.3 and 3.4 for basis of hydraulic conductivity statistics.



Lithology Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016

30% to 35%. Based on this lithology, the maximum possible recharge rate specified in the model in an area where clay/silt comprise 30% of the vertical section would be 29 inches/year using the geometric mean of values (83 inches/year using the median). It should be noted that in this example 29 inches/year represents the maximum possible recharge rate based on lithology; therefore, the actual recharge rate at this location could be less than 29 inches/year depending on available water.

Results from permeameter tests, which measure vertical hydraulic conductivity in soil core samples, were used to check the vertical hydraulic conductivity estimates for clay/silt. Permeameter results for UCRS samples with 80% or greater clay content are provided in Table 3.6. The locations of the wells included in the analysis are shown on Figure 3.9. The arithmetic and geometric means of the permeameter results are of the same order of magnitude as the arithmetic and geometric means of the vertical hydraulic conductivity determined from the slug test results. This comparison supports the assumption that vertical hydraulic conductivity is on the order of one-tenth of horizontal hydraulic conductivity in the UCRS. This estimate of vertical anisotropy is consistent with the assumed 10:1 horizontal to vertical anisotropy used for the UCRS in the Treatability Study for Steam Injection (DOE 2016, Figure 13).

## **3.3.1.1** Clay prevalence at the top of RGA (HU3)

An evaluation of UCRS lithology was conducted to identify intervals with clay as the prevalent primary material within the HU just above the RGA. This unit is described as contiguous clay of HU3 (Figure 3.10). The evaluation relied on the KRCEE database (Revision 8) (CAER KRCEE 2016) to provide a compilation of lithologic material reported in boring logs within the model domain. Review of the data indicates a high degree of variability in the level of detail and lithologic descriptions not uncommon in a compilation of logs collected over an extended period by multiple contractors to meet multiple objectives. In the context of the variability observed in the data, delineation of clay less than 2-ft thick depicted on Figure 3.10 serves as a reasonable representation of areas with increased hydraulic connection between the UCRS and the RGA.

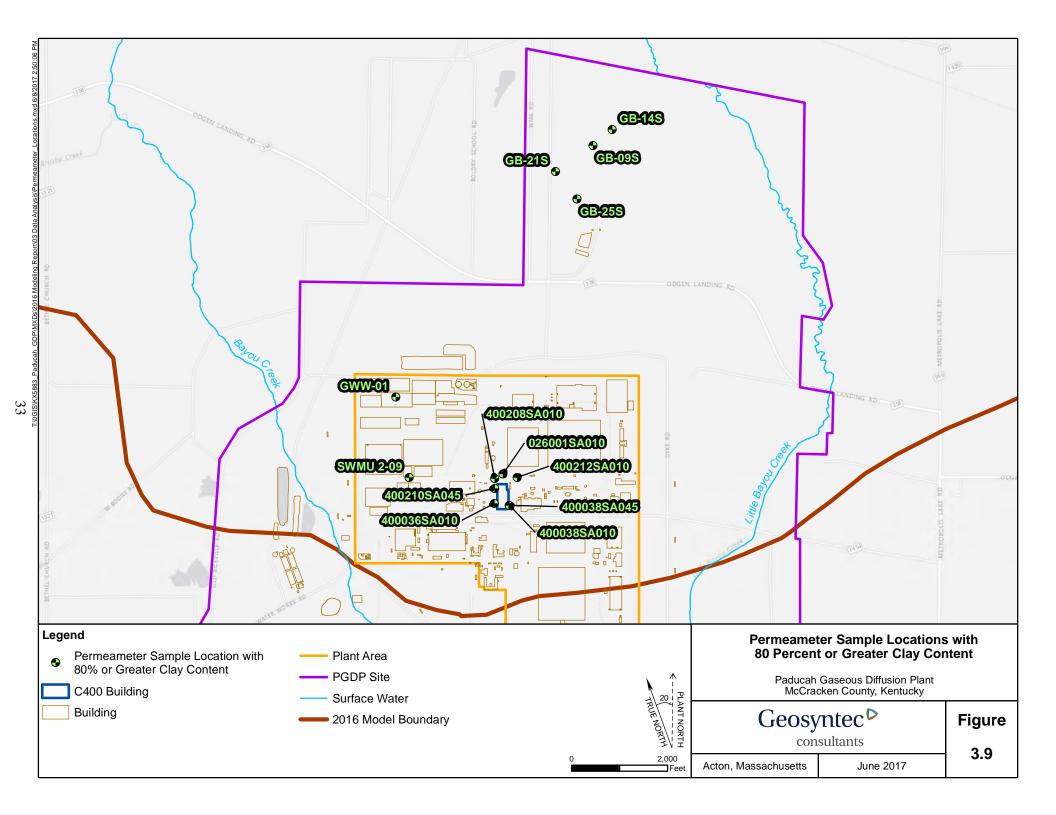
## 3.3.2 Land Use Based Recharge Potential

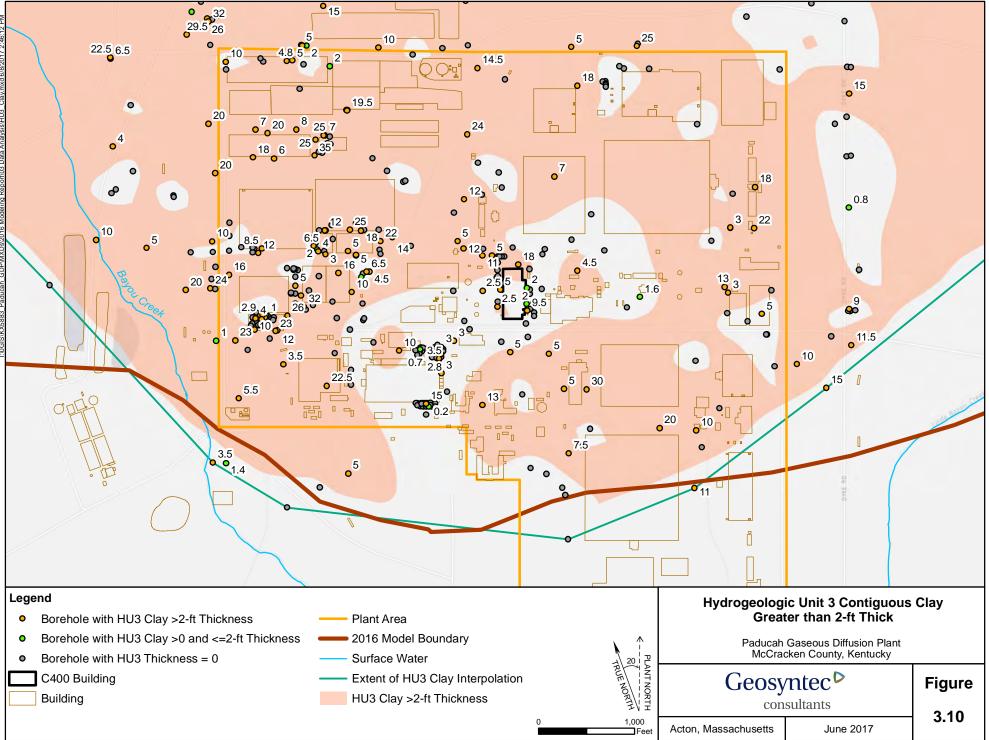
PGDP site information from multiple sources was used to assess land use and site operations within the plant area to develop a qualitative characterization of potential anthropogenic recharge. Available information included leaks in the stormwater or High Pressure Fire Water (HPFW) piping systems reported by the facilities manager in 2016, UCRS lithology and delineation of the clay unit contiguous to the RGA (HU3) less than 2-ft thick, land use map characterizing surface water runoff, and the 2014 plume delineation and potentiometric surface. The 2014 plume delineation, which was not performed as part of this modeling effort but was completed previously by DOE contractors, is the most complete evaluation available at the time of the analysis and is representative of current site conditions (DOE 2015). A plume map depicting the general footprint of the trichloroethene (TCE) contamination in the RGA and conveying the general magnitude and distribution of contamination within the plumes is reported in Figure C.2 of the delineation report (DOE 2015). In addition to review of available information, the MWG conducted a site walkover on August 24, 2016, along with the PGDP Facility Manager, Andy Anderson, who has worked at the Site for over 30 years. The site tour was conducted to survey the plant area and gather additional site specific information relative to potential anthropogenic recharge. Figure 3.11 presents an overlay of the information collected.

Two of the main systems of underground piping present in the plant area, the storm water system and the HPFW system, have been identified as contributors to anthropogenic recharge in the plant area. In addition, leakage from the TVA water supply line, which runs through the western portion of the plant area and to the west outside the plant area, has been documented, and leak repair of the line is conducted at the site on a routine basis. In 2016, correspondence with the PGDP facility manager revealed that

Soil Boring	Hydraulic Conductivity (feet/day)	Sample Description	Reference		
026001SA010	1.09E-03	Clay (90%), 10YR5/6 (yellowish brown) to 10YR2/2 (dark brown)	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400036SA010	7.80E-04	Clay (80%), Silt (20%); 10YR8/2 (very pale brown) to 10YR6/6 (brownish yellow)	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400038SA010	5.87E-02	Clay (90%), firm, cohesive; Silt (10%); slightly moist, 10YR4/8 (dark yellowish brown) with 10YR7/1 (light gray) and 10YR6/8 (brownish yellow) mottling	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400038SA045	5.79E-02	Clay (90%), firm, cohesive, slightly moist; Silt (10%); trace Gravel; 10YR6/8 (brownish yellow) with 10YR6/2 (light brownish gray) mottling	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400208SA010	7.63E-04	Clay with trace Silt, firm, hard, moist, heavily mottled and iron stained, 10YR6/8 (brownish yellow), 10YR6/1 (gray), and 10YR5/6 (brownish yellow), with occasional 10YR3/1 (very dark gray)	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400210SA045	4.85E-03	Clay, Silt (20%), strong brown	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
400212SA010	4.85E-05	Clay (90%), firm, cohesive, moist; Silt (10%); 10YR6/6 (brownish yellow) with 10YR6/8 (brownish yellow) and 10YR7/1 (light gray) mottling, trace 10YR3/1 (very dark gray) organic stain	Remedial Investigation Report for WAG 6		
GB-09S	2.80E-04	Slightly Silty (10%) lean Clay	C-746-U Solid Waste Landfill Groundwater Monitoring Plan		
GB-14S	3.37E-02	Lean Clay with Silt (15-20%)	C-746-U Solid Waste Landfill Groundwater Monitoring Plan		
GB-21S	4.71E-04	Lean Clay with Silt (20%)	C-746-U Solid Waste Landfill Groundwater Monitoring Plan		
GB-25S	6.41E-04	Slightly Silty (10-20%) lean Clay	C-746-U Solid Waste Landfill Groundwater Monitoring Plan		
GWW-01	9.6E-05	Clay (80%) with Silt (20%), 7.5YR5/6 (strong brown) with 7.5YR7/1 (light gray) mottling and small black specs (1-2 mm) and larger (4 mm) 7.5YR3/4 (dark brown) concretions	Remedial Investigation Report for SWMUs 7 and 30 or WAG 22		
SWMU 2-09	2.83E-05	Clay (80%) with Silt (20%), mottled 7.5YR6/1 (gray) and 5YR4/6 (yellowish red)	Data Summary and Interpretation Report for Interim Remedial Design at SWMU 2 of WAG 22		
Arithmetic Mean	1.23E-02				
Geometric Mean	1.11E-03				

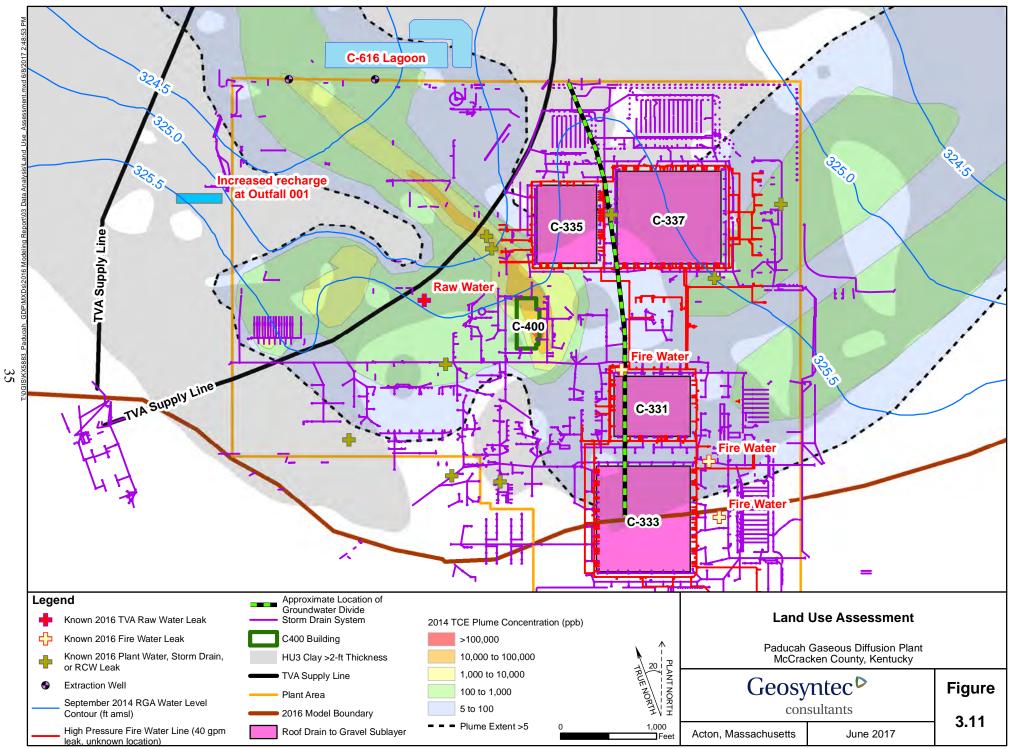
#### Table 3.6. Permeameter Results for Samples with 80% or Greater Clay Content





Note: Numbers indicate thickness of contiguous HU3 clay.

Lithology Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

several leaks were reported (sometimes observed as standing water or flow from the ground surface) in the storm water and HPFW systems, as well as a leak in the TVA water supply line (see Figure 3.11). Quantifying historical leakage rates is problematic; however, the current leakage from the HPFW system is estimated to be 40 gpm based on the refill rate required to maintain a constant water level in the HPFW supply tower. Moreover, the locations of historical leaks are not well characterized, but it is likely that leaks in the piping system spread horizontally within the piping subbase gravel before migrating vertically to recharge the UCRS. The intersection of the piping system with areas where the HU3 contiguous clay layer is less than 2-ft thick is considered an area of increased anthropogenic recharge.

The main process buildings (C-335, C-337, C-331, and C-333) are constructed with roof drains designed to divert precipitation runoff to the storm drain system; however, water in the basements of the buildings observed during precipitation events indicates that the systems are not operating as designed. Sump pumps located in the basement of the buildings are reported to operate after rain events approximately 10% of the time (September 8, 2016, e-mail correspondence between D. Tripp and A. Anderson). In buildings C-337 and C-333, flow from beneath the slab into the building is observed during precipitation events (December 22, 2016, e-mail correspondence between D. Tripp and A. Anderson). Copies of e-mail correspondence with A. Anderson are included in Appendix A.

It is likely that leaks in the roof drain system migrate horizontally through the building gravel subbase before recharging the UCRS. The intersection of the building gravel subbase with areas where the HU3 contiguous clay layer is less than 2-ft thick is considered an area of increased anthropogenic recharge.

Two surface water features are also potential locations of increased anthropogenic recharge. Near Outfall 001 at the western boundary of the plant area, an area of pooled surface water behind the oil control dam was observed during site visits in June and August 2016. This area coincides with an area where the HU3 contiguous clay layer is less than 2-ft thick and is considered an area of increased anthropogenic recharge.

The C-616 lagoon is a surface impoundment that receives water from the recirculating cooling water system and the groundwater recovery treatment system before discharging to Outfall 001 through a drainage ditch. It began operation in 1977 and is reported to be constructed without a clay liner because a geological survey indicated that the natural clay soil conditions were sufficient (August 31, 2016, e-mail correspondence with Andy Anderson). The water level in the basin is maintained at a depth of approximately 6 ft. Although reported to be constructed in an area of natural clay, an area just south of the lagoon where the HU3 contiguous clay layer is less than 2 ft was identified through lithologic interpretation reported in the KRCEE database (Revision 8) (CAER KRCEE 2016) and is considered an area of increased anthropogenic recharge.

In summary, sources of anthropogenic recharge to the UCRS identified from a comprehensive review of available information have been attributed to the following:

- HPFW piping system and surrounding bedding material;
- Storm drain piping system and surrounding bedding material;
- TVA water supply piping and surrounding bedding material;
- C-616 Lagoon and drainage ditch;
- Outfall 001 area; and
- Improperly functioning process building roof drains.

These potential recharge source areas were evaluated in the context of observed potentiometric surfaces and TCE plume configurations; the following four zones of potentially enhanced anthropogenic discharge coincident with areas with less than 2 ft of contiguous clay at the base of the UCRS were identified (Figure 3.11).

The area in the vicinity of Outfall 001, where surface water accumulation was observed during site visits in 2016 coincident to areas of contiguous clay less than 2-ft thick in the lower UCRS/HU3 (Figure 3.11), increased recharge and elevated water levels in the area and aligns with the limit of the western extent of the Northwest Plume.

The area near the reported long-term raw water leak along the TVA supply line is coincident with areas of HU3 clay less than 2-ft thick and higher water level elevations in the RGA and aligns with the limit of the western extent of the Northwest Plume.

The area where the C-616 Lagoon is coincident with areas of HU3 clay less than 2-ft thick and higher water level elevations in the RGA and contributes to limiting the eastern extent of the Northwest Plume.

The area near the four buildings (C-335, C-337, C-331, and C-333) that have faulty roof drain systems and are connected to the HPFW system that has been reported in 2016 to leak at a rate of 40 gpm. This area is coincident with areas of HU3 clay less than 2-ft thick and a groundwater divide in the RGA that runs approximately north/south along the eastern portion of the plant and contributes to limiting the eastern extent of the Northwest Plume.<sup>2</sup>

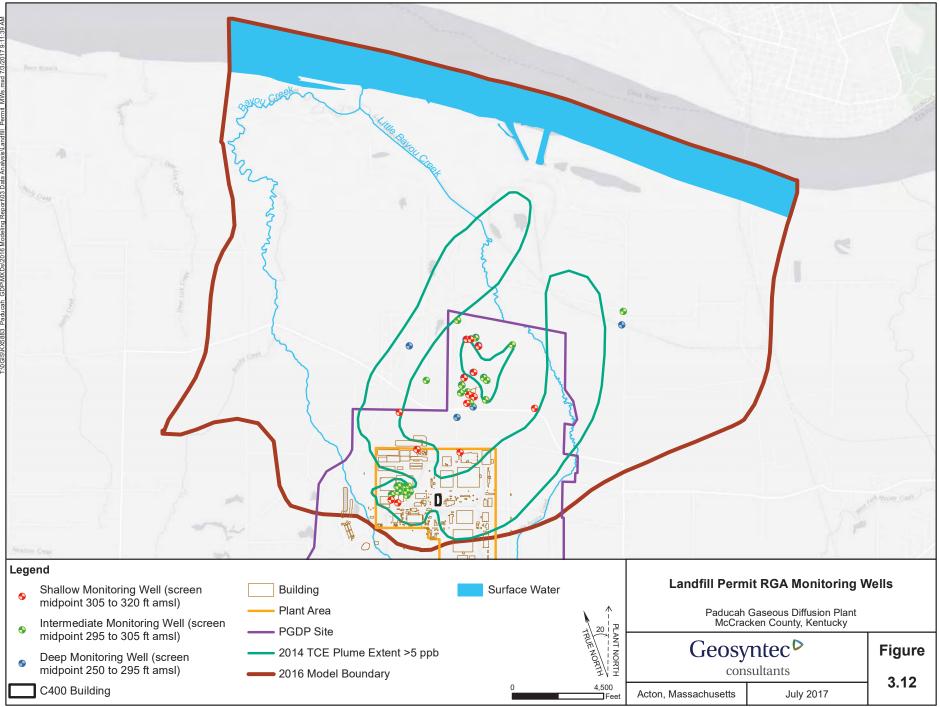
## **3.4 WATER LEVEL DATA**

Water level data from several water level gauging events were evaluated for inclusion in the model calibration and validation. Data are available from water level measurement events conducted from 1995 through 2016. Each data set was evaluated to determine the spatial extent and density of the monitoring well locations and the variability of precipitation and river level 30 days prior to the gauging event. Generally, the events fall into two categories consisting of annual sitewide events and quarterly landfill permit monitoring events. The landfill permit monitoring events include a subset of monitoring wells from the annual sitewide monitoring well network with locations limited to the central area of the model domain (Figure 3.12). Sitewide monitoring events include a more comprehensive set of wells that are distributed more widely across the model domain (Figure 3.13). Additionally, a transient set of water level data is available from the 2010 pump test conducted at Northwest Plume extraction wells, EW232 and EW233. All available datasets and gauging events that were chosen for calibration and validation are summarized in Table 3.7.

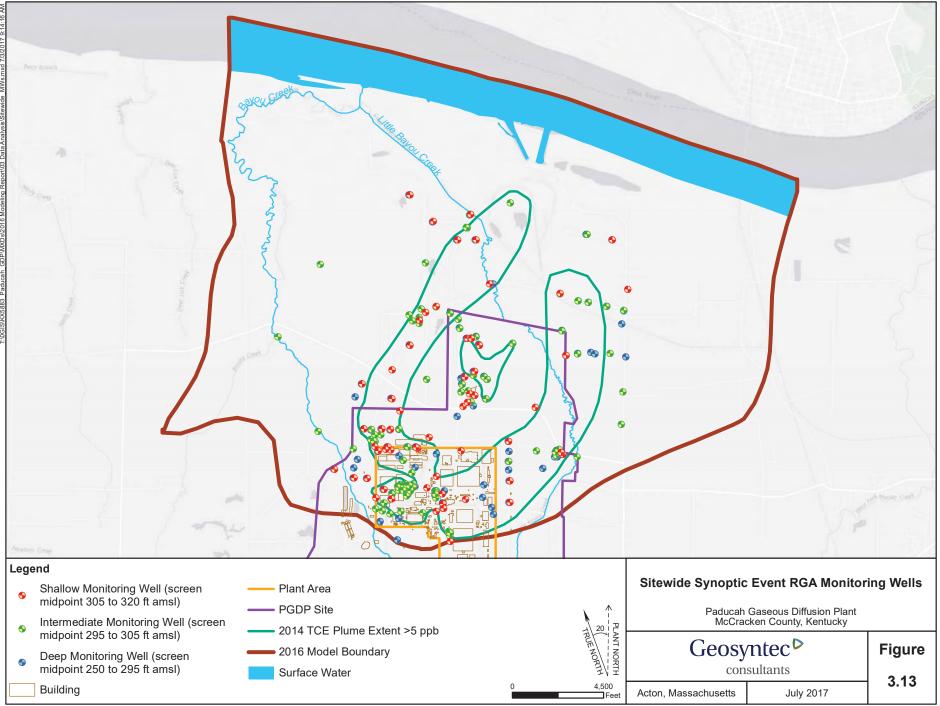
To evaluate data suitability for use in model calibration or validation, measured precipitation and river stages prior to each monitoring event were evaluated to determine if the measured water levels were representative of relatively steady-state conditions. In the context of the PGDP Hydrologic Basin (see Section 4), the evaluation of steady-state conditions is most significant in the area near the Ohio River. If the river is rising or declining, then the river stage and groundwater are not in equilibrium (steady-state). Long periods of relatively constant river stage result in equilibrium between groundwater and the Ohio River (i.e., steady-state condition).

Historical precipitation data were obtained from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the Paducah Barkley Regional Airport weather station. Ohio River stage data were obtained from USGS gauging stations located at Paducah, Kentucky (USGS 03611000); Metropolis, Illinois (USGS 03611500); and Olmsted, Illinois (USGS 03612600). The Metropolis station is located adjacent to the model domain and provides the most representative Ohio River stage measurements; however, the period of record is limited to the years 2007 through 2015. For water level datasets collected prior to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The groundwater divide location is approximate and is assumed to change location due to varying seasonal and anthropogenic recharge conditions.



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

#### Table 3.7. Selected Calibration and Validation Stress Periods

Monitoring Period	Steady State Conditions (Y/N)	Number of Head Targets	Ohio River Stage* (ft msl)	Synoptic Y/N	Monitoring Event Type	Annual Precipitation (in/yr)	Rationale	
February 1995	Ν	76	295.2**	Ν	Sitewide Pre-pumping	38.6	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition, but only available pre-pumping data set, relatively low annual rainfall	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2005	Y	110	300.0**	N	Sitewide	37.5	Representative of SS conditions, pumping system in operation	
1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2007	N	110	311.7	N	Sitewide	43.3	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
April 2010	N	38	311.1	N	NA	36.7	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition, only 38 points	
October 11, 2010	Y	13	293.9	Y	Pump test			
October 12, 2010	N	13	295.5	Y	Pump test			
October 13, 2010	Ν	13	295.5	Y	Pump test			
October 14, 2010	N	13	294.9	Y	Pump test			
October 15, 2010	N	13	294.5	Y	Pump test		Monitoring network limited to area in the vicinity of pumping well, exclude from calibration	
October 16, 2010	N	13	294.3	Y	Pump test	36.7	and use for transient calibration	
October 17, 2010	N	13	293.8	Y	Pump test			
October 18, 2010	N	13	293.5	Y	Pump test			
October 19, 2010	N	13	293.1	Y	Pump test			
October 20, 2010	N	13	292.8	Y	Pump test			
October 21, 2010	N	13	292.7	Y	Pump test			
April 12, 2011	N	212	327.2	Y	Sitewide	74.9	High relative annual precipitation, flooding conditions not representative of steady state conditions, use for secondary validation of extreme conditions	
October 10, 2011	Y	202	295.5	Y	Sitewide	74.9	Full data set, approximate SS conditions one month prior to gauging, high relative annual precipitation	
July 17, 2012	Y	184	290.0	Y	Sitewide	30.1	Full data set, approximate SS conditions one month prior to gauging, low relative annual precipitation	
January 3, 2013	Ν	47	TBD	Y	LPM	60.3	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
April 16, 2013	N	36	TBD	Y	LPM	60.3	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
August 5, 2013	N	52	TBD	Y	LPM	60.3	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
September 24, 2013	Y	203	292.5	Y	Sitewide	60.3	Full data set, approximate SS conditions one month prior to gauging	
October 23, 2013	Y	52	TBD	Y	LPM	60.3	Approximate SS conditions, less data points than September 2013 event.	
January 30, 2014	N	52	TBD	Y	LPM	46.8	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
April 29, 2014	N	52	TBD	Y	LPM	46.8	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
July 30, 2014	N	52	TBD	Y	LPM	46.8	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
September 29, 2014	Y	206	295.2	Y	Sitewide	46.8	Full data set, representative of SS conditions, post plant shut down	
October 28, 2014	N	52	TBD	Y	LPM	46.8	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
January 28, 2015	N	53	TBD	Y	LPM	59.2	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
April 29, 2015	N	54	TBD	Y	LPM	59.2	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
August 4, 2015	N	53	TBD	Y	LPM	59.2	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
September 1, 2015	N	205	296.7	Y	Sitewide	59.2	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
October 28, 2015	Y	53	TBD	Y	LPM	59.2	Representative of SS conditions	
January 26, 2016	N	53	TBD	Y	LPM	52.5	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
April 28, 2016	N	54	TBD	Y	LPM	52.5	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
July 26, 2016	N	54	TBD	Y	LPM	52.5	Variability in river stage, system is not in SS condition	
August 23, 2016	Y	216	298.0**	Y	Sitewide	52.5	Full data set, approximate SS conditions one month prior to gauging	

Use for Calibration Use for Validation

Use for transient calibration

Not used

See Section 3.4 for explanation of data set selection.

Notes: LPM = Landfill Permit Monitoring

TBD = To Be Determined

\*Average Ohio River stage at the Metropolis station for 30 days prior to the water level measurement event, except as noted.

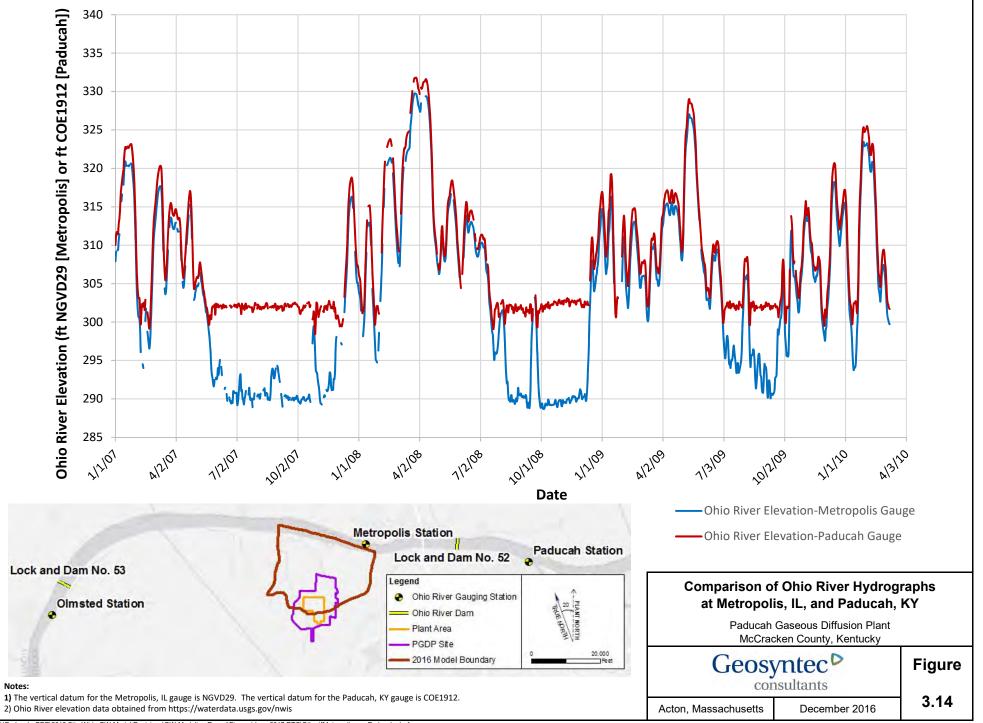
\*\* 30-day average Ohio River stage not used; see text for details (Section 3.4).

2007, the Ohio River stage was assessed based on data from the Paducah station. For water level datasets collected after 2015, data from both the Paducah and Olmsted stations were used to assess Ohio River stage. The Paducah station is located approximately 9 miles upstream of the Metropolis station, and the Olmsted station is located approximately 20 miles downstream of the Metropolis station.

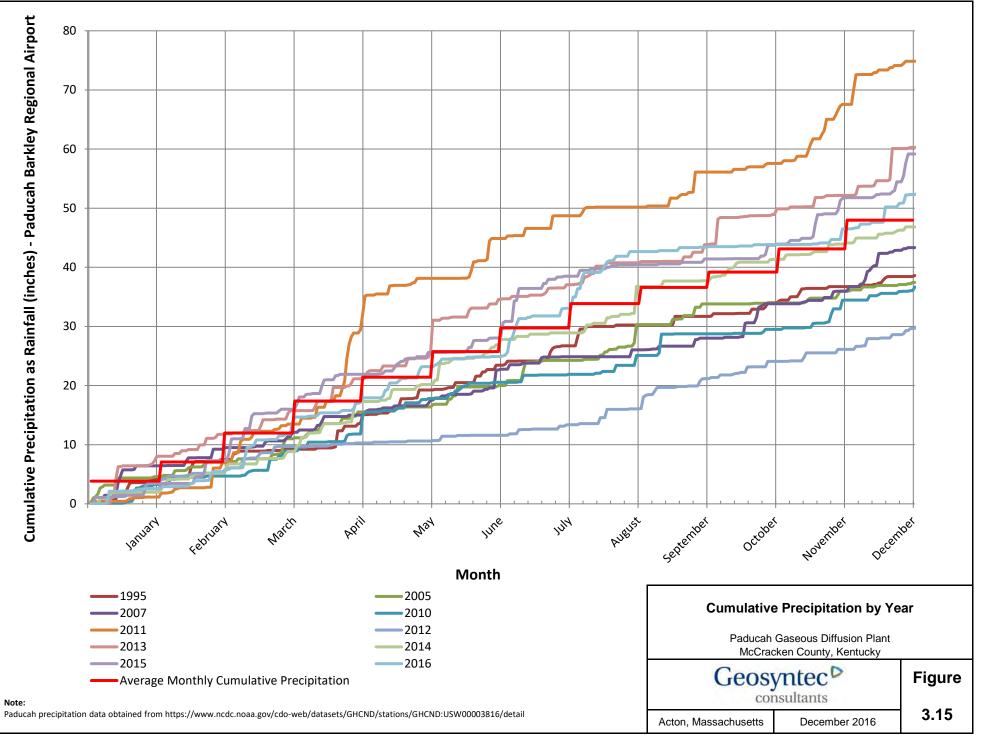
A comparison of the Ohio River stage measured at the Paducah and Metropolis stations from January 2007 through March 2010 is presented in Figure 3.14. During high flow conditions, the reported river stage for the Metropolis station is on average 1.8 ft lower than the stage reported for the Paducah station. This difference is attributable to the downstream location of the Metropolis station relative to the Paducah station and a different vertical datum used for reporting (i.e., NGVD29 for the Metropolis station and COE1912 for the Paducah station). The difference between the COE1912 datum and the NGVD1929 datum varies spatially, and a simple conversion is not available. Comparison of the data from the two stations still is useful to evaluate approximate differences and identify the limitation of the Paducah data during periods of low river stage. During low flow conditions, the Ohio River stage measured at the Metropolis station is as much as 13.7 ft lower than the stage measured at the Paducah station. This difference is due to the presence of Dam No. 52 that maintains a navigable depth of water in the Paducah area (Figure 3.14). Consequently, measurements from the Paducah station are not representative of the Ohio River stage within the model domain whenever the Ohio River stage less than or equal to approximately 300 ft amsl in the model domain.

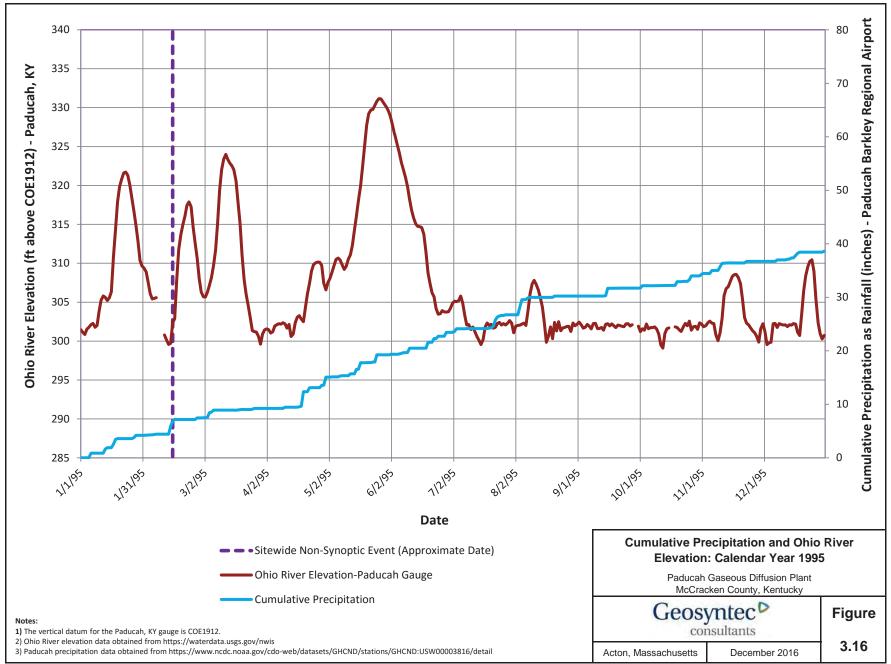
For each year in which groundwater level data were available, cumulative precipitation curves along with the cumulative average monthly precipitation of all the years evaluated on the graph are presented in Figure 3.15. Average annual precipitation for the years evaluated is 45.1 inches per year. Figures 3.16 to 3.25 present Ohio River stage and cumulative precipitation by year, for each year groundwater level measurements were available. The criteria for selecting a dataset as suitable for modeling steady-state conditions are relatively steady river stage measurements and a steady trend in cumulative precipitation for approximately one month prior to the water level measurement. Based on these criteria, several gauging events were identified as potentially suitable (Table 3.7). The representative Ohio River stage for each dataset was defined as the average Ohio River stage at the Metropolis station for 30 days prior to the groundwater level measurement event. For datasets where Ohio River stage data were unavailable for the Metropolis station, Ohio River stage was assessed based on available data from the Paducah and/or Olmsted stations. In particular, a representative Ohio River stage was assigned to the February 1995, 3rd Quarter 2005, and August 2016 datasets based on the following considerations.

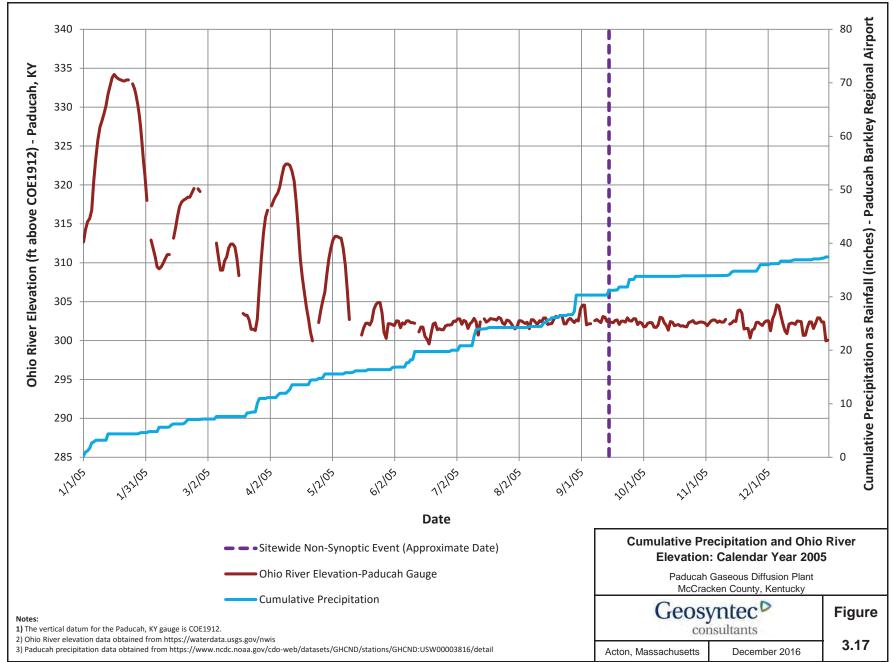
- February 1995—The exact date of this water level measurement event is unknown and the Ohio River stage was variable. Data from the Paducah station show that whereas the Ohio River stage was as high as 320 ft amsl in January 1995, the stage plunged below 300 ft amsl in mid-February. Because of Dam No. 52 in between the model domain and the Paducah station, the Ohio River stage in the area of interest could have reached a level anywhere between approximately 290 to 300 ft amsl during mid-February 1995. Based on the relatively low groundwater levels measured during the event, it was assumed that the representative, steady-state Ohio River stage would be similar to that of the September 29, 2014, event; therefore, an Ohio River stage of 295.2 ft amsl was assigned to the February 1995 dataset.
- 3rd Quarter 2005—The exact date of this water level measurement event is unknown. The Ohio River stage at the Paducah station was relatively constant at about 302 ft (COE1912) for all of 3rd Quarter 2005. Because of Dam No. 52 in between the model domain and the Paducah station, the Ohio River stage in the area of interest could have reached a level anywhere between approximately 290 ft to 300 ft amsl during 3rd Quarter 2005. Based on the relatively high groundwater levels measured during the event, it was assumed that the representative, steady-state Ohio River stage

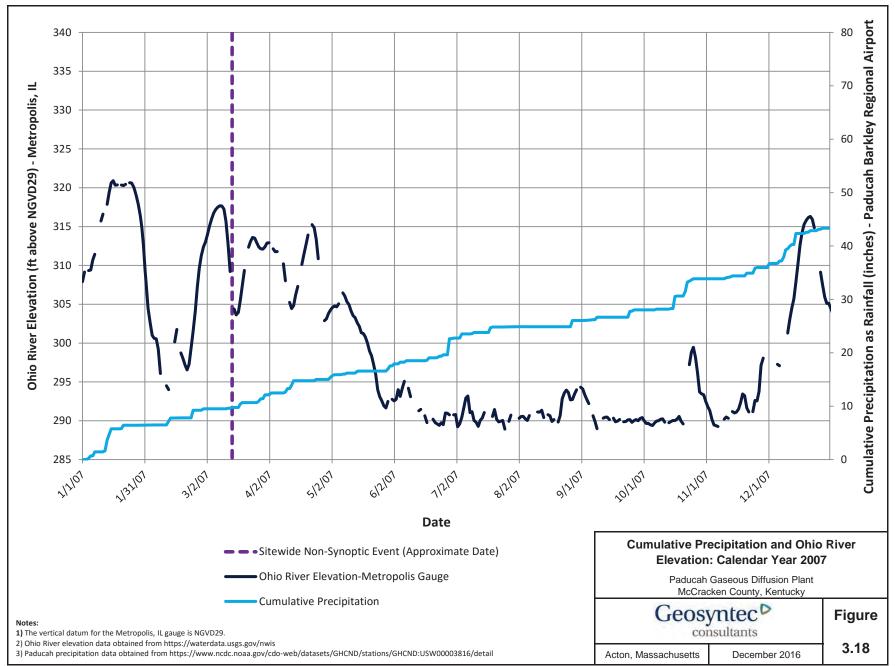


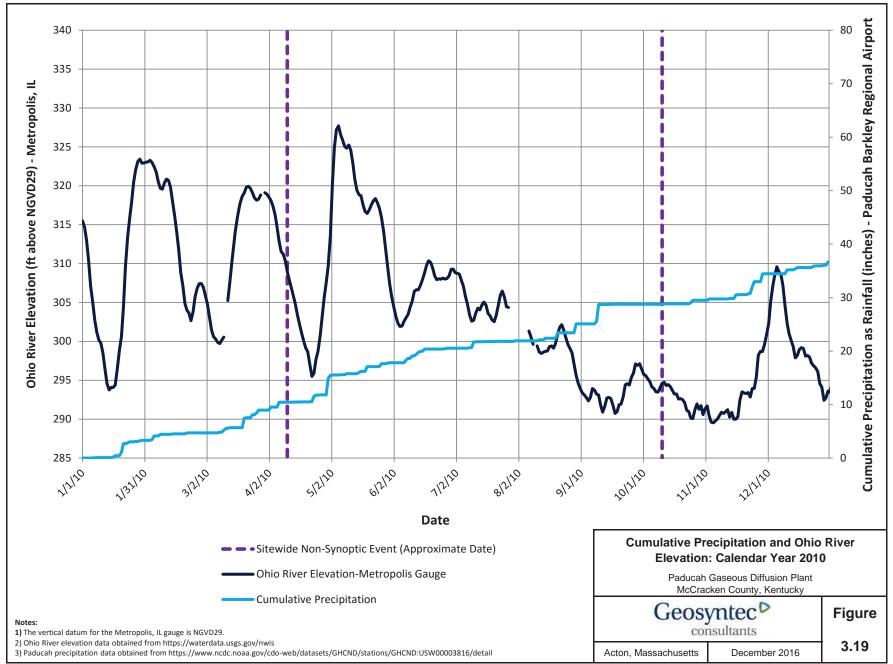
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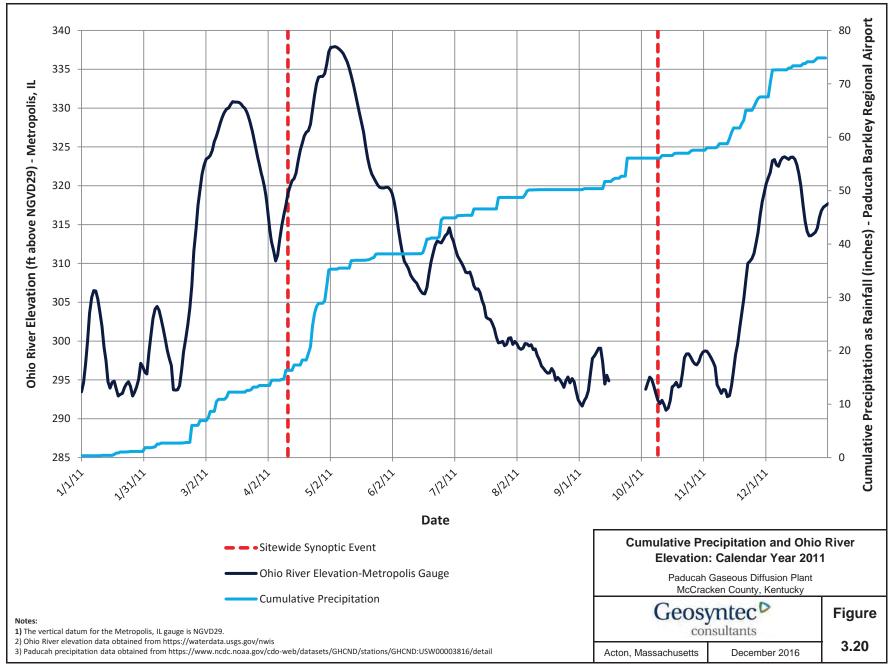


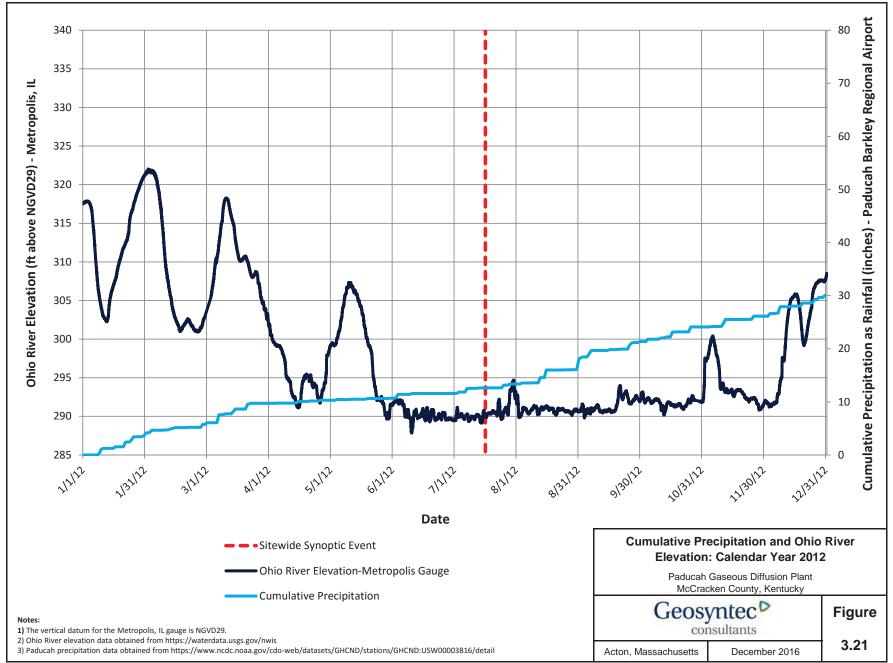


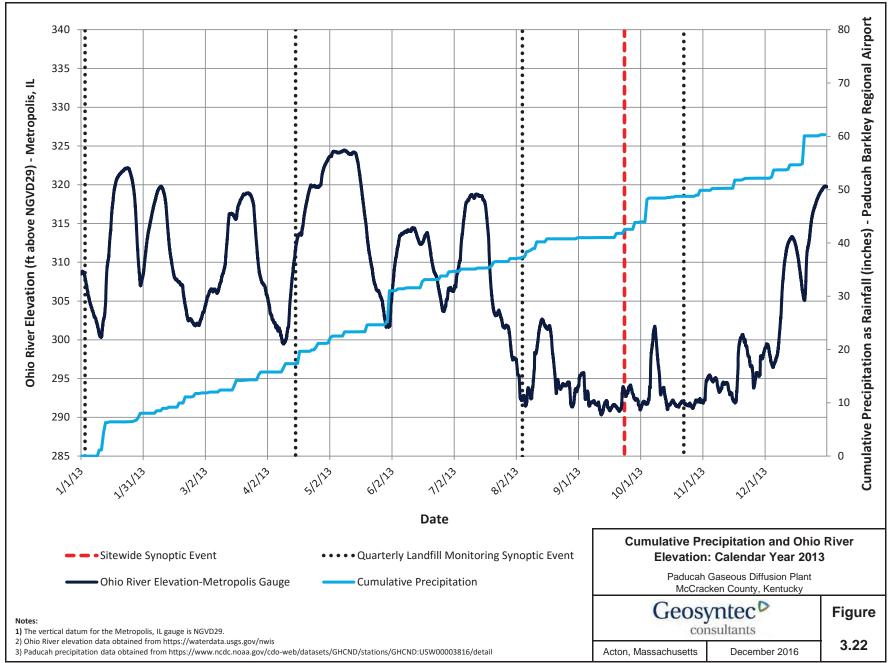


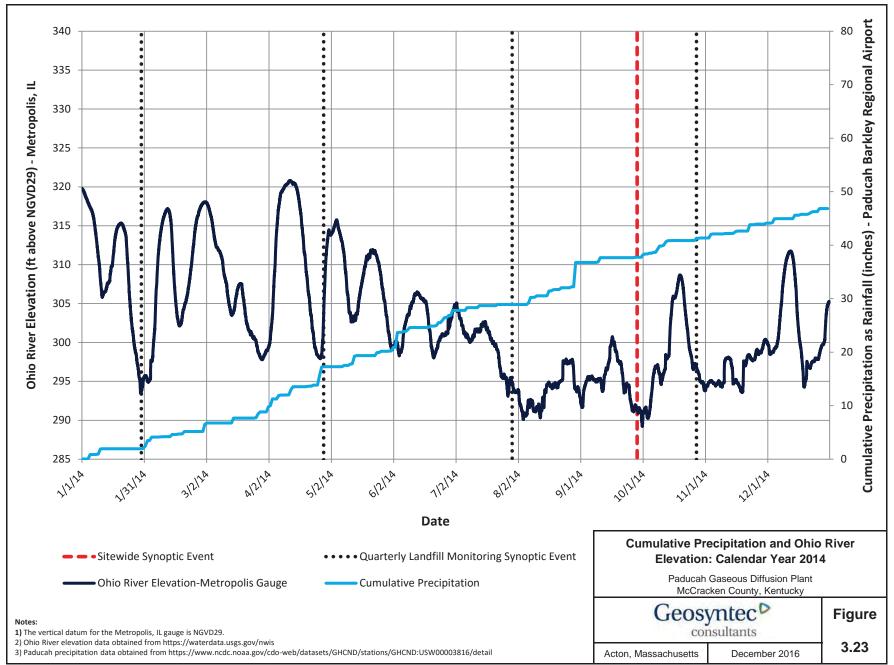


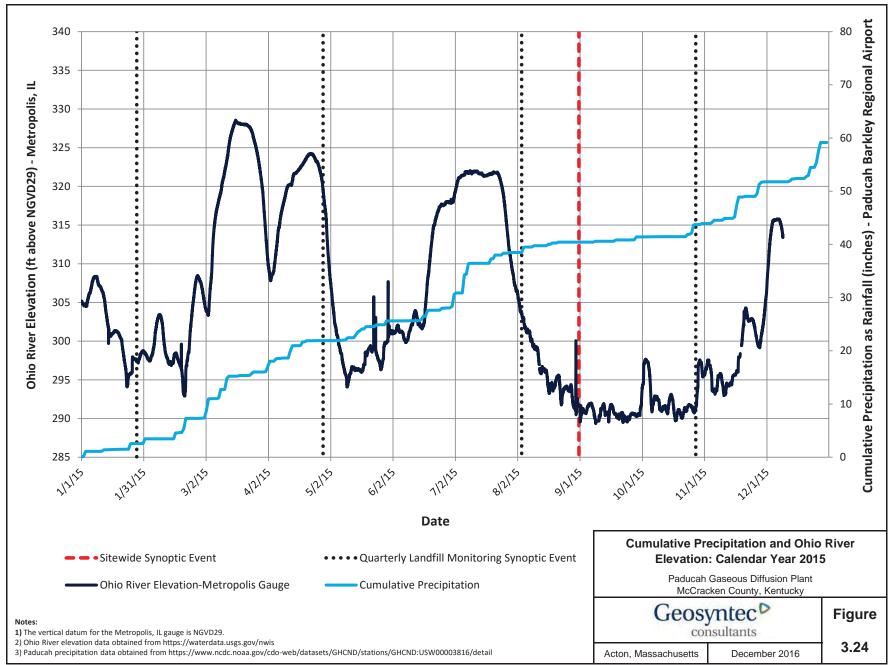


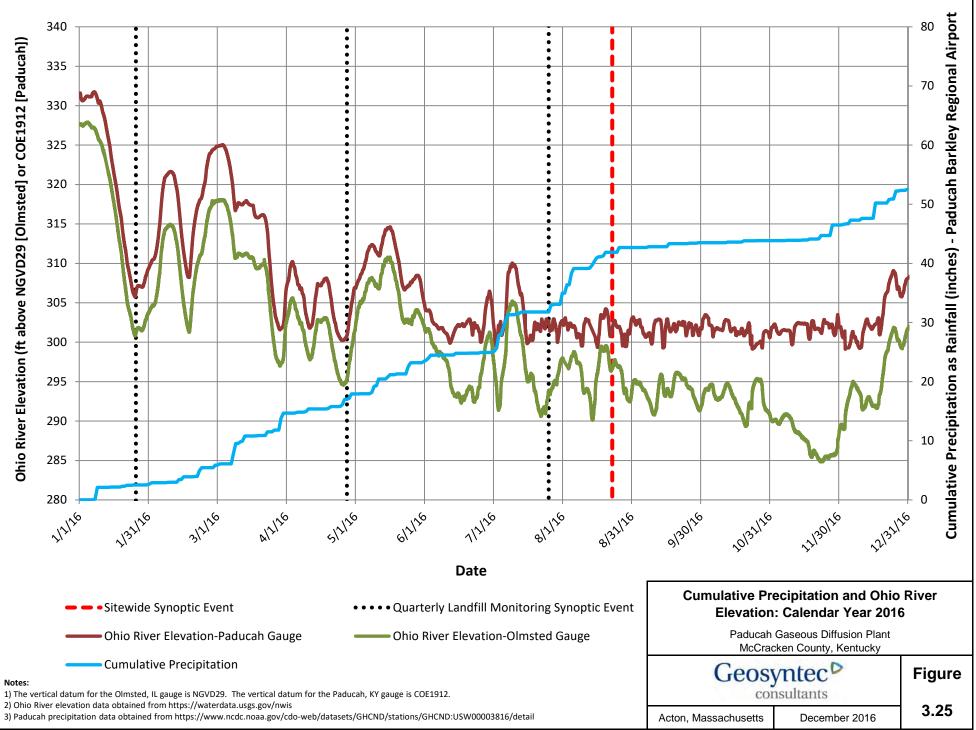












would be higher than that of the September 29, 2014, event; therefore, an Ohio River stage of 300 ft amsl was assigned to the 3rd Quarter 2005 dataset.

• August 23, 2016—The 30-day average Ohio River stage at the Paducah and Olmsted stations was 302.0 ft (COE1912) and 295.8 ft (NGVD29), respectively. Based on this information, the 30-day average Ohio River stage in the area of interest must be somewhere in between approximately 296 and 300 ft amsl; therefore, an Ohio River stage of 298 ft amsl was assigned to the August 23, 2016, dataset.

For model calibration, a subset of the data representing steady-state conditions was identified to optimize run time while simulating a range of site conditions with respect to annual precipitation and site operations. An additional criterion included wide spread distribution of measurement locations within the model domain. The final list of water level measurement events identified as suitable for use in model calibration is summarized in Table 3.7 and includes the following five operational periods:

- 1995—Pre-pumping;
- 2005—Initial EW system in Northwest and Northeast Plumes;
- 2011—Updated EW system, including EW232 and EW233, with relatively high annual precipitation;
- 2012—Updated EW system, including EW232 and EW233, with relatively low annual precipitation; and
- 2014—Post plant shutdown.

The 1995 data was determined not to be at steady-state conditions, but is included because it is the only dataset that includes water level data collected before the Northwest Plume and Northeast Plume extraction wells were installed and began operating (i.e., the data are representative of pre-pumping conditions).

Of the four remaining candidate datasets (i.e., 2005, 2011, 2012, and 2014), the 2014 data was included in the model calibration. The September 2014 dataset was chosen because it is representative of steady-state conditions and average annual precipitation (i.e., the average annual precipitation in 2014 was approximately the same as the average annual precipitation calculated from 1995 to 2016 for each year for which water level data were available, see Figure 3.15).

For model validation, seven datasets, including the three data sets that were identified as suitable for calibration data sets, but not selected for inclusion in the model calibration, were chosen to evaluate the calibrated model under alternative conditions that include more extreme precipitation and river stage values. In addition, the most recent sitewide synoptic monitoring event was included to evaluate current conditions. The selected datasets are summarized in Table 3.7.

Finally, the transient dataset from the 2010 Northwest Plume pumping test was selected for use in a supplemental transient model calibration.

# 4. CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL

A hydrological CSM is a description of how, where, and in what quantities water enters the groundwater flow system and the factors controlling groundwater movement between inflow and outflow locations. The CSM is derived from site-specific data and is intended to force condensation of concepts and ideas about the flow system into a series of statements that will guide model configuration and calibration. The following CSM of the PGDP Site is based on historical data and data analysis presented in the 2010 report of the 2008 GW Model Update and additional data analyses presented in Section 3 of this report. The extent of the hydrogeologic system included in the CSM, herein referred to as the PGDP Hydrologic Basin, is defined from south to north as the northern extent of the Terrace Gravel/Porters Creek Clay to the Ohio River, and from east to west along surface water divides that are assumed to approximate groundwater divides. The PGDP Hydrologic Basin is illustrated in Figure 4.1 (DOE 2010, Figure 4.10).

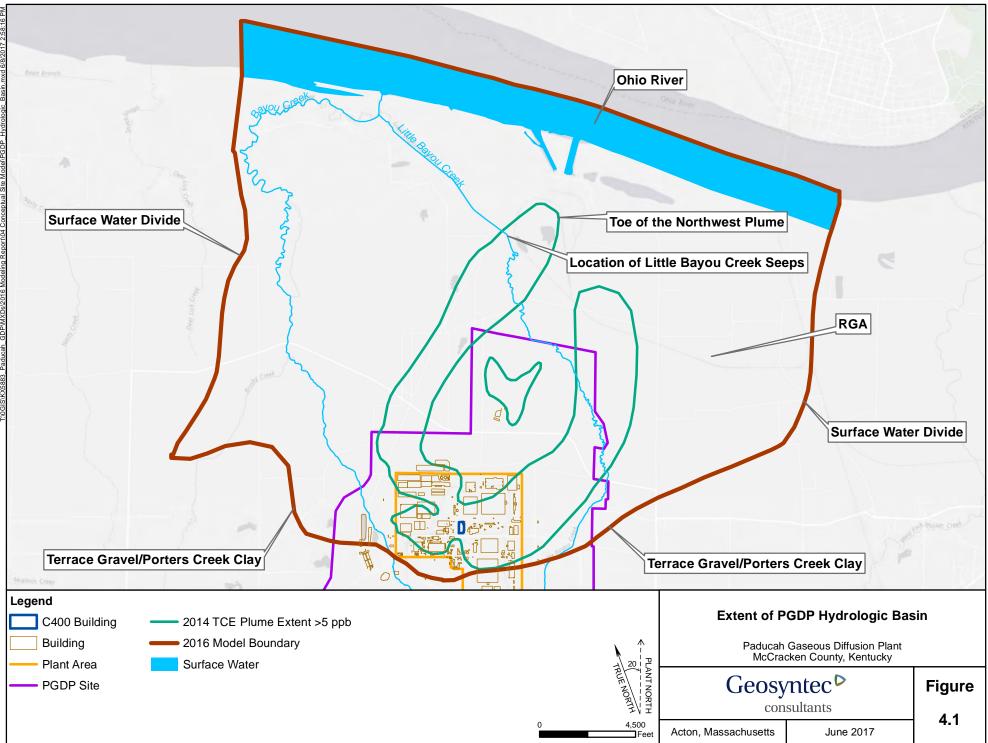
The PGDP Site groundwater flow system is represented schematically in Figure 4.2 and primary findings are listed below.

- Strong downward vertical hydraulic gradients between the UCRS and RGA indicate that groundwater movement in the UCRS is primarily vertically downward. Simplistically, the UCRS conveys recharge at land surface to the RGA.
- Groundwater flow originating south of the Paducah Site within the Terrace Gravel recharges the RGA through the UCRS.
- Mass balance assessment based on comparable horizontal gradients but a hydraulic conductivity contrast between the RGA and the adjacent McNairy of two to three orders of magnitude indicates that the RGA has a significantly greater horizontal groundwater flow than the McNairy downgradient in the direction of the Ohio River (see Sections 4.4, 4.5, and 4.10 of DOE 2010).
- Vertical hydraulic gradient and mass balance evaluation indicates that there is vertical movement of groundwater between the RGA and McNairy, but the volume of groundwater moving between the two units is much less relative to the volume of groundwater moving horizontally in the RGA (see Section 4.10 of DOE 2010).

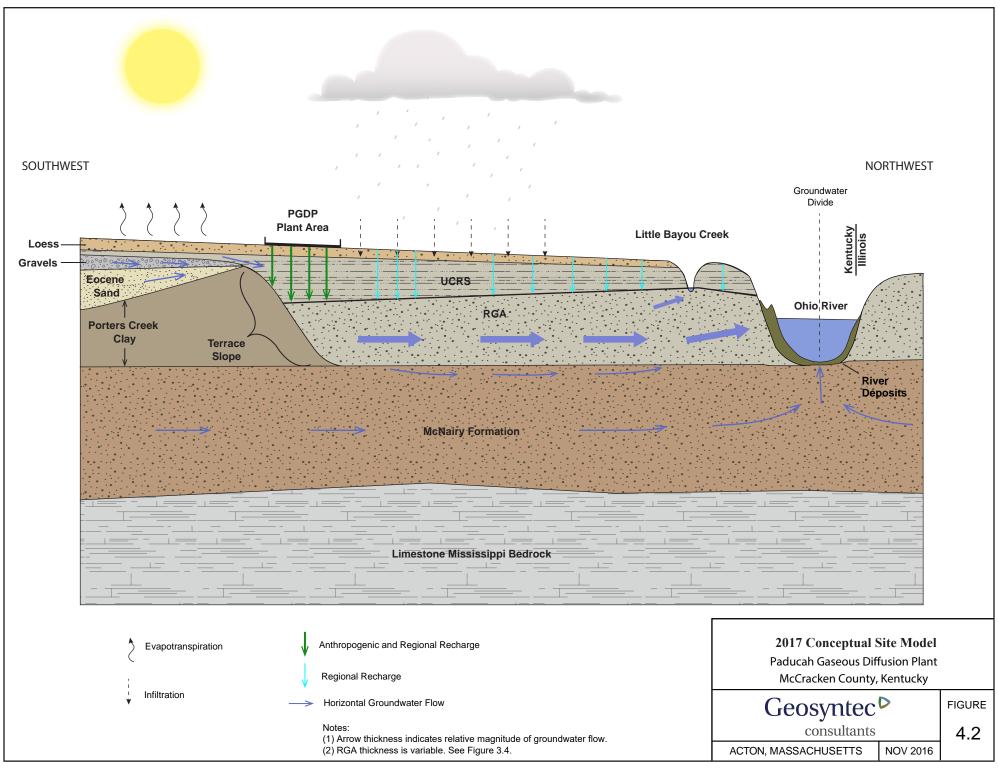
In summary, the RGA is the primary conveyor of groundwater from the PGDP Site to the Ohio River.

Below are observations regarding the presence of steady-state or transient groundwater flow conditions.

- A three-point vector analysis of water level data from the period 1993 to 2006, described in detail in the 2010 report on 2008 GW Model Update (DOE 2010, Section 4.3.2), shows that RGA groundwater flow directions between PGDP and the Ohio River remain relatively constant regardless of river stage. This assessment is supported by the temporal consistency of the PGDP plumes (DOE 2010, Section 4.3.2).
- The same three-point analysis indicates that groundwater flow directions beneath the plant area are variable because of differing anthropogenic recharge time constants. Despite flow direction variability, plume orientation at PGDP remains relatively constant, suggesting "average" flow conditions do exist (DOE 2010, Section 4.3.2).



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



• A comprehensive analysis of RGA water level data, UCRS lithology and moisture content, and land use (see Section 3.3) indicates areas of increased recharge in the plant area are associated with roof drains, surface water discharges, and leaks in the TVA supply line (see Figure 3.11). Historical and present groundwater level data indicate the presence of a divide in the eastern portion of the plant area that is coincident with some of these areas of increased anthropogenic recharge.

Post plant shut-down water level monitoring of the RGA in the plant area indicates negligible change in water levels suggesting leaks in subsurface piping and roof drain systems provide a continuing source of anthropogenic recharge.

Steady-state conditions can be assumed for periods where boundary conditions such as the Ohio River stage and precipitation rates are relatively constant. In periods of more extreme and variable boundary conditions more typical of winter and springtime, the groundwater flow system exhibits more transient conditions due to time dependent storage near surface water bodies in response to fluctuating stage elevations.

Recharge within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin is as presented below.

- The most significant source of recharge within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin is precipitation with likely ranges between 2.64 inches/year and 7.64 inches/year over the model area (DOE 2010, Section 4.6.1).
- The portions of LBC and BC starting at the southern extent of the PGDP Hydrologic Basin lose water to the groundwater flow system (i.e., are losing streams). The total volume contributed to the groundwater flow system from LBC and BC is much less than the volume derived from precipitation.
- Anthropogenic recharge from leaking underground water supply lines, runoff from building roofs, infiltration from lagoons, and seepage through ditch and outfalls contribute recharge to groundwater.
- In the short-term, anthropogenic recharge is temporally and spatially variable and is dependent on precipitation, infrastructure integrity, and UCRS lithology.
- In the long-term, anthropogenic recharge appears relatively constant with minimal change following plant closure.

In summary, precipitation is the dominant recharge provider in the PGDP Hydrologic Basin, and characterizing anthropogenic recharge locations and rates is problematic.

Groundwater discharge is as follows:

- Most groundwater within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin discharges to the Ohio River.
- Groundwater also discharges to the lower portions of BC and LBC (i.e., the lower portions are gaining streams).

The following is a summary of hydraulic conductivity for the three PGDP HUs based on measurements via pumping, slug, and laboratory permeameter testing and PGDP Hydrologic Basin bulk hydraulic conductivity estimates (Section 4.5, DOE 2010):

• Pumping tests indicate RGA horizontal hydraulic conductivity values range between 100 ft and 3,600 ft/day.

- The assumption that all recharge enters the RGA indicates the bulk RGA hydraulic conductivity ranges between 713 ft and 2,063 ft/day.
- The average horizontal UCRS hydraulic conductivity derived from slug testing is 0.28 ft/day. Permeameter testing yielded an average UCRS vertical hydraulic conductivity of 0.03 ft/day.
- Slug and permeameter testing yielded average McNairy horizontal and vertical hydraulic conductivities of 0.30 ft and 0.02 ft/day, respectively.

In summary, RGA hydraulic conductivity is much greater relative to either the UCRS or McNairy hydraulic conductivity and serves as a basis for excluding the latter two units from the model domain. Finally, with respect to the PGDP Hydrologic Basin groundwater mass balance:

- Estimated cumulative groundwater recharge ranges between 3,625 and 9,685 gpm (697,860 ft<sup>3</sup>/day and 1,864,492 ft<sup>3</sup>/day).
- Estimated cumulative groundwater discharge ranges between 1,161 and 15,434 gpm (223,508 ft<sup>3</sup>/day and 2,971,251 ft<sup>3</sup>/day) (DOE 2010; Section 4.10).

# **5. MODEL CONFIGURATION**

#### 5.1 MODEL DISCRETIZATION

The model used for this study simulates groundwater flow in the RGA, the primary conveyor of groundwater from the PGDP site to the Ohio River. The model was discretized into three model layers and consists of 525 rows and 627 columns with a constant width of 50 ft. Constant cell size dimensions were used to ensure that future versions of the model could simulate contaminant transport and be used for remedial design evaluation anywhere within the model domain.

The top elevation of model layer 1 corresponds to the top elevation of the RGA, and the bottom elevation of model layer 3 corresponds to the bottom elevation of the RGA (HU5) or, when present, fine sands contiguous to HU5 (HU5A, see Figure 3.1). Equivalently, the bottom elevation of model layer 3 corresponds to the top elevation of silts and clays of the McNairy. The RGA was divided into three layers of equal thickness to allow future versions of the transport model to simulate more accurately the observed vertical movement of dissolved contamination within the RGA. Water quality results show that dissolved TCE contamination tends to migrate downward toward the bottom of the RGA with distance away from PGDP.

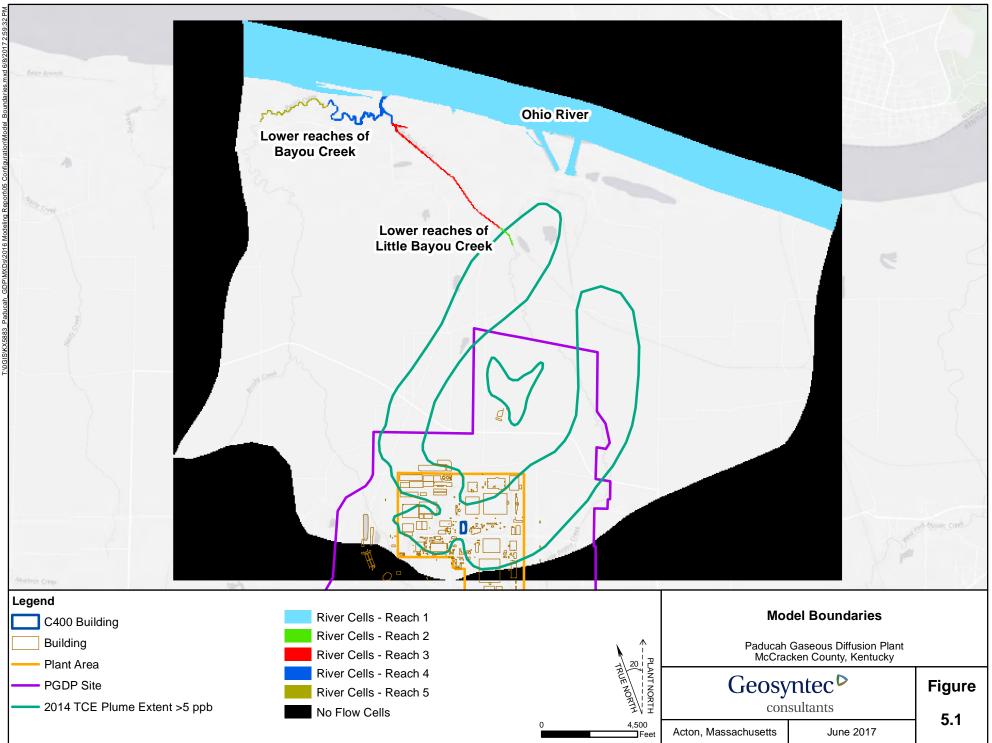
### **5.2 MODEL BOUNDARY CONDITIONS**

Model boundary conditions contribute, remove, or prevent the movement of water within the model domain. Boundary conditions can be further characterized as located along the exterior and within the interior of the model domain. While technically a boundary condition, recharge is typically viewed as a parameter (analogous to hydraulic conductivity) and, as such, will be discussed in Section 5.3.2.

Boundary conditions that define the exterior model boundaries located in model layers 1 through 3 are illustrated in Figure 5.1. The black areas represent no flow cells and define, as the name implies, areas where water does not enter or leave the model. The no flow boundaries along the east and west correspond to flow lines derived from topographic highs (i.e., surface water divides) that are sufficiently distant from the area of interest. The no flow boundary along the southern model boundary is coincident with the pinch out of the RGA at the Terrace slope. Groundwater flow originating in the Terrace Gravel that recharges the RGA through the UCRS along the southern boundary is included in the model through recharge specified in the grid block adjacent to the boundary along the East and West Terrace Basins (Section 5.3.2). And the no flow boundary on the north is coincident with the divide along the Ohio River that results from groundwater flow discharging to the river from the north and the south.

The bottom of model layer 3 is also a no flow boundary and corresponds to the top of the McNairy. It is recognized that groundwater flow does occur in the McNairy; however, the groundwater flow rates are significantly less than those of the RGA. Because of the minimal water transmission capabilities, the McNairy was excluded from the model.

Within the model domain, the Ohio River is configured in layer 1, 2 and 3 using river cells. Simplistically, river boundary cells have head and conductance components that control the amount of water entering or leaving the cell. If the groundwater level in the cell is higher than the specified river stage elevation value, then water discharges from the cell to the river. Conversely, if the groundwater level is lower than the specified river stage elevation value, then water recharges the cell from the river. The river cell conductance, which represents the silt layer at the bottom of river, provides resistance to flow in and out of the river cells. For each steady-state stress period, the Ohio River was assigned a river



stage equal to the daily average for the thirty days prior to the date that the water level elevations used for calibration were measured, except as previously noted (see Section 3.4). The "best" conductance value was determined during model calibration.

The lower reaches of BC and LBC that are hydraulically connected to the RGA also were configured in layer 1 using river boundary conditions. The stage of the creeks was derived from available information on the creek bottom slopes, the elevation of the mouth of BC, and typical depths for the creeks. The creek bottom slopes were obtained from a May 1994 floodplain investigation performed by the Army Corps of Engineers (COE 1994). The bottom slopes for BC and LBC used to calculate stage are 0.00085 and 0.0006, respectively. The elevation of the mouth of BC was estimated to be 300 ft from an August 2015 bathymetric survey performed by the Army Corps of Engineers along Miles 947 to 949 of the Ohio River. The depth of LBC is commonly less than 1 to 2 ft, and BC typically is less than 3-ft to 4-ft deep; thus, depths of 1.5 ft and 3 ft were assumed for LBC and BC, respectively. The creek stages derived from this information were overridden by the Ohio River stage in some model simulations (i.e., for one validation dataset and one sensitivity analysis simulation where the derived creek stage for a cell was less than the Ohio River stage was used instead). Conductance values for the creeks were determined during model calibration.

The upper reaches of BC and LBC, which are in hydraulic connection with the UCRS, were simulated using recharge cells, and, while these features are technically boundary conditions, because they were simulated using recharge cells, details regarding configuration of the upper reaches of the creeks are included in Section 5.3.2, Recharge Zonation.

Metropolis Lake was not configured using a surface water boundary condition but rather with a hydraulic conductivity value of 50,000 ft/day assigned to the area corresponding to the lake in model layer 1. Use of a high hydraulic conductivity value results in a near horizontal water table (lake surface) in the feature that can move up and down during the calibration process and remain neutral with respect to the groundwater mass balance.

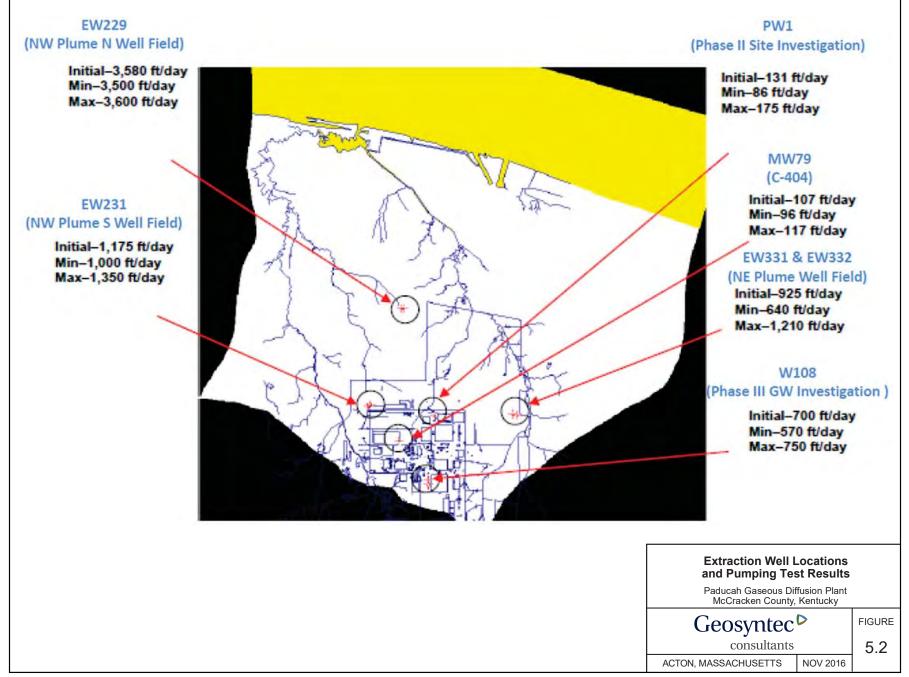
# **5.3 PARAMETER DISTRIBUTION**

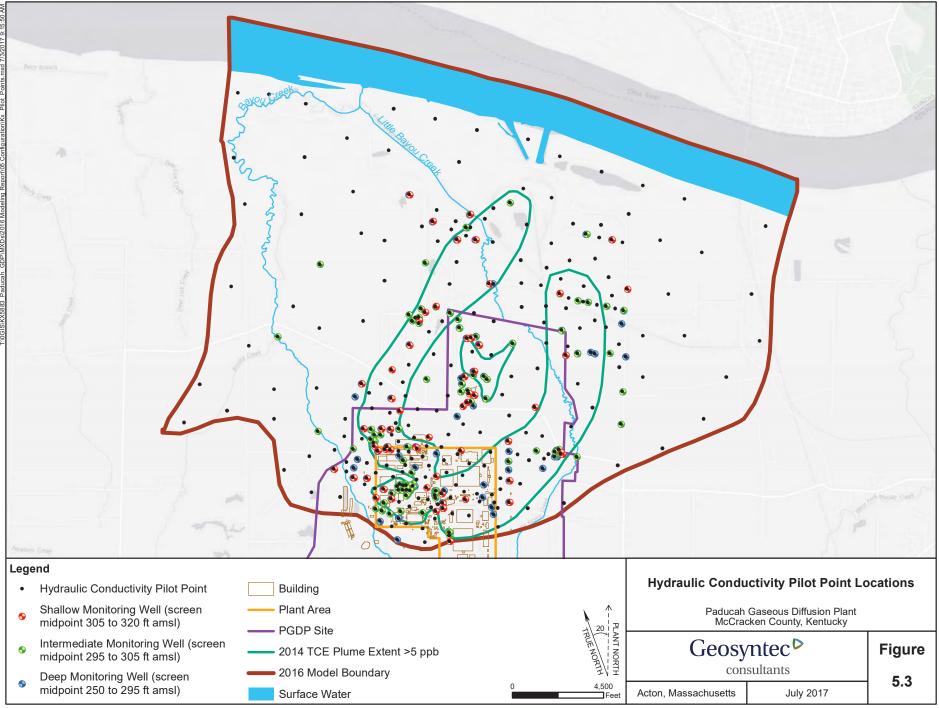
### 5.3.1 Hydraulic Conductivity Zonation

Horizontal and vertical hydraulic conductivity distribution within the model domain was determined using pilot-points (Doherty 2015). To implement the technique, pilot points are located within the model domain and assigned initial, minimum, and maximum hydraulic conductivity values. Automated model calibration adjusts the pilot points between the minimum and maximum hydraulic conductivity values using nonlinear regression techniques. Kriging is used to interpolate hydraulic conductivities between the points for each pilot point modification. The "calibrated" hydraulic conductivity configuration is the continuous hydraulic conductivity field that produces the best match with the calibration targets. For this application, the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity ratio was assumed constant at 10:1.

Pilot points can be assigned locations and initial hydraulic conductivity values corresponding to well location and aquifer test results, respectively. For this application, pilot points were located where pumping tests had been conducted and assigned initial, minimum, and maximum hydraulic conductivity values corresponding to the pumping test results (Figure 5.2).

Pilot points were used to determine hydraulic conductivity distribution in model layers 1 through 3 at locations absent of pumping test results (Figure 5.3). Greater pilot point density was used in the plant area





Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

and within the groundwater plumes to allow for more detailed discretization of hydraulic conductivity in these areas. Pilot points were assigned at target locations in accordance with the following guidance described by Doherty (2016):

- Good spread throughout the domain extending to model boundaries;
- Not too close unless in area of disparate field measurements;
- Between boreholes with substantial head differences; and
- Locations at which key model predictions are most sensitive to calibrated value.

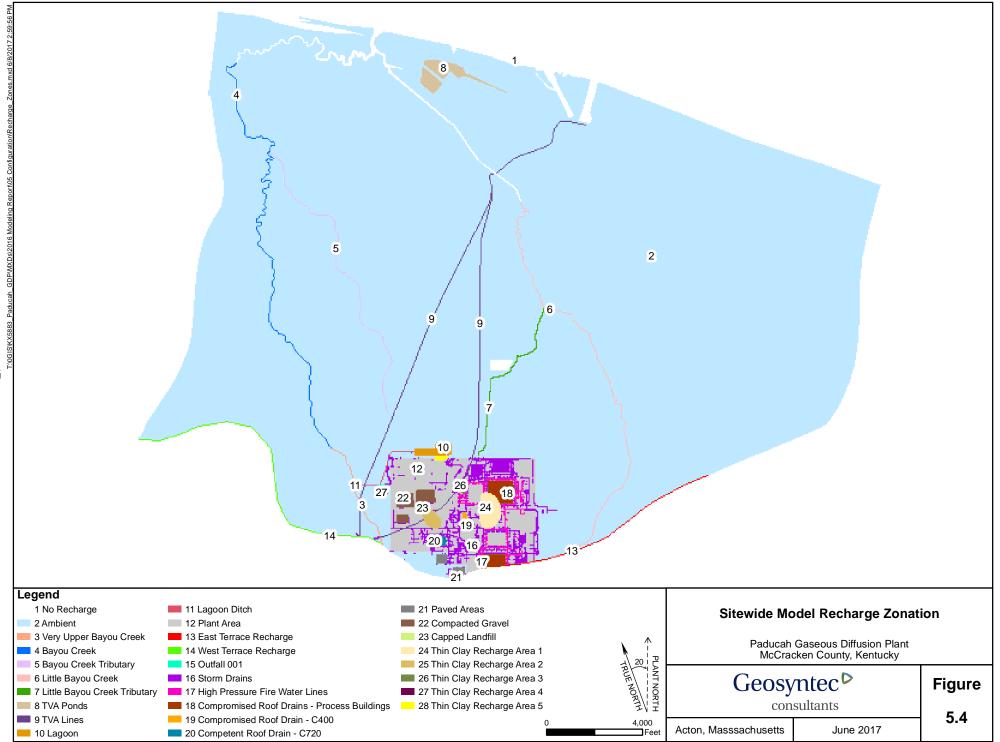
These guidelines were applied to layer 1 for the full set of calibration targets regardless of layer. Then the same locations were copied to layers 2 and 3 resulting in a total of 1,041 pilot points. In model layers 1 through 3, pilot points other than those with aquifer test results were assigned initial horizontal hydraulic conductivity values of 300 ft/day and constrained to minimum and maximum values of 100 ft/day and 3,600 ft/day outside the plant area and 100 ft/day to 1,500 ft/day in the plant area. The different constraints inside versus outside the plant area are based on pumping test results that indicate hydraulic conductivities less than 1,500 ft/day at test locations inside and near the plant area and hydraulic conductivities as high as 3,600 ft/day at test locations outside the plant area (Figure 5.2). Initial values are adjusted within the maximum and minimum value during the calibration process. Initial vertical hydraulic conductivities were assumed to be one-tenth of the initial horizontal hydraulic conductivity estimates.

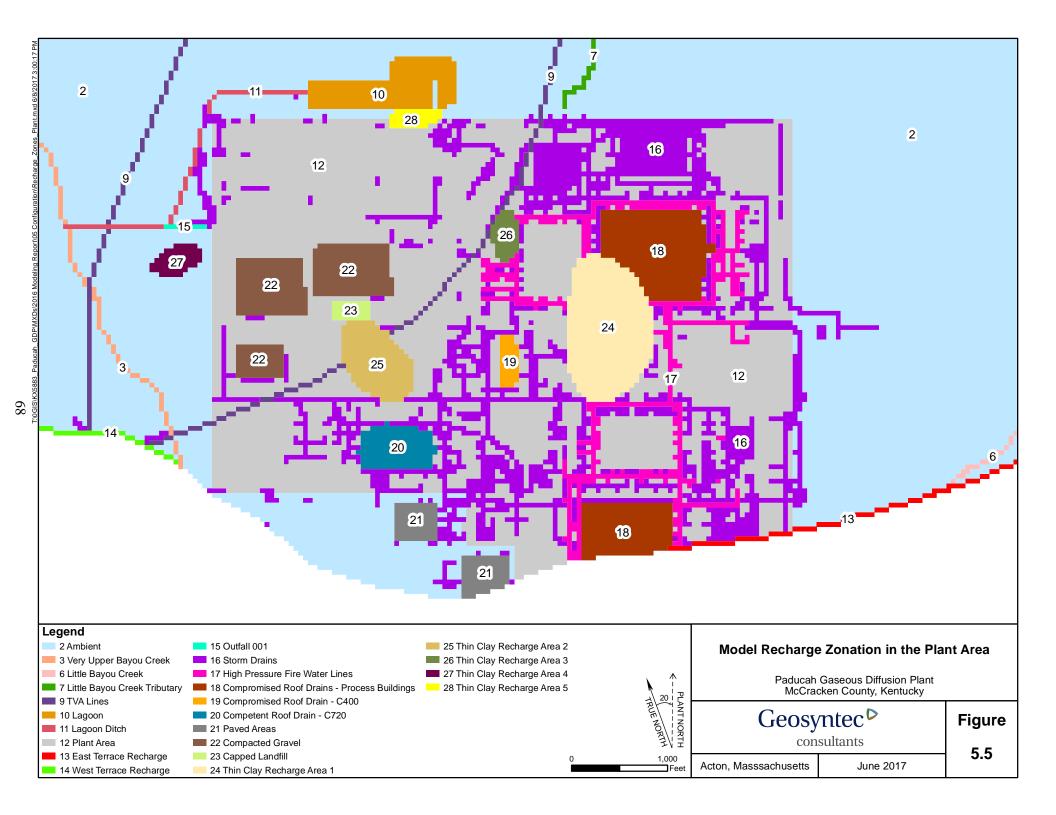
#### 5.3.2 Recharge Zonation

Both recharge from precipitation and anthropogenic recharge are represented in the model. To incorporate inflow from the Terrace, estimated total flow (see Section 3.2) was assigned to cells along the southern model boundary. Additionally, creek recharge in the upper reaches of BC and LBC in the PGDP Hydrologic Basin are represented in the model using recharge cells. The basis for specifying recharge in the upper reaches of the creeks is based on studies indicating the primary source of flow in the upper reaches of the creeks originates as process effluent or surface water runoff from the PGDP Site and minimal exchange occurs between shallow groundwater and adjacent ditches on the PGDP Site (DOE 2008b). Additionally, a study of BC and LBC conducted between 1996 and 1998 concluded that both creeks tend to gain flow where they are incised into the RGA or contiguous strata in the Ohio River flood plain, BC gains flow upstream of PGDP, and the remaining reaches of both creeks tend to lose flow (Fryar et al. 2000). While there are no springs near the PGDP site, seeps are present over a limited stretch of LBC near the Ohio River where the hydraulic potential within the RGA exceeds the elevation of the creek (DOE 2008c). Recharge zonation for the model domain and within the plant area is illustrated on Figures 5.4 and 5.5.

Recharge associated with precipitation (Zone 2) was assigned to all cells except those containing surface water and anthropogenic features. Open areas within the plant area, which also could be considered as ambient recharge, were assigned to Zone 12. The cells representing the Ohio River and lower reaches of BC and LBC were assigned a zero recharge rate (Zone 1). This was done because water falling on the surface water bodies in contact with the RGA does not enter the groundwater flow system. Recharge from precipitation was assigned an initial value of 5.14 inches/year and minimum and maximum allowable values of 2.64 inches/year and 7.64 inches/year.

The creeks were simulated with multiple recharge zones to allow for different recharge rates during calibration. BC was assigned three zones to represent the upper most reach receiving plant discharge (Zone 3), BC (Zone 4), and its tributary (Zone 5). LBC was assigned Zone 6 and its tributary was assigned Zone 7. It was assumed that the recharge from the creeks would not be less than ambient recharge; therefore, the minimum recharge constraint for the creeks was set to 7.64 inches/year. The maximum





constraint for creek recharge was set to 40 inches/year, based on the median UCRS hydraulic conductivity presented in Table 3.5 and the assumption of 70% clay/silt as a representative value for the UCRS.

Initially, the geometric mean hydraulic conductivity presented in Table 3.5 was used for determination of maximum recharge constraints based on lithology; however, the constraints were adjusted to the median hydraulic conductivity following initial calibration runs in which the majority of recharge zones were estimated to be a value equal to the maximum calibration constraint by PEST.

To simulate anthropogenic recharge, distinct zones were assigned to man-made features based on a review of the following information (summarized in Section 3.3): plant operations, UCRS lithology, potentiometric surface, and plume delineation. Specific man-made features include the TVA ponds (Zone 8), TVA water supply lines (Zone 9), the C-616 lagoon (Zone 10) and drainage ditch (Zone 11), and Outfall 001 (Zone 15). Within the main plant area anthropogenic recharge was simulated with multiple zones corresponding to storm water piping (Zone 16), HPFW piping (Zone 17), roof drains (Zones 18 and 19), the reported leak in the TVA supply line (Zone 9), and areas identified with less than 2 ft of clay at the top of the RGA (HU3) (Zones 24 through 28). The recharge areas for the storm water and HPFW piping zones were based on the location of the piping systems illustrated on Figure 3.11. All the anthropogenic recharge zones were assumed to have recharge values greater than ambient; therefore, the minimum recharge constraint for the anthropogenic recharge zones was set to 7.64 inches/year. The maximum recharge constraint for all anthropogenic recharge zones was based on the evaluation of UCRS lithology. With the exception of the thin clay zones, the maximum recharge constraint for the anthropogenic recharge zones was set to 40 inches/year, as was done for recharge to the creeks. For the thin clay zones, the maximum recharge constraint was set to 83 inches/year, which is based on the median UCRS hydraulic conductivity and the minimum percentage of clay/silt observed in the plant area (Table 3.5).

In addition to the enhanced anthropogenic recharge zones described above, several zones of reduced recharge were assigned to anthropogenic features. Namely, the competent roof drain of the C-720 building (Zone 20), paved areas (Zone 21), compacted gravel (Zone 22), and the C-404 capped landfill (Zone 23). The area of competent roof drains is expected to have minimal recharge due to effective drainage to storm water ditches, and Zones 21 through 22 are expected to have minimal recharge due to their relatively low permeability. The initial recharge value for these four reduced recharge zones was set to 0.001 inch/year, with a minimum constraint of 10-6 inch/year and a maximum constraint of 1 inch/year.

Groundwater flow from the Terrace along the East and West Terrace Basins were assigned to cells along the southern model boundary in Zones 13 and 14, respectively. Based on the estimated maximum annual average underflow presented in Table 3.2, the maximum recharge constraints for the Terrace recharge cells were set to 764 inches/year and 392 inches/year for the East and West Terrace Basins, respectively. The estimated minimum seasonal underflow for September was used as the minimum recharge constraint so that dry season conditions could be better represented by the model. Accordingly, the minimum recharge constraints set for the East and West Terrace basins were 45.6 inches/year and 23.4 inches/year, respectively.

Recharge zone values were determined during calibration. To allow for variation of recharge rates over the model simulation periods, Zones from the first stress period were duplicated in subsequent stress periods and assigned the zonation numbers that increase incrementally by 100 for each stress period.

For example the recharge area assigned to Zone 12 in stress period 1 is assigned to Zone 112 in stress period 2, allowing variable rates to be calibrated for each steady-state stress period.

# 5.3.3 Storage and Porosity

Specific storage is only specified for the transient calibration (see Section 6.9) and was assigned a value of 0.0002 ft<sup>-1</sup>. Using an approximate RGA thickness of 30 ft, this translates to a storativity of 0.006. Porosity within the model domain was assigned a uniform value of 30%.

# 6. MODEL CALIBRATION

Model calibration was performed using PEST (Version 13.6) and PEST-SVD Assist coupled with pilot points (Doherty 2015; Doherty 2016). PEST, from which PEST-SVD Assist is developed, is a parameter estimation code that automatically determines the best parameter values for a model as configured. Parameters are model input values, such as hydraulic conductivity and recharge, and are adjusted during model calibration. Using pilot points, the PEST auto calibration determines "best fit" parameter distributions for the model given specific boundary configurations and target values. For this application, pilot points were used to assign hydraulic conductivity. The model is configured to simulate steady-state conditions.

While the underlying mathematics comprising parameter estimation and pilot points is complex, the concept behind the parameter estimation algorithm is simple and is identical to the thought process used with traditional trial-and-error calibration, which is, find the combination of parameters that results in the smallest difference between observed and model-predicted water levels, flow directions, and groundwater discharges.

During the calibration process, hydraulic conductivity and recharge parameters were constrained and PEST results were interpreted and parameter constraints were revised to be consistent with the CSM and expected parameter ranges based on analysis of site data as described in Section 3. This process of PEST calibration, followed by parameter adjustment informed by the CSM, was used to iterate to the final calibration.

#### 6.1 CALIBRATION STRESS PERIODS

As described in Section 3.4, a total of five stress periods were identified as suitable for the steady-state model calibration based on available groundwater elevation, precipitation, and Ohio River stage data. For the model described herein, a two-stress period model simulating pre-pumping groundwater conditions in 1995 (Stress Period 1; SP1) and steady-state groundwater conditions in September 2014 (Stress Period 2; SP2) was used for calibration. The inclusion of the 1995 data set is necessary because it includes trajectory targets along the full length of the plume under non-pumping conditions, which is necessary to simulate flow path direction (consistent with previous modeling efforts in 2008 and 2012). The September 2014 data set was chosen because it is representative of steady-state conditions, and precipitation in 2014 was approximately the same as the average annual precipitation calculated from 1995 to 2016 for each year for which water level data were available (see Figure 3.15). This calibration effort builds upon previous efforts of the 2012 model which included the use of up to seven stress periods.

#### 6.2 CALIBRATION TARGETS

Model calibration requires targets as bench marks for evaluating the reliability of the model results. The following calibration targets were derived from site data collected during the model simulation period from 1995 to 2014:

- Monitoring well groundwater elevation targets;
- Flux targets from seepage measurements in LBC;
- Hydraulic conductivity derived from pumping tests; and
- Flow direction or trajectory targets from plume flow paths.

This section describes the calibration targets used in the model and the process undertaken in selecting the targets.

# 6.2.1 Water Level Elevation Targets

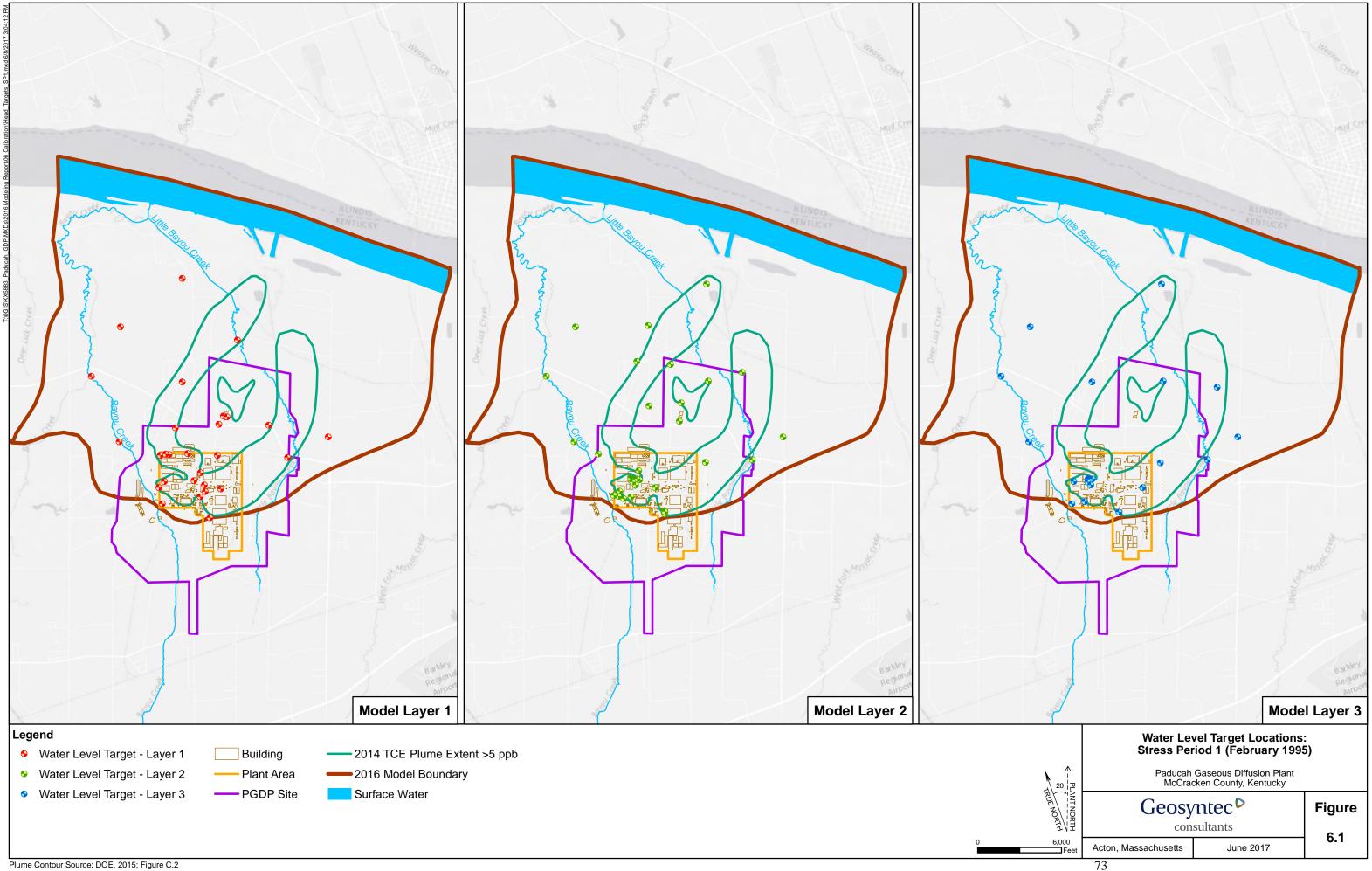
Water level elevations measured during synoptic water level measurement events within both of the steady-state stress periods were used as calibration targets. The 1995 water level dataset was used for SP1 primarily because it occurred prior to initiating pumping of the extraction wells in August 1995 and includes measurements from 76 monitoring wells. As site investigations continued, the number of monitoring wells increased. The September 2014 measurement period was selected for SP2 to represent steady-state conditions with the current extraction systems in operation (i.e., pumping from EW231 and EW232 in the Northwest Plume and from EW331 and EW332 in the Northeast Plume) and includes 206 monitoring wells. The locations of the targets within each model layer are presented in Figures 6.1 and 6.2 for SP1 and SP2, respectively. Target values are listed in Appendix C. Note that in some locations where target density was sparse and monitoring wells were present in a single layer, the target for that well was included in all layers. These wells are annotated in Appendix C [e.g., MW194\_(L2toL1)] to indicate that the value was added from another layer.

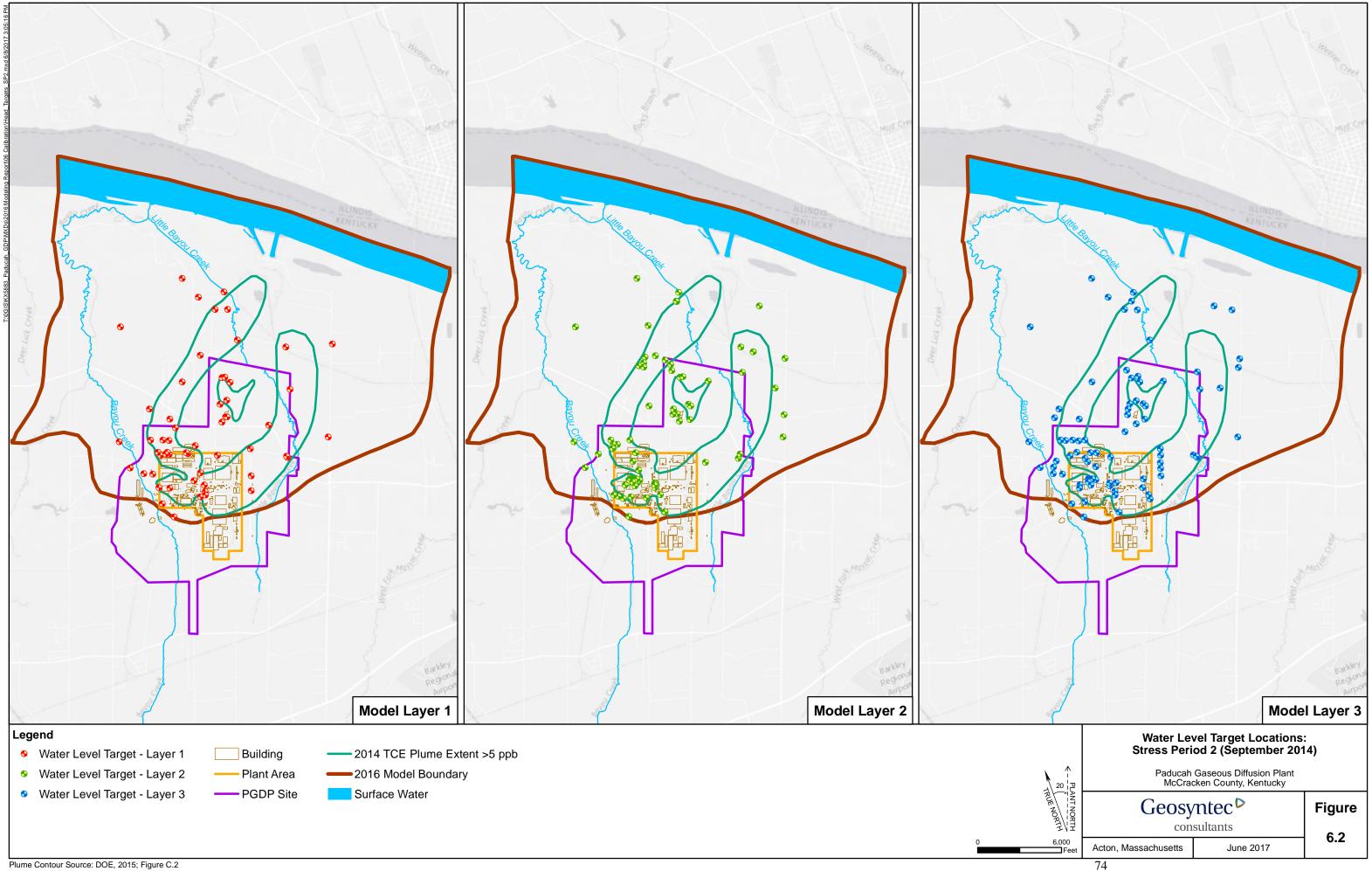
Water level elevation targets were assigned a weight of one based on their measurement accuracy relative to other target types used in the calibration. The weight is related ideally to the inverse of the measurement error. Hence, a target with a large measurement error would be assigned a small weight relative to a target with a lower measurement error. The use of weights facilitates meaningful comparison of dissimilar target types, such as water level and flux targets.

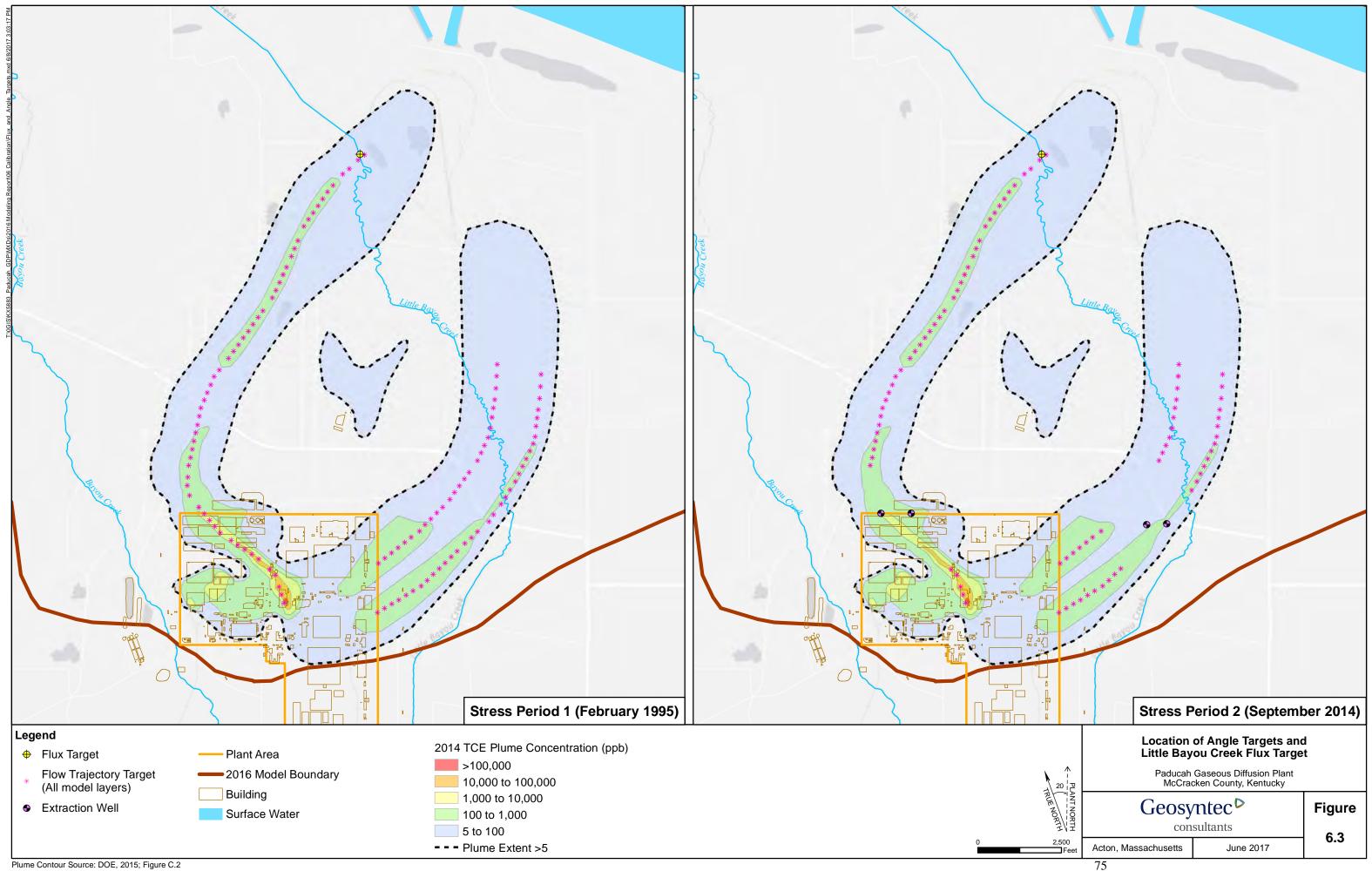
# 6.2.2 Flux Targets

A flux target of 14,850 ft<sup>3</sup>/day (77.1 gpm) was assigned to the river cell at the top of river reach 2 in LBC in both stress periods (Figure 6.3). This target value is in line with ranges provided by Tripathi and Fryar (USGS 2013). Flux measurements are at a different scale than water level measurements. For example, a 1-ft difference in water levels represents a different degree of accuracy than a 1 ft<sup>3</sup>/day difference in flux. Based on experience, matching the flux target within a value of approximately 50% would be considered a good match. To keep the flux target from dominating the calibration, the target was assigned a weight of 0.003, which, when multiplied by the difference between the predicted and target flux values, produced a weighted target difference of between 45 and 139 (unitless) if the predicted flux value in ft<sup>3</sup>/day reaches the extreme calculated values of either the estimated minimum of 0 ft<sup>3</sup>/day (0 gpm) or the maximum flux of 61,411 ft<sup>3</sup>/day (319 gpm). Selection of the weighted difference is entirely arbitrary and is based on professional judgment. See Section 7.1.2 of the 2010 report on the 2008 GW Model Update for additional discussion about the interpretation of weighted differences (DOE 2010).

The groundwater discharge to the Ohio River was estimated to be in the range of 228 gpm to 8,218 gpm based on Darcy's Law and estimated values for hydraulic conductivity (100 ft/day to 3,600 ft/day), hydraulic gradient ( $4.4 \times 10^{-4}$  ft/ft), RGA aquifer thickness (35 ft), and Ohio River length (28,535 ft) (DOE 2010, Section 4.8.1). Initially, a flux target for the Ohio River was included in the calibration process, but due to the wide range of estimated values and uncertainty regarding the estimated target value, a minimal weighting factor was applied such that the target provided minimal contribution to the objective function. Consequently, the Ohio River flux was excluded as a target in subsequent calibration efforts in lieu of evaluating flux to the Ohio River in the post-calibration review of mass balance.







Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

### 6.2.3 Angle (Trajectory) Calibration Targets

Angle targets along the centerline of the Northwest Plume and Northeast Plume cores, delineated by TCE concentrations greater than 100  $\mu$ g/L (ppb), were assigned in each steady-state stress period. Northwest Plume trajectory targets were located by digitizing along a line coincident with the core of the plume starting at C-400 Building going northward to LBC. Northeast Plume trajectory targets were located by digitizing along the plume cores from the eastern fence line of the plant area and approximately 5,000 ft beyond LBC to capture the change in plume alignment from northeast to a more northerly direction. For the 2014 stress period, trajectory targets were removed near pumping wells. The total number of angle targets assigned in SP1 and SP2 is 357 and 261, respectively. Angle targets were assigned a weight of 0.1 based on preliminary calibration results that indicated that this value provided a satisfactory balance between matching angle targets and water level targets.

#### 6.2.4 Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points

Pilot points were assigned to model layers 1 through 3 as described in Section 5.3.1. During the automated calibration process, horizontal hydraulic conductivity was estimated at each pilot point. These values were then spatially interpolated to the model grid using ordinary kriging to provide a continuous hydraulic conductivity field. To add stability to the parameter estimation process, PEST was run in preferred value regularization mode. In other words, PEST added the initial pilot point hydraulic conductivity values to the regression analysis as targets such that estimates that stray far from the initial values are penalized in the algorithm. To keep the pilot point residuals from dominating the regression analysis, PEST calculated a pilot point weighting factor such that the contribution to the objective function from the hydraulic conductivity residuals at pilot points is minimized compared to the contribution from observed calibration target residuals. Refer to the PEST User Manual (Version 13.6) for additional details on the regularization process.

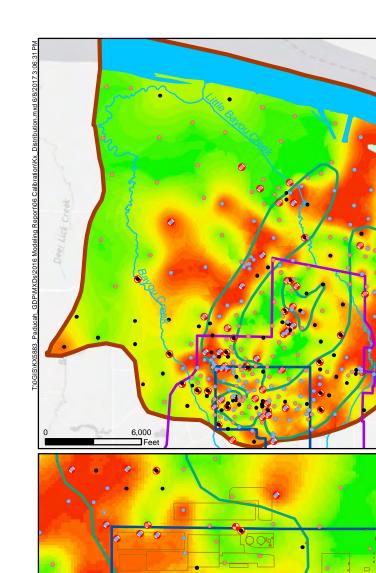
### 6.3 **PEST**

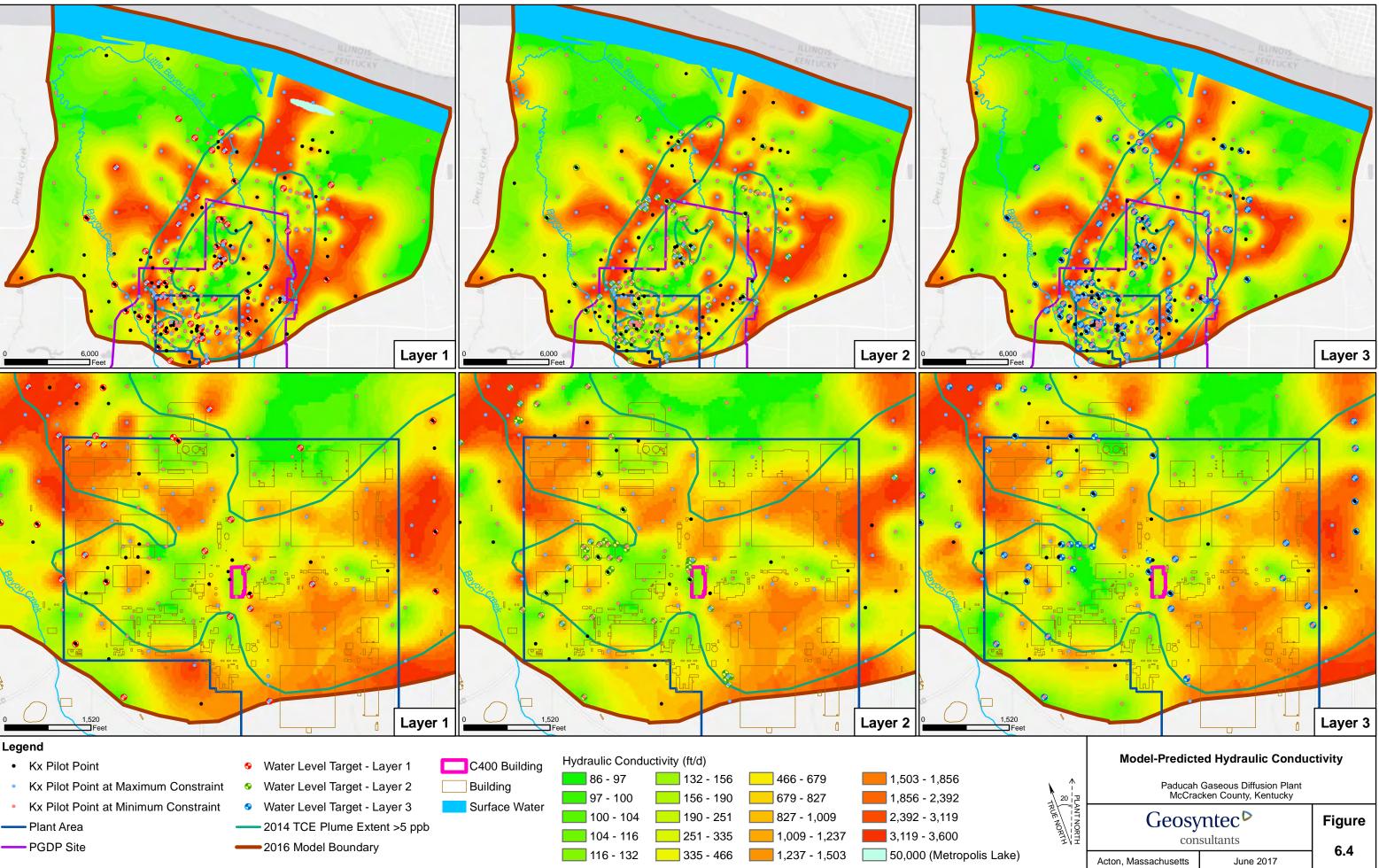
#### 6.3.1 Parameter Sensitivities

During calibration using PEST, composite parameter sensitivities were reviewed periodically to determine the relative sensitivity of the parameters being estimated. In general, parameters with sensitivities within two orders of magnitude of the most sensitive parameter can be estimated with reasonable accuracy during the calibration (Hill 1998). It may or may not be possible to estimate accurately the parameter values for parameters having sensitivities within two to three orders of magnitude of the most sensitive parameter. Sensitivities that are more than three orders of magnitude less sensitive than the most sensitive parameter cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy. Scaled composite sensitivities relative to the most sensitive parameter were reviewed during the calibration process, and final relative composite scaled sensitivities are presented in Section 6.6.

#### 6.3.2 Estimated Hydraulic Conductivity and Transmissivity Values

The estimated horizontal hydraulic conductivity distributions for model layers 1 through 3 are shown in Figure 6.4. Predicted pilot point hydraulic conductivity values range between 86 ft/day and 3,600 ft/day and average 1,201 ft/day. Within the plant area, pilot point hydraulic conductivity values range between 86 ft/day and 1,500 ft/day and average 743 ft/day. Summary statistics are compiled in Table 6.1. The average hydraulic conductivity across the model domain (interpolated at each grid block and excluding Metropolis Lake) is 622 ft/day. In general, higher hydraulic conductivities are predicted east and west of the plant area extending toward the north to the Ohio River with relatively lower hydraulic conductivities





Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

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Hydraulic Conductivity (ft/day)	All Layers	Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	
All Hydrau	ılic Conductivit	y Pilot Points			
Average	1,201	1,201	1,196	1,208	
Median	311	312	355	232	
Geometric Mean	450	453	454	444	
Standard Deviation	1,409	1,404	1,403	1,420	
Maximum	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	
Minimum	86	86	96	96	
Range	3,514	3,514	3,504	3,504	
Number of Pilot Points	1,041	347	347	347	
Plant Area Hy	draulic Conduc	tivity Pilot Po	ints		
Average	743	739	757	734	
Median	467	489	447	447	
Geometric Mean	401	400	406	399	
Standard Deviation	649	644	658	645	
Maximum	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	
Minimum	86	86	96	96	
Range	1,414	1,414	1,404	1,404	
Number of Pilot Points	253	84	84	85	
Model Dor	nain Hydraulic	Conductivity	-		
Average	622	672	629	566	
Median	217	210	237	205	
Geometric Mean	312	326	324	287	
Standard Deviation	835	903	814	779	
Maximum	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	
Minimum	86	86	86	86	
Range	3,514	3,514	3,514	3,514	
Number of Domain Model Cells	658,557	219,121	219,718	219,718	

 Table 6.1. Calibrated Hydraulic Conductivity

 Statistics—Pilot Points and Model Domain

Note: Metropolis Lake excluded from model domain statistics.

predicted beneath the plant area. The contrast between relatively higher and lower hydraulic conductivity generally is aligned with the plume trajectories and is a result of the PEST calibration process to minimize calibration target residuals (i.e., flow direction, water level, flux, hydraulic conductivity pilot points). The hydraulic conductivity distribution is consistent with hydraulic conductivity estimated from pumping tests indicating values from 107 ft/day to 1,175 ft/day in the plant area and 925 ft/day to 3,580 ft/day north and east of the plant area (Figure 5.2) and previous modeling efforts indicating similar contrast in hydraulic conductivity necessary to match site conditions as defined by the calibration targets.

Metropolis Lake is a surface water feature that represents the intersection of land surface and the water table. As such, Metropolis Lake is an area of both groundwater recharge and discharge. The recharge (inflow) equals discharge (outflow) so the lake's contribution to the groundwater flow system is neutral. In the model, Metropolis Lake was configured in layer 1 by assigning a hydraulic conductivity value of 50,000 ft/day to the area corresponding to the lake. Use of a high hydraulic conductivity value results in a near horizontal water table (lake surface) in the feature that can move up and down during the calibration process and remain neutral with respect to the groundwater mass balance.

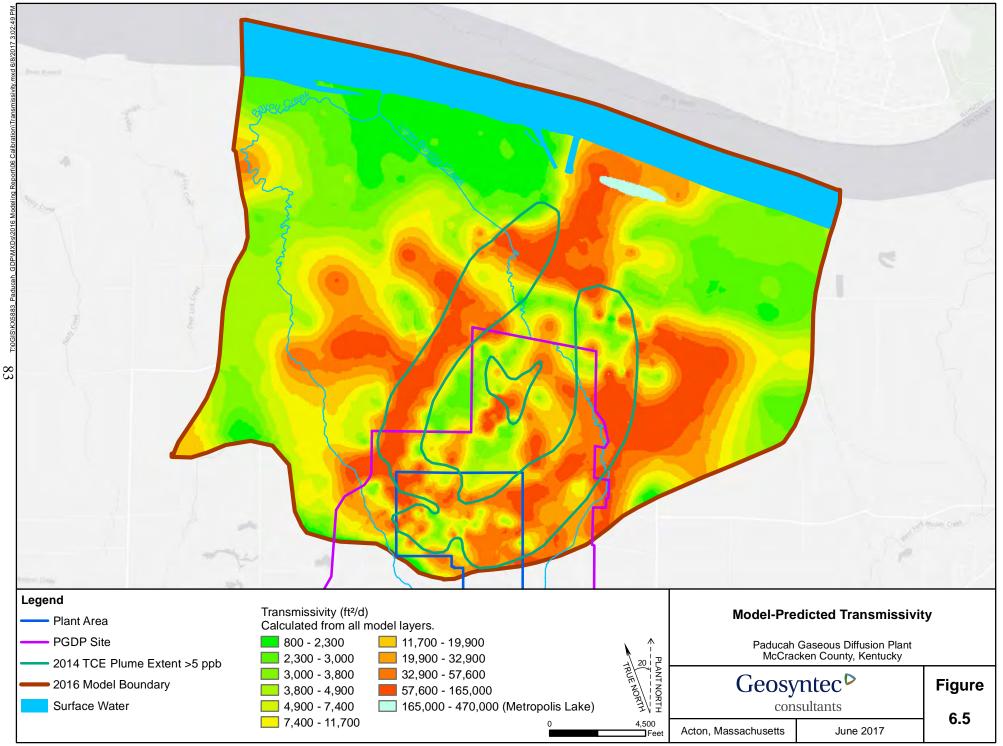
Transmissivity is a term used to describe the permeability of a thickness of sediments. The transmissivity of the PGDP Hydrologic Basin was calculated by multiplying the layer predicted hydraulic conductivity values (Figure 6.4) by the layer thickness (Figure 3.4) and then summing the individual transmissivities of the three layers (Figure 6.5). In general, lower transmissivity areas are located along the Ohio River west of the TVA intake canals and east of Metropolis Lake and north of the plant area between the Northwest and Northeast Plumes. Transmissivity in the plant area is relatively lower compared to the area within the Northeast and Northwest Plumes and the area to the north of the plumes. The contrast of relatively high and low transmissivity aligned with the Northeast and Northwest Plumes is consistent with site data and necessary to match calibration targets, especially flow direction targets.

### 6.3.3 Estimated Recharge Values

Estimated recharge values for the calibrated model are summarized in Table 6.2 and illustrated on Figures 6.6 and 6.7. The process for calibrating recharge was iterative and relied on knowledge of relative composite sensitivities and intuitive knowledge based on the historical land use, plant operations, and the CSM. Recharge values estimated by PEST were evaluated following the automated calibration process, and limited manual calibration was performed to adjust values that approached their calibration constraints or otherwise seemed inconsistent with expected site conditions. The manual adjustments generally did not appreciably change the simulated flow directions or the calibration to flux and water level targets.

The predicted recharge rates for precipitation recharge estimated for SP1 and SP2 are 3.63 inches/year and 4.29 inches/year, respectively. These values comprise 8.0% and 9.5% of the average annual precipitation rate of 45.1 inches/year estimated in Section 3.4. The higher precipitation recharge value for SP2 relative to SP1 is counterintuitive because the SP1 calibration dataset was collected during the rainy season whereas the SP2 calibration dataset was collected during the dry season. The apparent inconsistency may be attributable to the non-steady-state conditions that prevail in SP1.

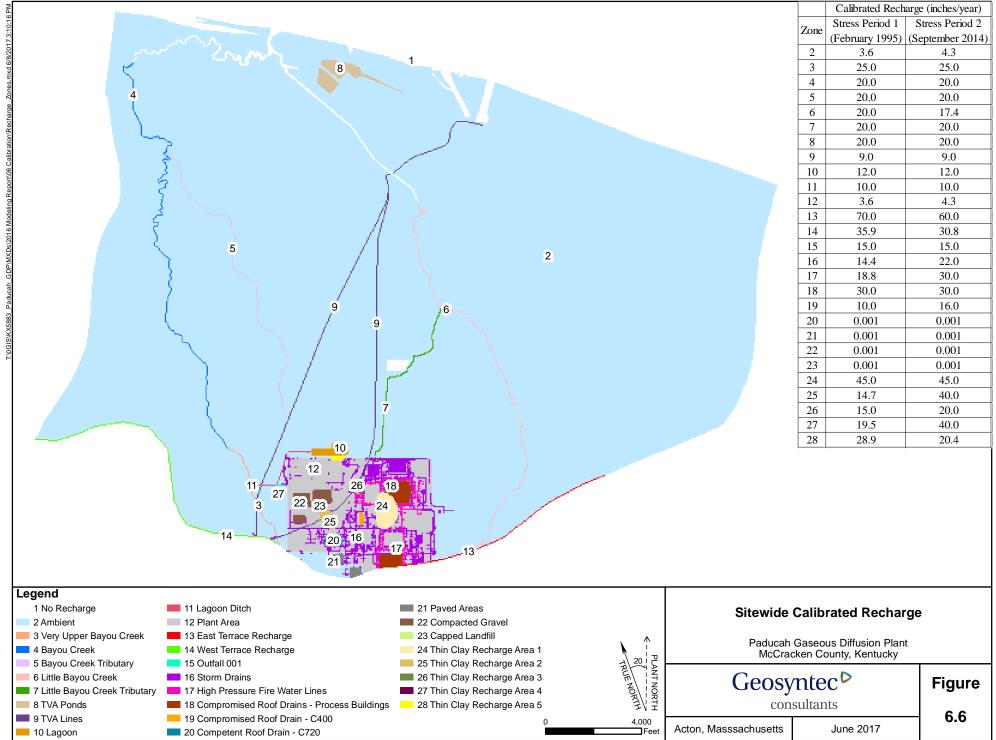
The creek recharge zones for LBC and BC tended to calibrate at either the maximum or minimum constraints during initial PEST runs. Manual adjustments were made to favor typical values (i.e., 20 inches/year) for creek recharge zones that had calibrated values at constraint limits. A somewhat higher value of 25 inches/year was assigned to very upper BC to account for the additional inputs expected from the plant area for that stretch of the creek.

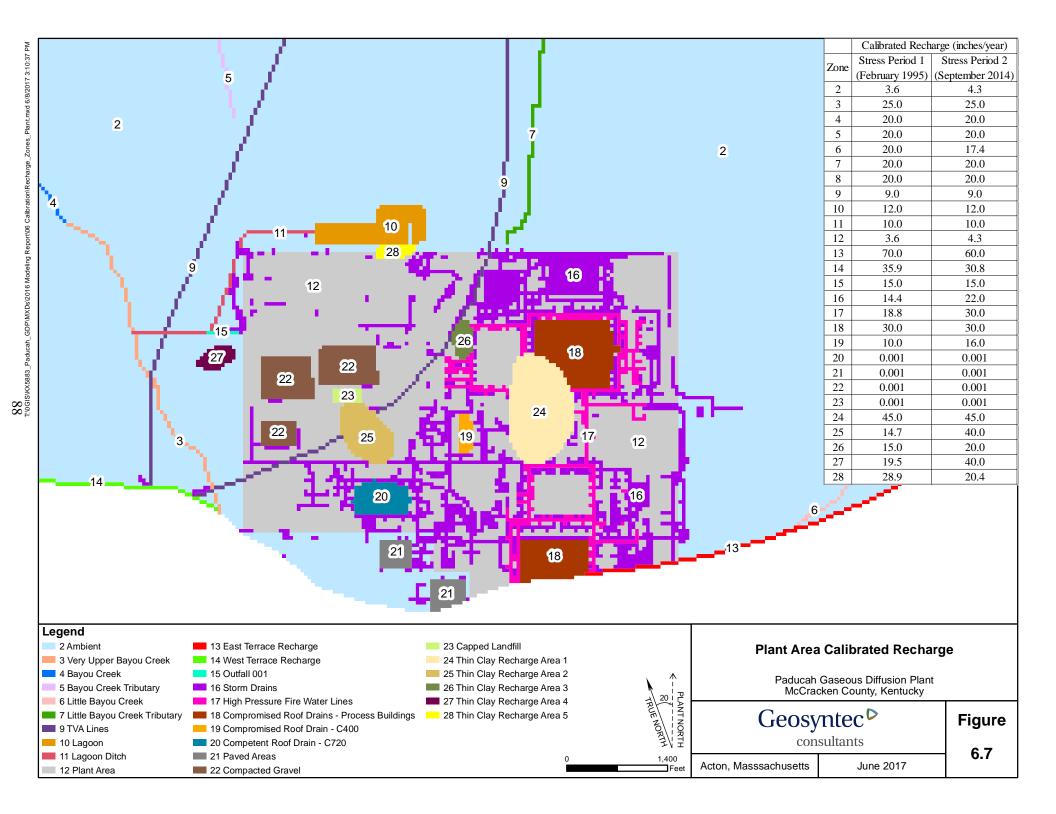


Elevation Data Source: Hydro-Litho-Stratigraphy Database, Revision 8, CAER KCREE 2016 Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

#### Table 6.2. Calibrated Recharge Rates

		Units in Feet per Day					Units in Inches per Year						
				Initial F	Recharge	Calibrated Recharge			Initial Recharge		Recharge	Calibrated Recharge	
Zone	Model Parameter	Minimum Constraint	Maximum Constraint	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	Minimum Constraint	Maximum Constraint	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)
2	Ambient	6.00E-04	1.74E-03	8.41E-04	9.92E-04	8.30E-04	9.80E-04	2.6	7.6	3.7	4.3	3.6	4.3
3	Very Upper Bayou Creek	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	5.71E-03	5.71E-03	5.71E-03	5.71E-03	7.6	40.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
4	Bayou Creek	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	7.6	40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
5	Bayou Creek Tributary	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	7.6	40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
6	Little Bayou Creek	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.57E-03	3.97E-03	4.57E-03	3.97E-03	7.6	40.0	20.0	17.4	20.0	17.4
7	Little Bayou Creek Tributary	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	7.6	40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
8	TVA Ponds	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	4.57E-03	7.6	40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
9	TVA Lines	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	2.06E-03	2.06E-03	2.06E-03	2.06E-03	7.6	40.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
10	Lagoon	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	2.74E-03	2.74E-03	2.74E-03	2.74E-03	7.6	40.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
11	Lagoon Ditch	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	2.28E-03	2.28E-03	2.28E-03	2.28E-03	7.6	40.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
12	Plant Area	6.00E-04	1.74E-03	8.41E-04	9.92E-04	8.30E-04	9.80E-04	2.6	7.6	3.7	4.3	3.6	4.3
13	East Terrace Recharge	1.04E-02	1.74E-01	1.60E-02	1.37E-02	1.60E-02	1.37E-02	45.6	763.8	70.0	60.0	70.0	60.0
14	West Terrace Recharge	5.34E-03	8.95E-02	8.20E-03	7.03E-03	8.20E-03	7.03E-03	23.4	392.0	35.9	30.8	35.9	30.8
15	Outfall 001	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	3.43E-03	3.43E-03	3.43E-03	3.43E-03	7.6	40.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
16	Storm Drains	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	3.29E-03	5.02E-03	3.29E-03	5.02E-03	7.6	40.0	14.4	22.0	14.4	22.0
17	High Pressure Fire Water Lines	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	4.29E-03	6.85E-03	4.29E-03	6.85E-03	7.6	40.0	18.8	30.0	18.8	30.0
18	Compromised Roof Drains - Process Buildings	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	6.85E-03	6.85E-03	6.85E-03	6.85E-03	7.6	40.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
19	Compromised Roof Drains - C400	1.74E-03	9.13E-03	2.28E-03	3.66E-03	2.28E-03	3.66E-03	7.6	40.0	10.0	16.0	10.0	16.0
20	Competent Roof Drain - C720	2.28E-10	2.28E-04	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	1.00E-06	1.0	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
21	Paved Areas	2.28E-10	2.28E-04	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	1.00E-06	1.0	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
22	Compacted Gravel	2.28E-10	2.28E-04	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	1.00E-06	1.0	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
23	Capped Landfill	2.28E-10	2.28E-04	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	2.28E-07	1.00E-06	1.0	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
24	Enhanced Recharge at Thin Clay	1.74E-03	1.89E-02	1.03E-02	1.03E-02	1.03E-02	1.03E-02	7.6	83.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
25	Enhanced Recharge at Thin Clay	1.74E-03	1.89E-02	3.35E-03	9.13E-03	3.35E-03	9.13E-03	7.6	83.0	14.7	40.0	14.7	40.0
26	Enhanced Recharge at Thin Clay	1.74E-03	1.89E-02	3.43E-03	4.57E-03	3.43E-03	4.57E-03	7.6	83.0	15.0	20.0	15.0	20.0
27	Enhanced Recharge at Thin Clay	1.74E-03	1.89E-02	4.44E-03	9.13E-03	4.44E-03	9.13E-03	7.6	83.0	19.5	40.0	19.5	40.0
28	Enhanced Recharge at Thin Clay	1.74E-03	1.89E-02	6.61E-03	4.66E-03	6.61E-03	4.66E-03	7.6	83.0	28.9	20.4	28.9	20.4





The recharge zones representing the West and East Terrace basins were tied together during PEST runs to maintain a constant recharge ratio between the two basins. During manual calibration, Terrace recharge was adjusted so that it would be higher for SP1 than it is for SP2 to account for the expected seasonal difference between the two stress periods. The final estimated recharge rate from the East and West Terrace Basins (applied to the cells along the southern model boundary), is 70.0 inches/year and 35.9 inches/year for SP1 and 60.0 inches/year and 30.8 inches/year for SP2, respectively. In terms of groundwater discharge, flow from the Terrace Gravel along the East and West Terrace basins is estimated to be, respectively, 36 and 27 gpm for SP1 and 31 and 23 gpm for SP2.

Limited temporal variability was assumed for recharge in the TVA ponds and the lagoon because the operating conditions are expected to be constant with time, so recharge in these zones was not allowed to vary by stress period during PEST runs. Estimated recharge from the TVA ponds is 20 inches/year. Estimated recharge from losses along the TVA water supply lines is 9 inches/year. The lagoon and associated drainage ditch at the NW corner of the plant is estimated to contribute 12 and 9 inches/year, respectively. The TVA-associated recharge values have been adjusted for computational cell size, which is the reason why the thin, linear TVA water supply line recharge has a lower magnitude than the lagoon value.

In the plant area, open areas (Zone 12) were tied to the ambient precipitation recharge (Zone 2) because the two zones are expected to have similar recharge. The maximum constraint for anthropogenic recharge was specified at 83 inches/year based on Darcy calculations that use a unity vertical hydraulic gradient and median UCRS vertical hydraulic conductivity (see Section 3.3). The maximum model-estimated anthropogenic recharge rate is 45 inches/year and is associated with thin clay recharge area 1 (Zone 24). Initially the range of recharge values estimated with the geometric mean UCRS vertical hydraulic conductivity was specified as a maximum constraint (10 inches/year to 29 inches/year), but the model as configured required higher recharge values for calibration, as indicated by the majority of recharge zones being assigned a value equal to the maximum calibration constraint by PEST. Consequently, the maximum constraints were increased based on the range calculated with the median UCRS hydraulic conductivity (29 inches/year to 83 inches/year). The decision to use the median over the geometric mean was guided by the calibration. As models are non-unique, the calibrated recharge values could be lower if the model used other reasonable values of lower hydraulic conductivity.

Thin clay recharge area 1 (Zone 24) is coincident with the apparent groundwater divide identified in the plant area. The compromised roof drains for process buildings and HPFW system, which also are co-located with the apparent groundwater divide, similarly have high recharge rates relative to other anthropogenic recharge zones. Anthropogenic recharge rates tended to be higher in SP2 than SP1, consistent with the notion that more leaks would occur as infrastructure ages. The calibration was insensitive in areas with minimal recharge (i.e., paved areas, compacted gravel, capped landfills, and competent roof drains). PEST simulation estimates did not exhibit much variability in the recharge rate for these zones, and ultimately recharge was set at a fixed value of 0.001 inch/year for all low magnitude recharge zones. The calibrated recharge distribution in the plant area is consistent with the qualitative recharge estimates reported in Section 3.3 and Section 4.

#### 6.4 MASS BALANCE

The model-predicted mass balance is summarized for each recharge/discharge feature by stress period and presented in Table 6.3. The greatest source (approximately 81%) of recharge to the PGDP Hydrologic Basin is from precipitation. Anthropogenic recharge contributes approximately 13% to 14% of the total inflow to the hydrologic basin. Approximately 3% of the total basin inflow is contributed by creek

#### Table 6.3. Calibrated Mass Balance

		Units in ft <sup>3</sup> /day Units in GPM		in GPM	Percent		
Description	Zone, Reach, Well	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)
Cells with No Recharge	1	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Ambient	2	376,571	444,620	1,956	2,310	78.9%	79.1%
Very Upper Bayou Creek	3	1,241	1,241	6	6	0.3%	0.2%
Bayou Creek	4	4,669	4,669	24	24	1.0%	0.8%
Bayou Creek Tributary	5	2,922	2,922	15	15	0.6%	0.5%
Little Bayou Creek	6	4,098	3,566	21	19	0.9%	0.6%
Little Bayou Creek Tributary	7	2,066	2,066	11	11	0.4%	0.4%
TVA Ponds	8	7,169	7,169	37	37	1.5%	1.3%
TVA Water Lines	9	3,565	3,565	19	19	0.7%	0.6%
Lagoon	10	1,685	1,685	9	9	0.4%	0.3%
Lagoon Ditch	11	365	365	2	2	0.1%	0.1%
Plant Area	12	11,755	13,879	61	72	2.5%	2.5%
East Terrace Basin	13	6,872	5,891	36	31	1.4%	1.0%
West Terrace Basin	14	5,163	4,426	27	23	1.1%	0.8%
Outfall 001	15	77	77	0.4	0.4	0.0%	0.0%
Storm Drains	16	19,325	29,485	100	153	4.0%	5.2%
High Pressure Fire Water	17	5,322	8,493	28	44	1.1%	1.5%
Compromised Roof Drains-Process Buidlings	18	9,537	9,537	50	50	2.0%	1.7%
Compromised Roof Drain-C-400	19	234	375	1	2	0.0%	0.1%
Competent Roof Drain-C-720	20	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Paved Areas	21	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Compacted Gravel	22	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Capped Landfill	23	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Thin Clay Recharge Area 1	24	11,558	11,558	60	60	2.4%	2.1%
Thin Clay Recharge Area 2	25	1,581	4,315	8	22	0.3%	0.8%
Thin Clay Recharge Area 3	26	445	594	2	3	0.1%	0.1%
Thin Clay Recharge Area 4	27	611	1,256	3	7	0.1%	0.2%
Thin Clay Recharge Area 5	28	644	454	3	2	0.1%	0.1%
Extraction Well 232	EX232	0	-21,175	0	-110	0.0%	-3.8%
Extraction Well 233	EX233	0	-21,175	0	-110	0.0%	-3.8%
Extraction Well 331	EX331	0	-16,940	0	-88	0.0%	-3.0%
Extraction Well 332	EX332	0	-19,828	0	-103	0.0%	-3.5%
Ohio River Boundary Condition	Riv1	-368,079	-370,531	-1,912	-1,925	-77.1%	-65.9%
Little Bayou Creek Boundary Condition	Riv2	-14,956	-14,798	-78	-77	-3.1%	-2.6%
Little Bayou Creek Boundary Condition	Riv3	-71,437	-72,209	-371	-375	-15.0%	-12.8%
Bayou Creek Boundary Condition	Riv4	-18,595	-20,057	-97	-104	-3.9%	-3.6%
Bayou Creek Boundary Condition	Riv5	-4,410	-5,497	-23	-29	-0.9%	-1.0%
	Total In	477,477	562,208	2,480	2,920	100.0%	100.0%
	Total Out	-477,477	-562,209	-2,480	-2,920	-100.0%	-100.0%

recharge and approximately 2% is contributed by recharge from the Terrace Gravel. During the simulated periods of average to low river stages, most groundwater within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin discharges to the Ohio River (approximately 77 and 65% for SP1 and SP2, respectively), with the remaining groundwater discharging to the lower reaches of BC and LBC and extraction wells (SP2 only).

Model-predicted discharge around the seeps located at the toe of the Northwest Plume, which corresponds to River Reach 2, is 78 and 77 gpm for SP1 and SP2, respectively. This represents approximately 3.1 and 2.6% of the total volume of groundwater (2,480 and 2,920 gpm) flowing through the area for SP1 and SP2, respectively. The combined discharge to the extraction wells (SP2 only) was fixed at 411 gpm to be consistent with reported pumping rates. This rate represents 14.1% of the total volume of groundwater and is comparable to anthropogenic recharge.

### 6.5 CALIBRATION STATISTICS

#### 6.5.1 Model-Predicted Water Level Elevations

Model calibration assessment includes comparing model-predicted water levels to measured or target water levels. For each steady-state stress period, summary statistics of model-predicted and target water levels, referred to as residuals, are compiled in Table 6.4 and individual calibration target residuals are compiled in Appendix C. The scaled residual standard deviations for SP1 and SP2 are 4 and 3%, respectively. These statistics indicate the differences between simulated and observed data across the model domain and are well within the recommended range of up to 10% for a well calibrated model. For each stress period, a chart of water level residuals versus target water levels is presented in Figure 6.8. In a well calibrated model, the data points will be generally well distributed along the horizontal line corresponding to a residual of zero indicating a good match to water level targets across the model area. For SP1, the data points are generally distributed along the zero-residual line, and the majority of the model-predicted water levels in SP1 are within +/- 1 ft of the target values. For one target located near LBC, the model-predicted water level was under predicted by 2.21 ft. For SP2, the data points are generally distributed along the zero-residual line and most of the model-predicted water levels are within +/- 0.5 ft of the target values with a maximum residual of 1.07 ft at a target located north of the plant area near the river. In general, most predicted water levels are within +/- 1 ft of the target value, with the closer match simulated in SP2. The higher variability exhibited in SP1 may be attributed to the longer measurement period (February 1995) compared to the synoptic measurement event associated with SP2. Although the cause of the variability in SP1 is uncertain, it does appear to be related to measurement errors rather than model deficiencies, which is evident when comparing positive residuals of approximately 0.5 ft to 1.0 ft with adjacent negative residuals of approximately -0.5 ft to -1.0 ft. In general, such drastic fluctuations in water level over such short distances are not expected in the RGA.

Model-predicted potentiometric surfaces as well as the distribution of the target residuals within the model domain for model layers 1 through 3 are presented in Figures 6.9 and 6.10. The residual circles are color-coded red for overestimate and green for underestimate and scaled (the bigger the residual circle, the larger the target residual). The purple areas shown in layer 1 on Figures 6.9 and 6.10 represent dry cells, which result when the predicted water level elevation drops below the bottom of the model layer. These occur in the area west of the TVA ponds where boring log data indicate a rise in the elevation of the base of the RGA, resulting in a thinning of the RGA. The model cells below these dry cells in model layers 2 and 3 are saturated. All model layers show mounding (i.e., the water level contours bow out resulting in a groundwater divide) at the PGDP resulting from anthropogenic recharge, which is consistent with site data.

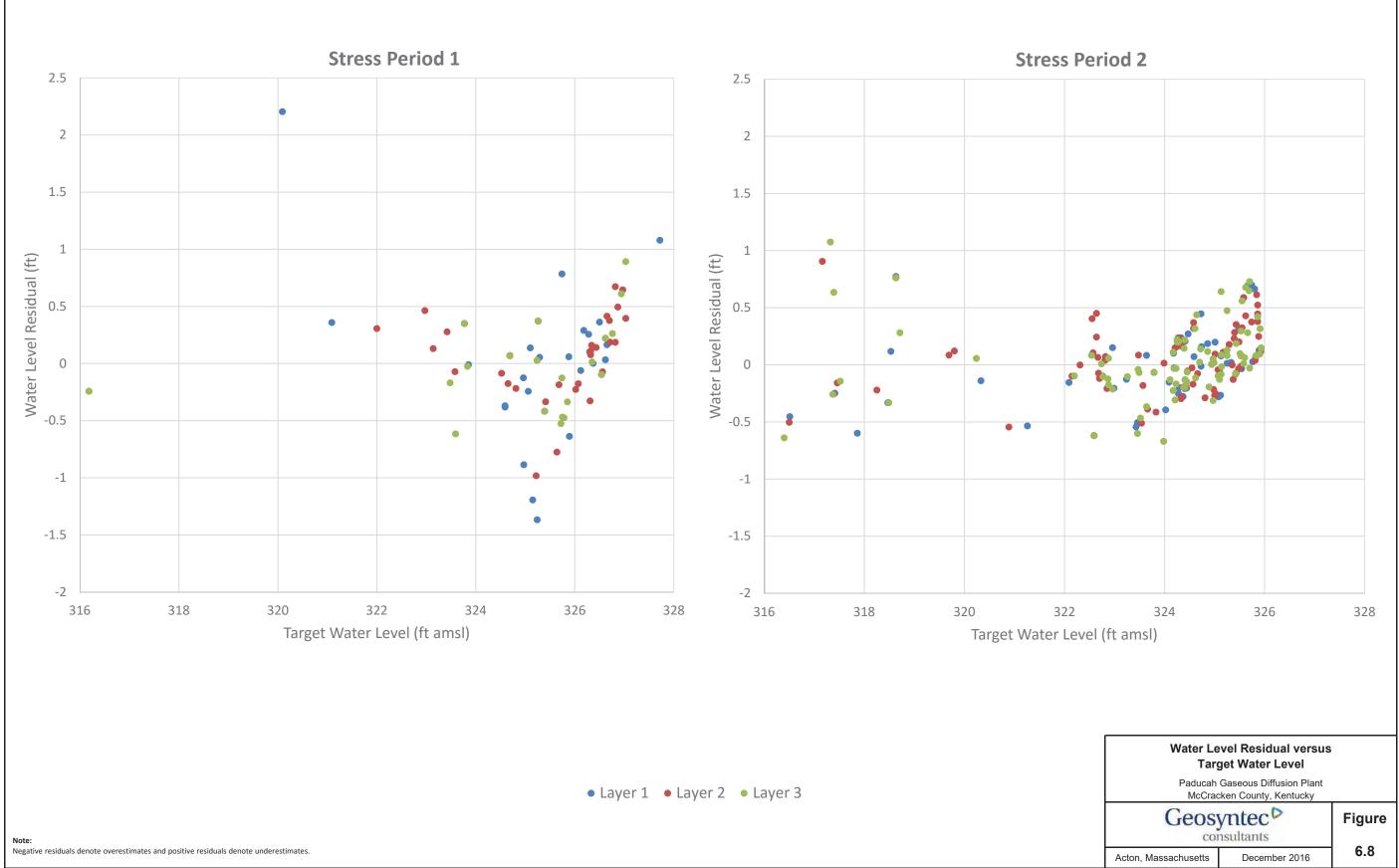
### Table 6.4. Water Level Target Residual Statistics

Statistic	Stress Period 1	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)		
	(February 1995)			
Residual Mean	0.02	0.03		
Absolute Residual Mean	0.35	0.24		
Residual Std. Deviation	0.49	0.31		
Sum of Squares	20.12	21.46		
RMS Error	0.49	0.31		
Min. Residual	-1.37	-0.67		
Max. Residual	2.20	1.08		
Number of Observations	84	220		
Range in Observations	11.54	9.53		
Scaled Residual Std. Deviation	0.04	0.03		
Scaled Absolute Residual Mean	0.03	0.02		
Scaled RMS Error	0.04	0.03		
Scaled Residual Mean	0.002	0.003		
Scaled Residual Mean	0.002	0.00		

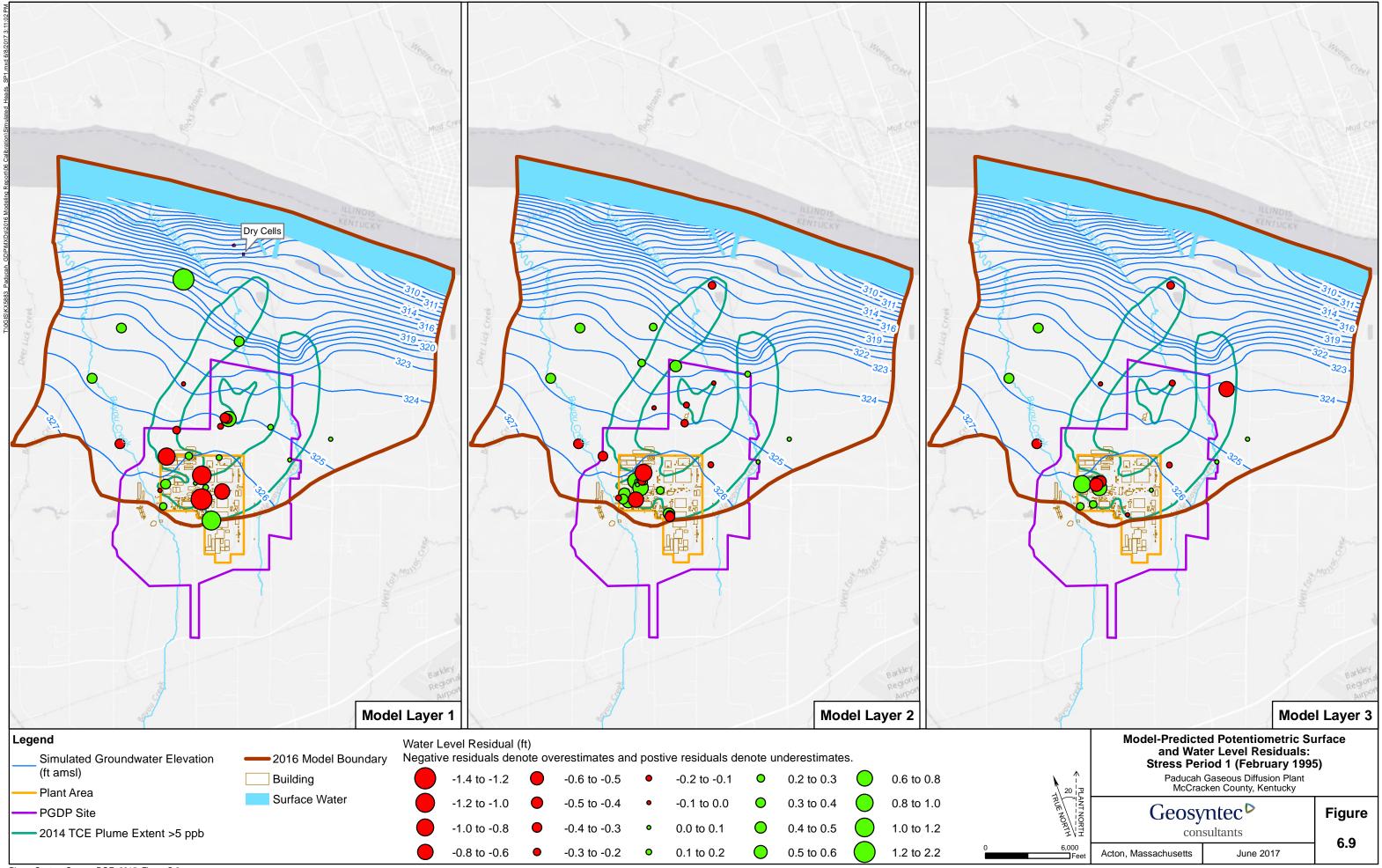
Notes:

1. Units are in ft.

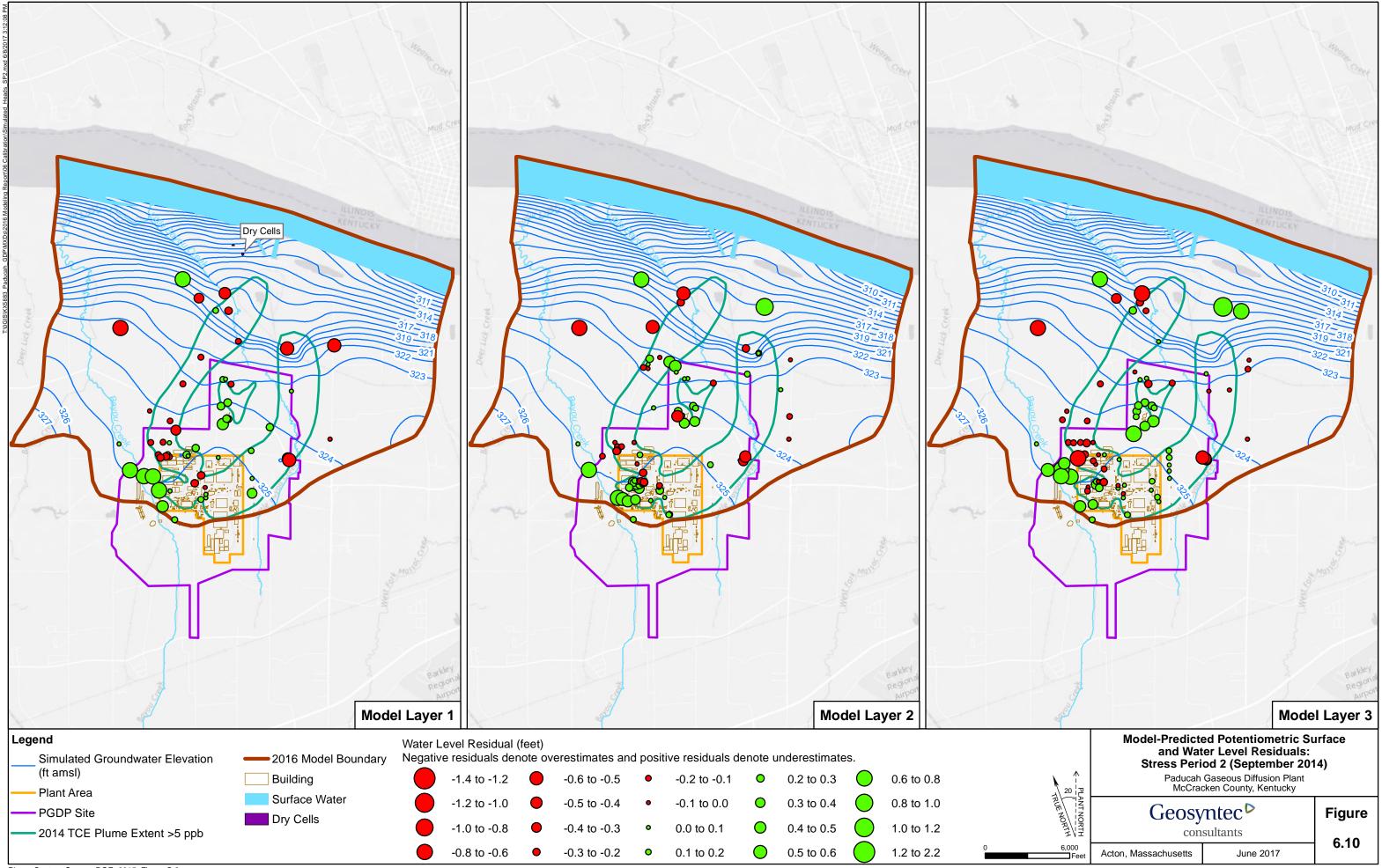
2. Negative residuals denote overestimates and positive residuals denote underestimates.



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Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

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#### 6.5.2 Model-Predicted Flux

The model predicts a groundwater discharge rate to the Ohio River of 1,912 and 1,925 gpm for stress periods SP1 and SP2, respectively. This is within the range of recharge estimated between 228 to 8,218 gpm (Section 6.2.1). The model-predicted discharge at the LBC seep located at the toe of the Northwest Plume is 78 and 77 gpm for stress periods SP1 and SP2, respectively which is a good match to the target discharge rate of 77.1 gpm.

### 6.5.3 Flow Direction (Trajectory) Targets

Calibration statistics for the flow direction targets are presented in Table 6.5 and Figure 6.11. For each stress period, a chart of flow direction residuals versus observed flow directions is presented in Figure 6.12. The absolute mean error for all angle targets is less than 3.7 degrees. Additionally, the majority (60%) of the predicted angles are within +/- 2 degrees of the target value and more than 90% of the predicted angles are within +/-5 degrees of the target value.

#### 6.5.4 Model-Predicted Plume Trajectory

For each stress period, particles were placed within the model domain in model layers 1 through 3 at locations corresponding to known and possible source areas and allowed to migrate with the predicted groundwater flow fields (Figure 6.13). The ability to replicate the plume flow path is a measure of model calibration, with the closer agreement suggesting a more representative model. The figures show that for both SP1 and SP2 the model reasonably replicates the Northeast and Northwest Plumes flow paths. Particle capture in the Northeast Plume indicates the western-most particle bypasses the western EW (EW331) and is captured by the eastern EW (EW332). This is consistent with the results of the EW pumping tests indicating a larger capture zone for EW332 compared to EW331 (TN & Associates and CDM Federal Programs Corporation 1997).

# 6.6 FINAL PARAMETER SENSITIVITIES

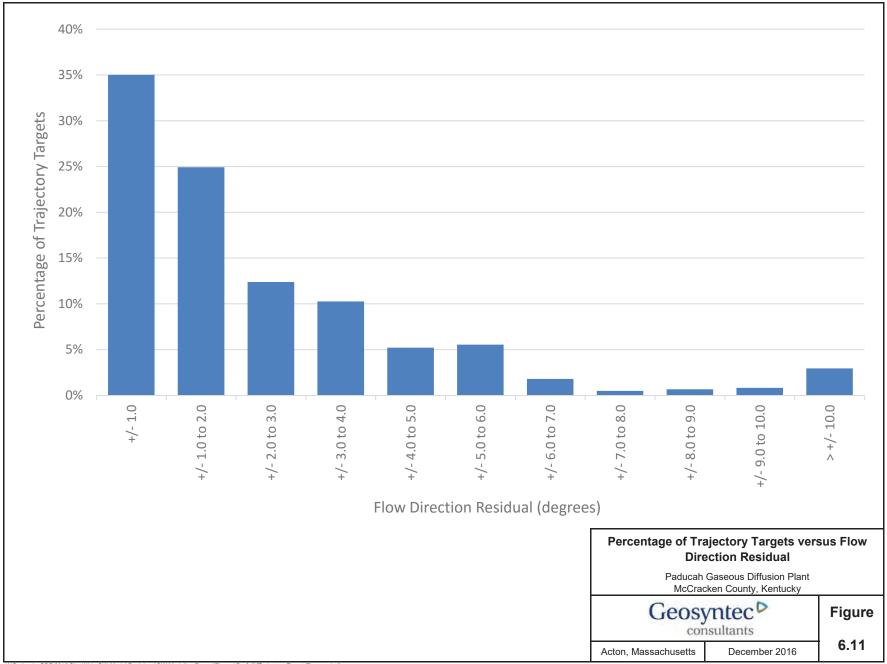
PEST calculates sensitivities for all estimated parameters for each iteration of the parameter estimation process. Figure 6.14 shows the final relative composite scaled sensitivities of the 52 model parameters. Except for the recharge areas specified with a very low recharge value to simulate minimal infiltration (paved areas, compacted gravel, competent roof drain, and capped landfill), all the parameter sensitivities are within two orders of magnitude of the most sensitive parameter, indicating that these parameters can be estimated with reasonable accuracy. With the exception of the capped landfill recharge, the least sensitive parameters in minimal infiltration areas have sensitivities within two to three orders of magnitude of the most sensitive for recharge in the capped landfill areas is less than three orders of magnitude from the most sensitive parameter, indicating that the parameter cannot be estimated. It should be noted that sensitivities are estimated by calculating changes in the objective function related to incremental changes in the calibrated value of each parameter. For relatively low recharge values such as paved areas or capped landfills, incremental changes would represent a small change to the relatively low value and therefore contribute very little to the objective function. For this reason, low composite sensitivities for these parameters are expected.

Statistic	Stress Period 1 (February 1995)	Stress Period 2 (September 2014)	
Residual Mean	0.21	0.64	
Absolute Residual Mean	2.41	2.36	
Residual Std. Deviation	3.55	3.53	
Sum of Squares	4,505.01	3,354.10	
RMS Error	3.55	3.58	
Min. Residual	-10.74	-14.09	
Max. Residual	16.79	14.73	
Number of Observations	357	261	
Range in Observations	114.46	105.00	
Scaled Residual Std. Deviation	0.03	0.03	
Scaled Absolute Residual Mean	d Absolute Residual Mean 0.02 0.02		
Scaled RMS Error	0.03	0.03	
Scaled Residual Mean	0.00	0.01	

Notes:

1. Units are in degrees.

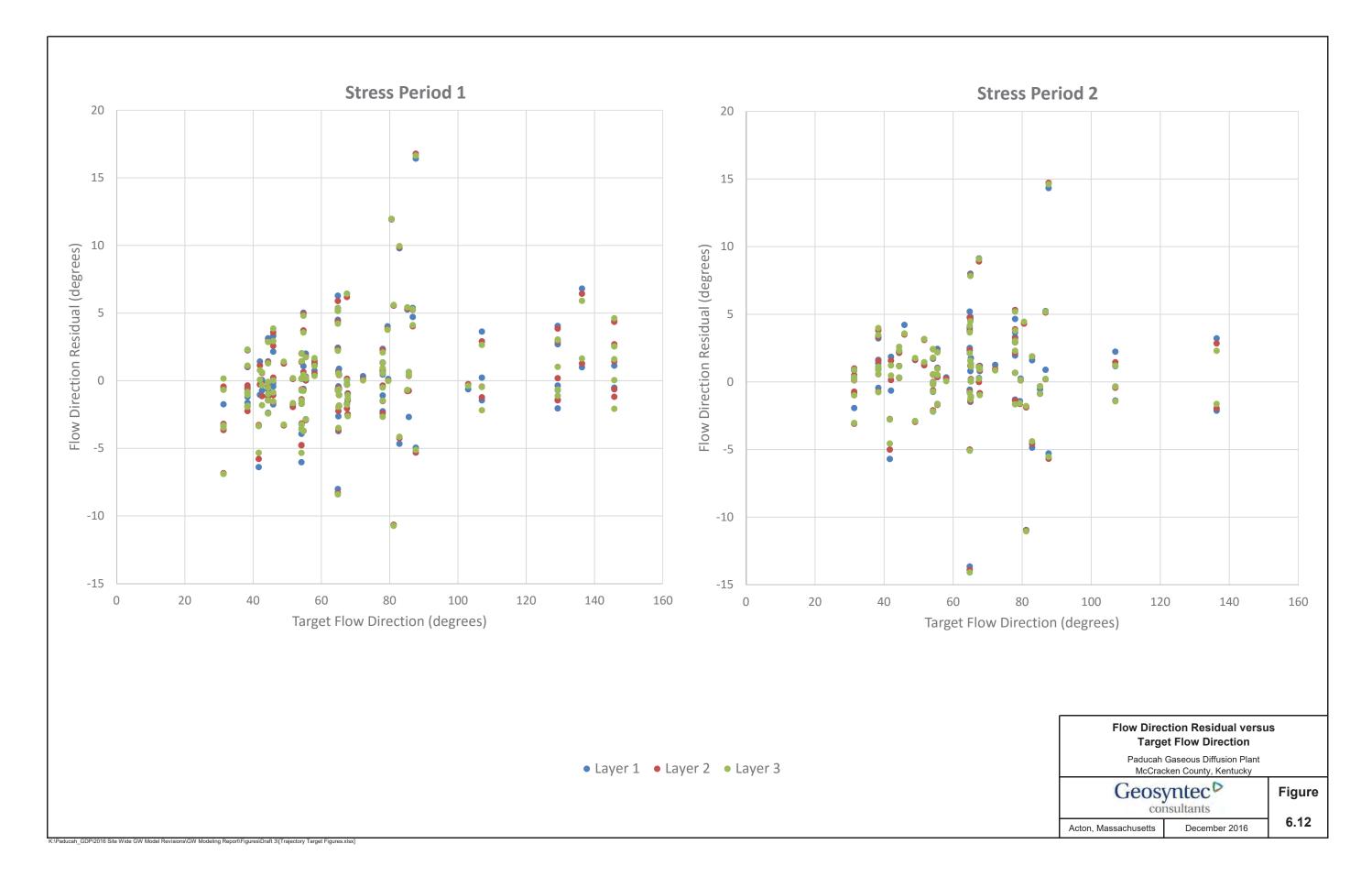
2. Negative residuals denote overestimates and positive residuals denote underestimates.

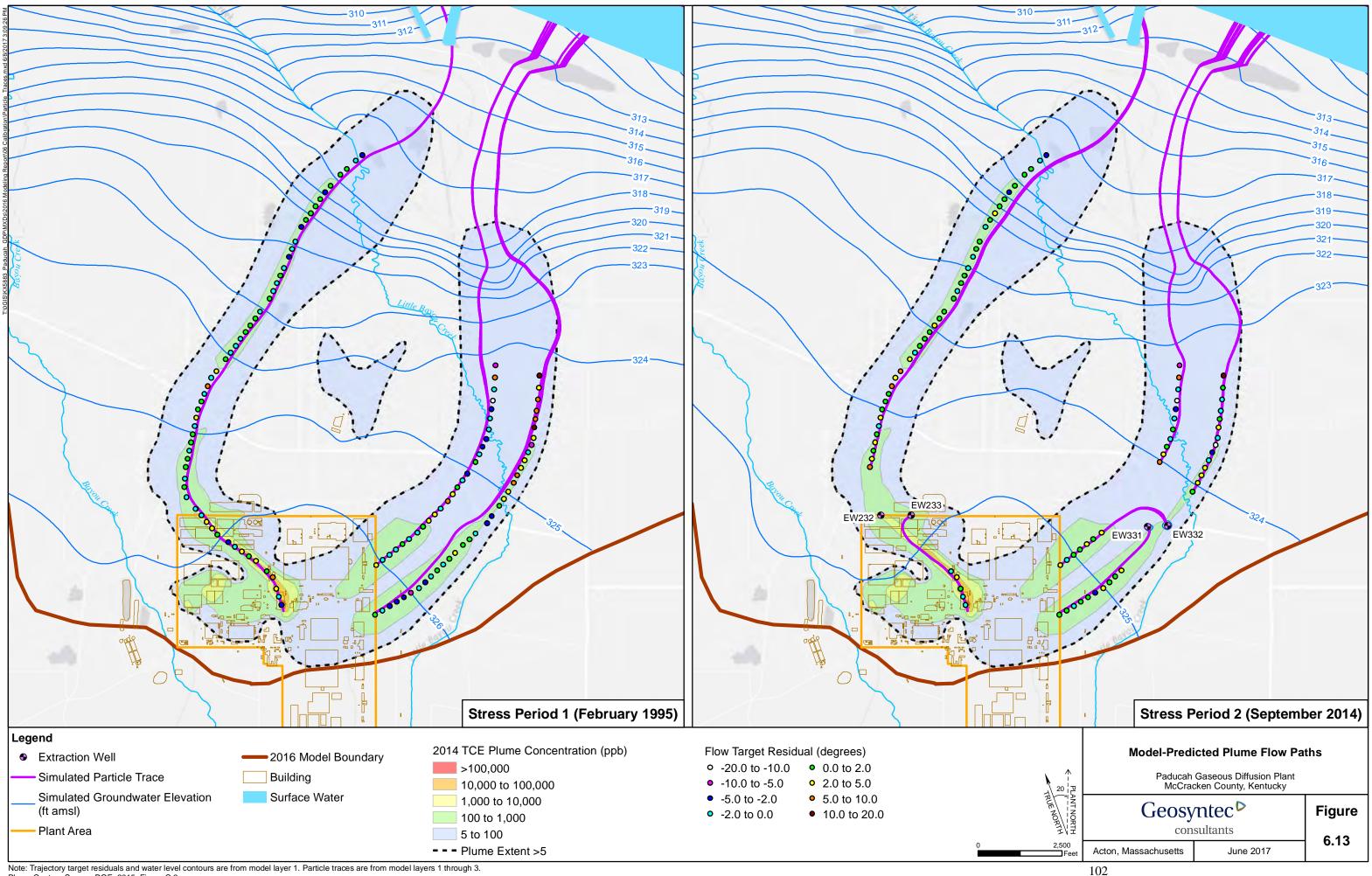


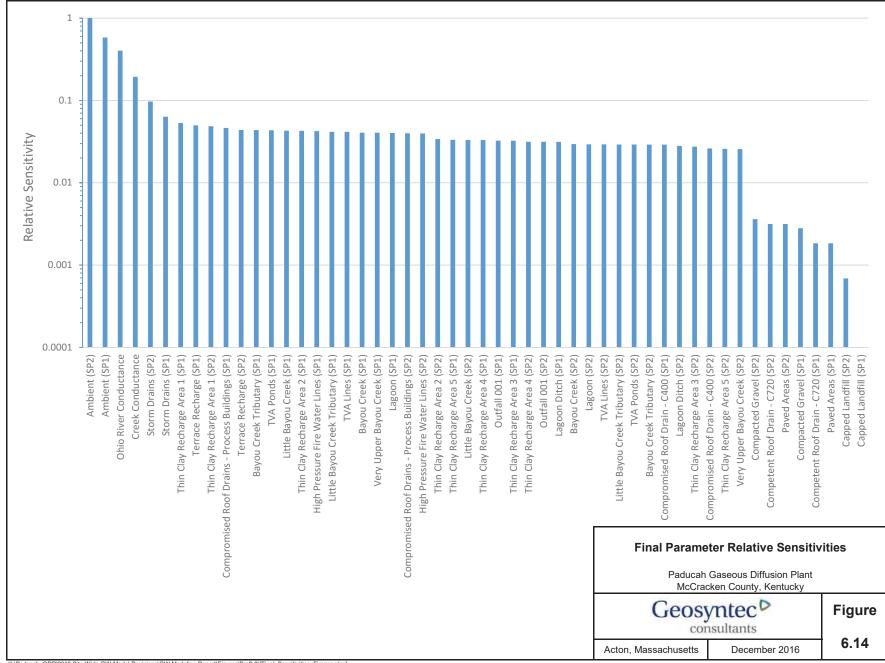
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Final hydraulic conductivity pilot point sensitivities for model layers 1 through 3 relative to the most sensitive parameter are shown in Figure 6.15. With the exception of 13 pilot points out of the total of 1,041 pilot points specified in the model, sensitivities are within two orders of magnitude of the most sensitive parameter, indicating that unique hydraulic conductivities can be estimated for 98.8% of all pilot points in the model.

## 6.7 PLUME FLOW PATH SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

A sensitivity analysis was performed to determine how individual 25% increases and decreases in the calibrated values of the most sensitive parameters (based on the final PEST sensitivities, Figure 6.14) influence predicted plume flow paths as defined by resultant changes in predicted particle traces. The +/-25% sensitivity range was selected to recognize that over the plumes' time scale, parameter fluctuations are not expected to be as extreme as might occur short-term. The following parameters were evaluated as part of the plume flow path sensitivity analysis:

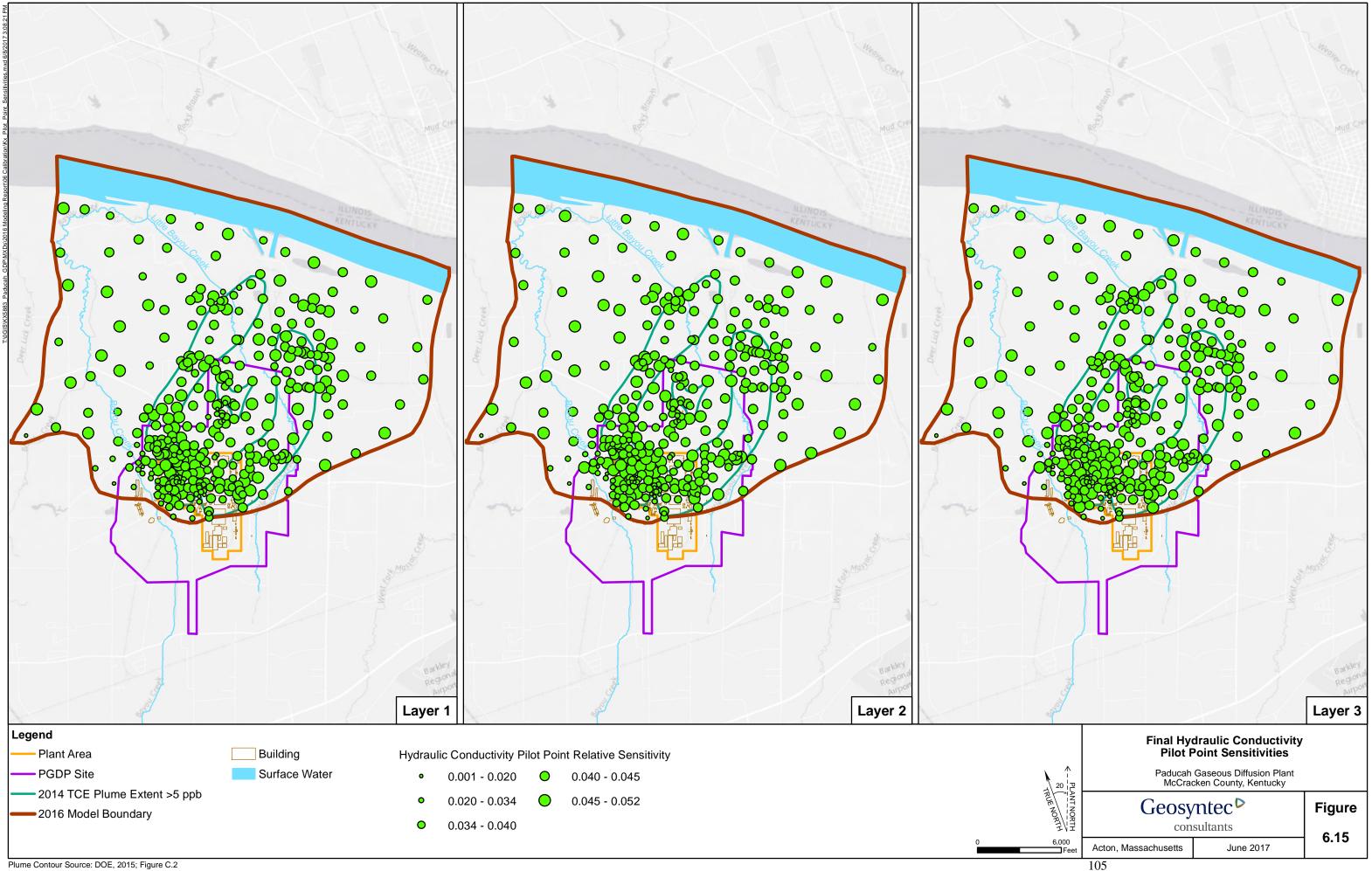
- Ambient recharge;
- Hydraulic conductivity (conductance) of the Ohio River sediments;
- Hydraulic conductivity (conductance) of BC and LBC sediments;
- Storm drain recharge;
- Largest thin clay recharge area;
- Compromised roof drain recharge area;
- HPFW piping system recharge area;
- TVA supply line recharge; and
- Recharge from the Terrace Gravel.

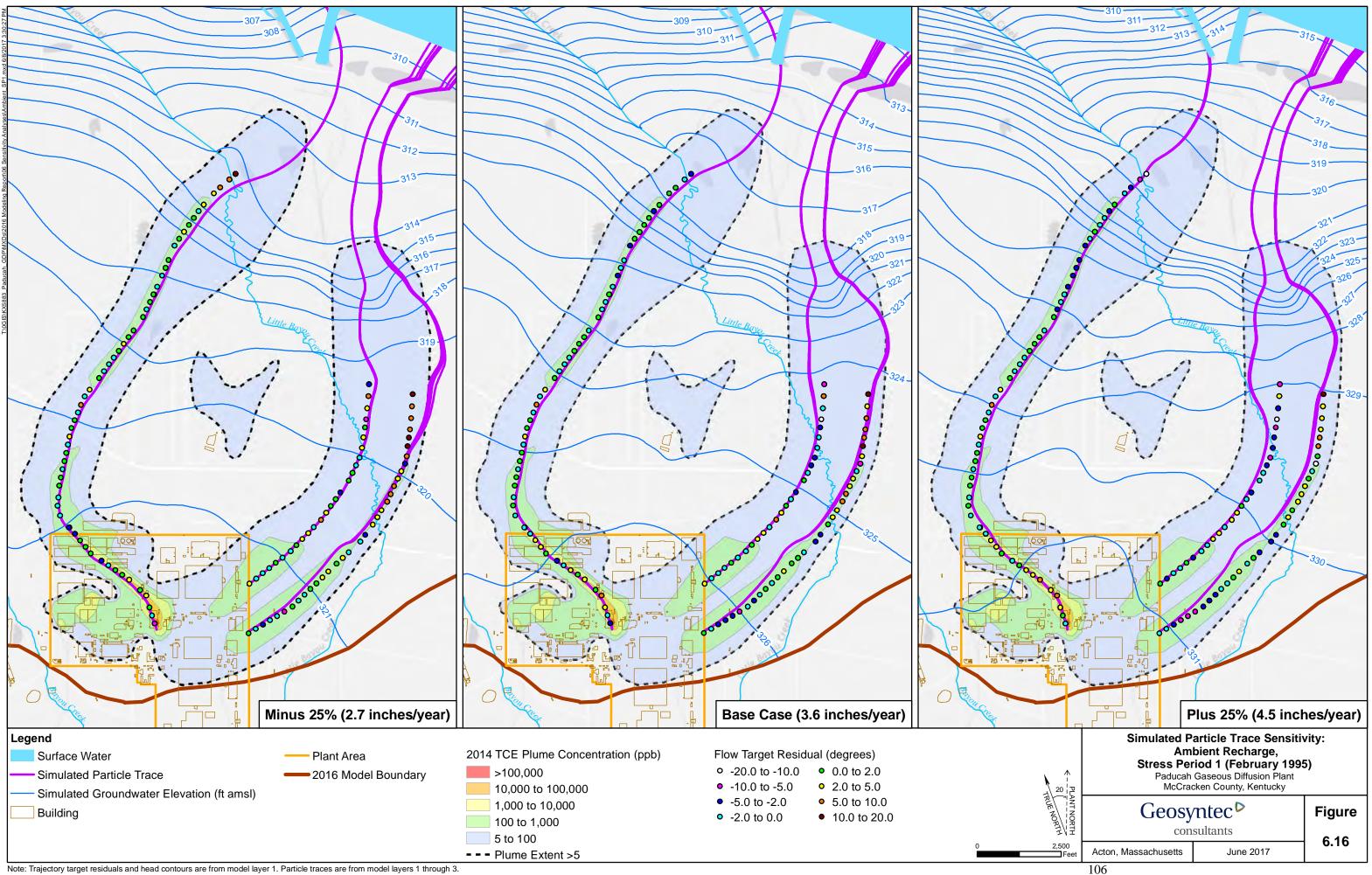
In addition to the parameters listed above, a sensitivity analysis was performed to determine how changes in Ohio River stage influence predicted plume flow paths.

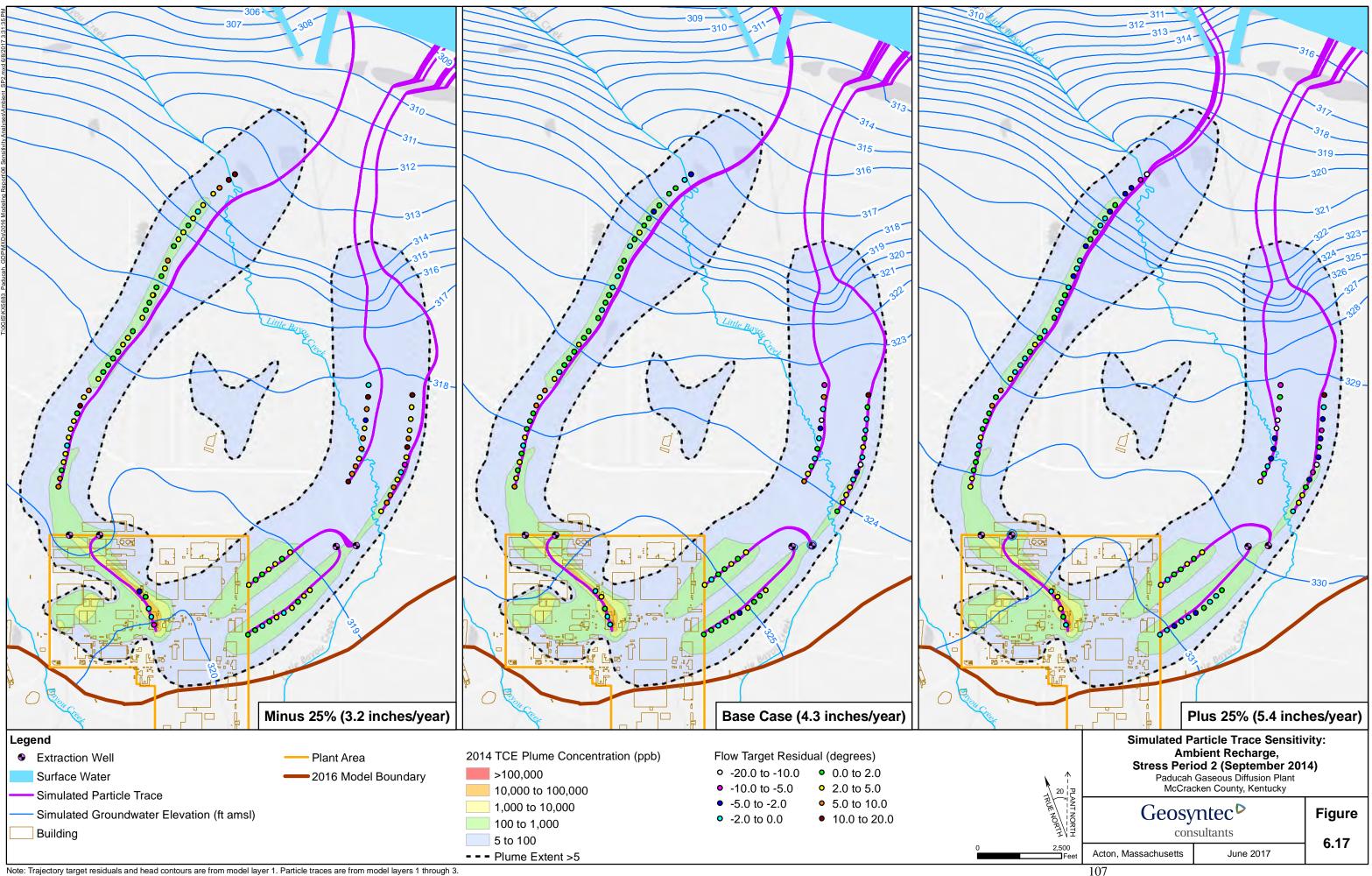
For both SP1 and SP2, simulated increases and decreases in precipitation recharge caused the Northwest and Northeast Plumes to shift minimally east and west relative to the observed plume centroid (Figures 6.16 and 6.17). An increase in precipitation recharge results in a slight westward shift of the particle traces and a decrease results in a slight eastward shift, but overall there is minimal change in predicted plume trajectories.

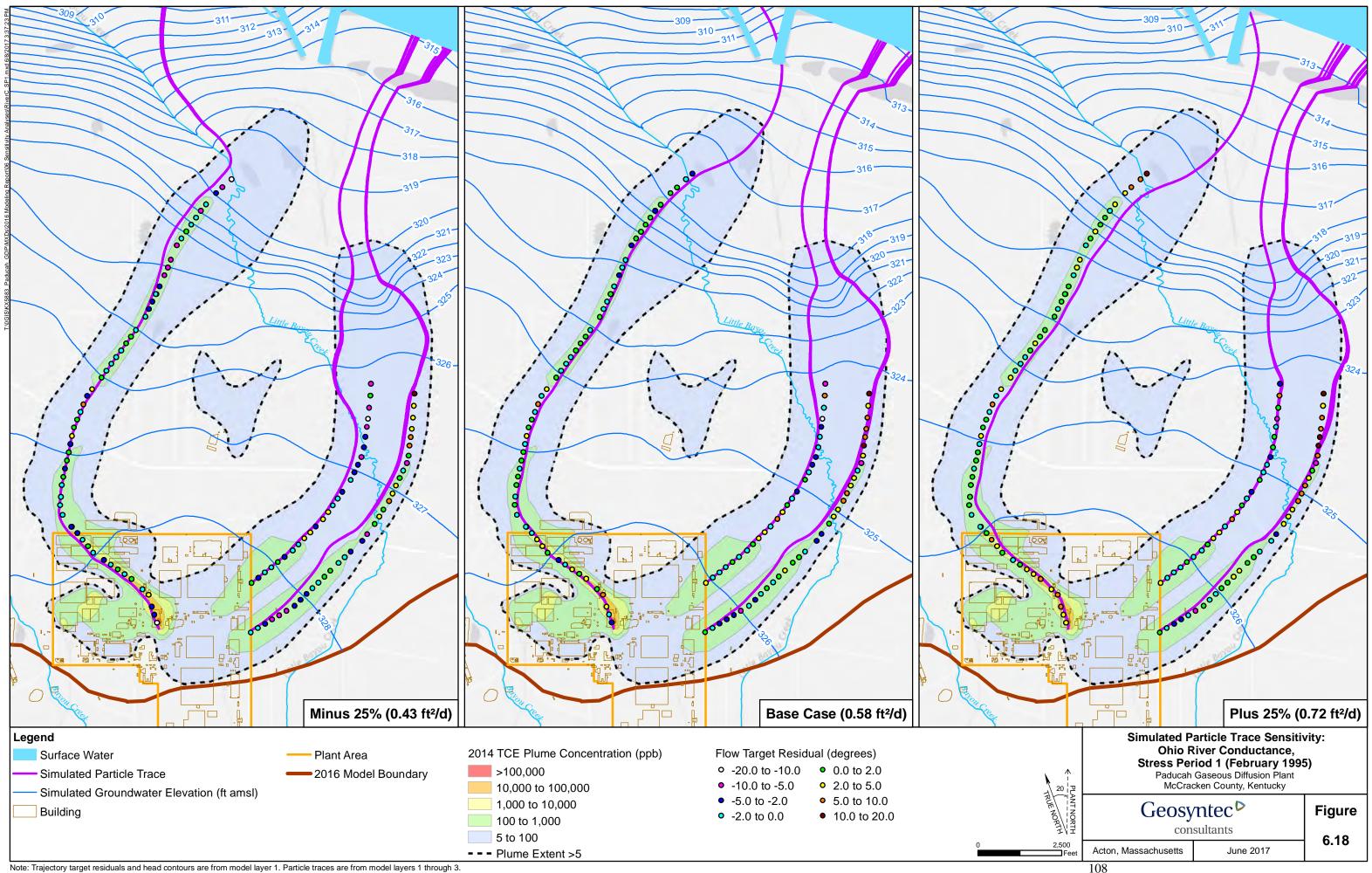
A 25% increase in hydraulic conductivity (conductance) of the Ohio River bottom sediments has minimal influence on the Northeast Plume and Northwest Plumes trajectories in SP1 and SP2 (Figures 6.18 and 6.19). A 25% decrease in the hydraulic conductivity of the river sediments causes the predicted Northwest and Northeast Plumes trajectories to shift westward in both stress periods. A more pronounced effect is observed in the Northwest Plume particle traces in the area between LBC and the Ohio River where the particle traces turn westward and the particles migrate approximately parallel to LBC, rather than northward toward the Ohio River. Review of groundwater elevation contours in this area indicates a significant increase in groundwater elevations and change to the shape of the water table between LBC and the Ohio River. The result is increased predicted discharge to the creeks and decreased discharge to the river due to a shift in groundwater gradients.

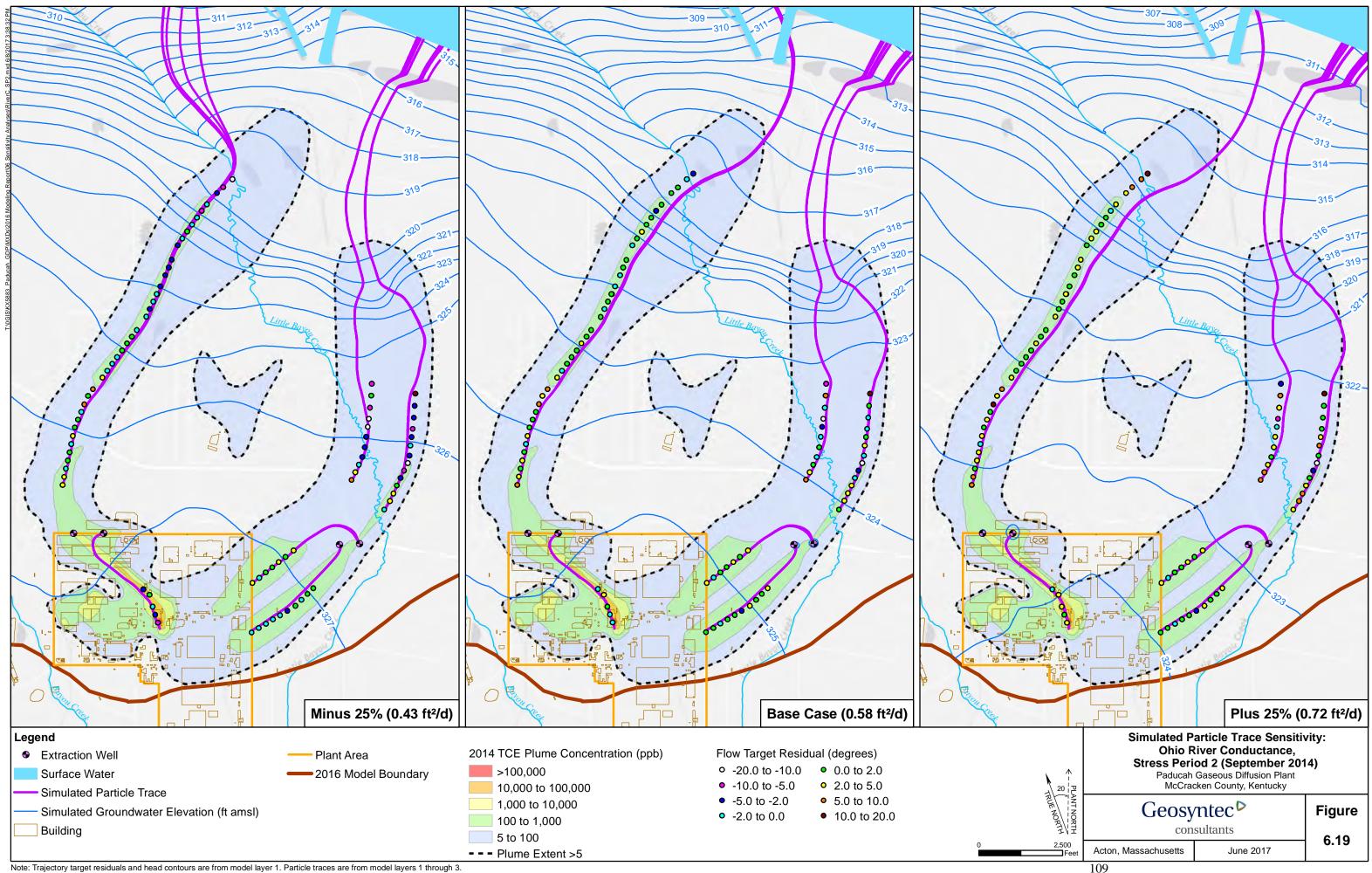
For both SP1 and SP2, simulated increases and decreases in hydraulic conductivity (conductance) of BC and LBC cause the predicted Northwest and Northeast Plumes to shift direction minimally and negligibly changes the plume trajectories (Figures 6.20 and 6.21).

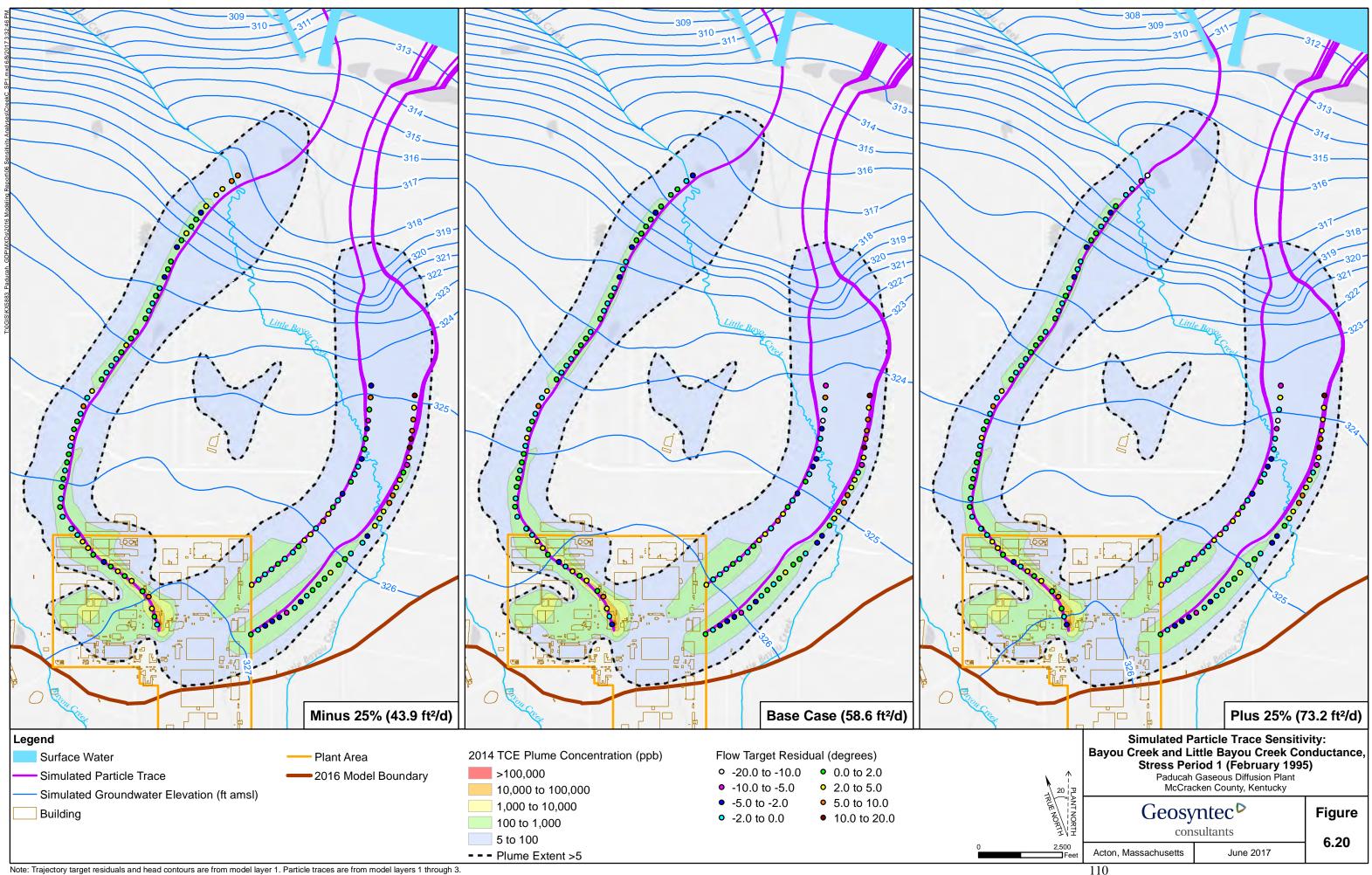


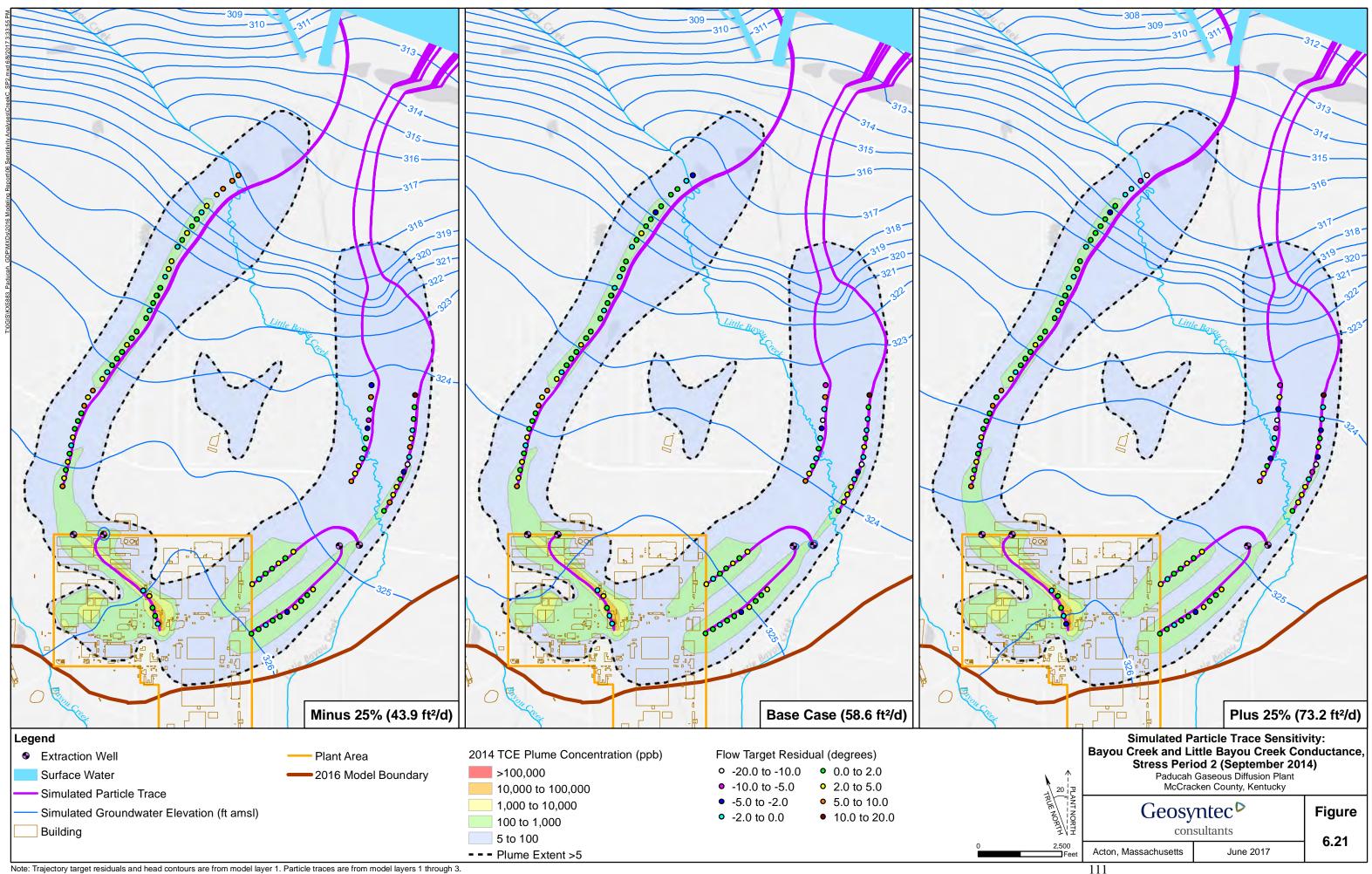












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For the relatively more sensitive anthropogenic recharge zones (as identified by PEST). which include storm drain recharge (Figures 6.22 and 6.23), the largest thin clay recharge area (Figures 6.24 and 6.25), the compromised roof drain recharge area (Figures 6.26 and 6.27), and the HPFW piping system recharge area (Figures 6.28 and 6.29), simulated increases and decreases in parameter values result in no discernable difference in particle traces or plume trajectory in either SP1 or SP2.

For both stress periods, SP1 and SP2, simulated increases and decreases in recharge from the Terrace Gravel in the East and West Terrace Basins cause the predicted Northwest Plume and Northeast Plume particle traces to shift minimally (Figures 6.30 and 6.31).

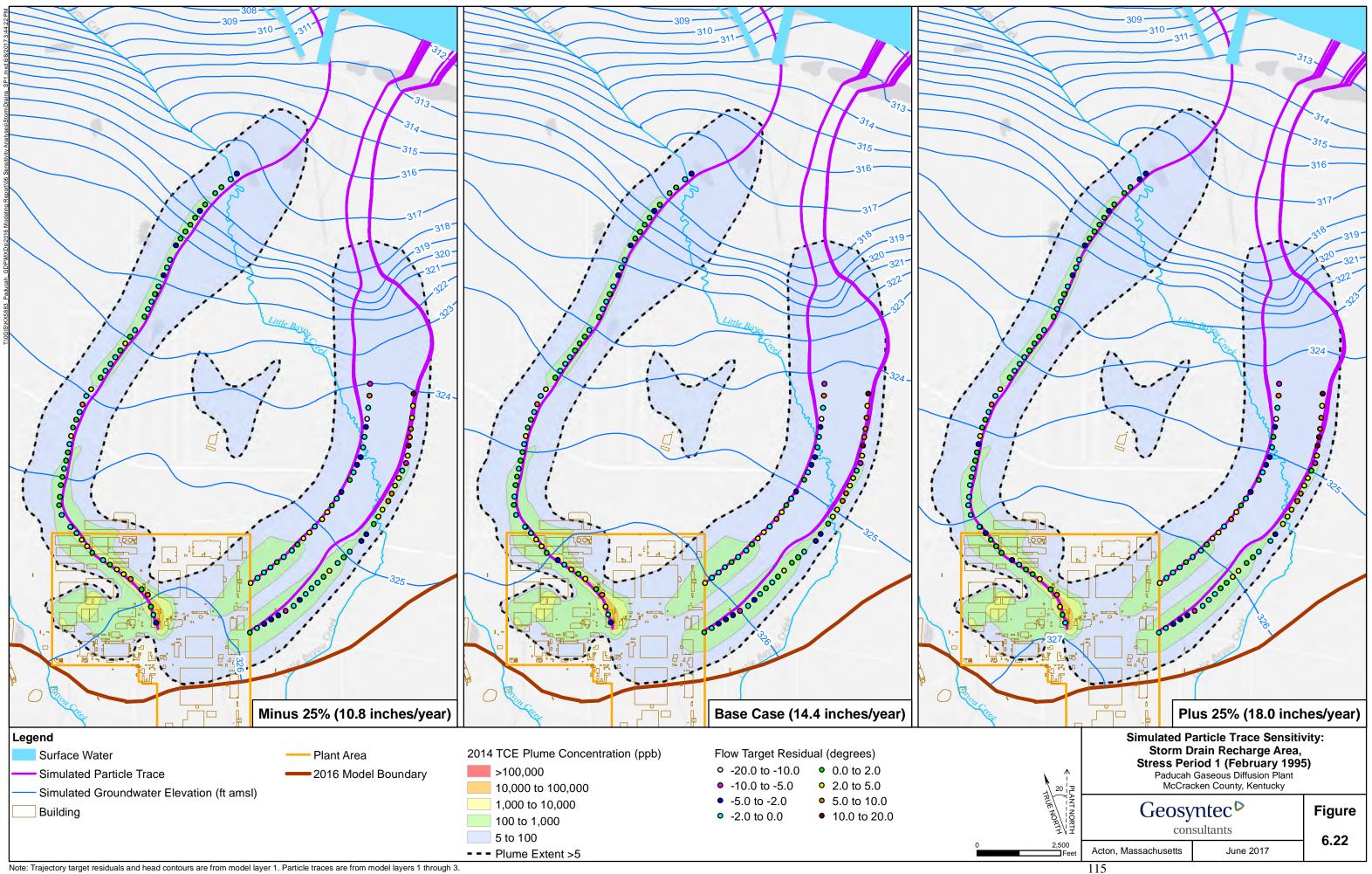
In addition to the aforementioned model parameters, a sensitivity analysis was performed to assess how specified changes in Ohio River stage influences simulated plume trajectories (Figures 6.32 and 6.33). Unlike the other parameters, the minimum and maximum stage values do not correspond to 25% increases and decreases; rather, the minimum and maximum values correspond to the lowest observed (290 ft) and the 90th percentile (320 ft) stages (DOE 2010, Section 7.2.9). The results show that a simulated decrease in the Ohio River stage minimally influences the particle traces representing the Northwest Plume and Northeast Plume. An increase in the Ohio River stage results in a westerly shift of the Northeast Plume particle traces with minimal effects on the plume trajectory. A more pronounced effect is observed in the Northwest Plume particle traces, which discharge to LBC instead of migrating to the Ohio River. Similar to the effects of decreasing the hydraulic conductivity (conductance) of the Ohio River, the result is increased predicted discharge to the creeks and decreased discharge to the Ohio River due to a shift in predicted groundwater gradients.

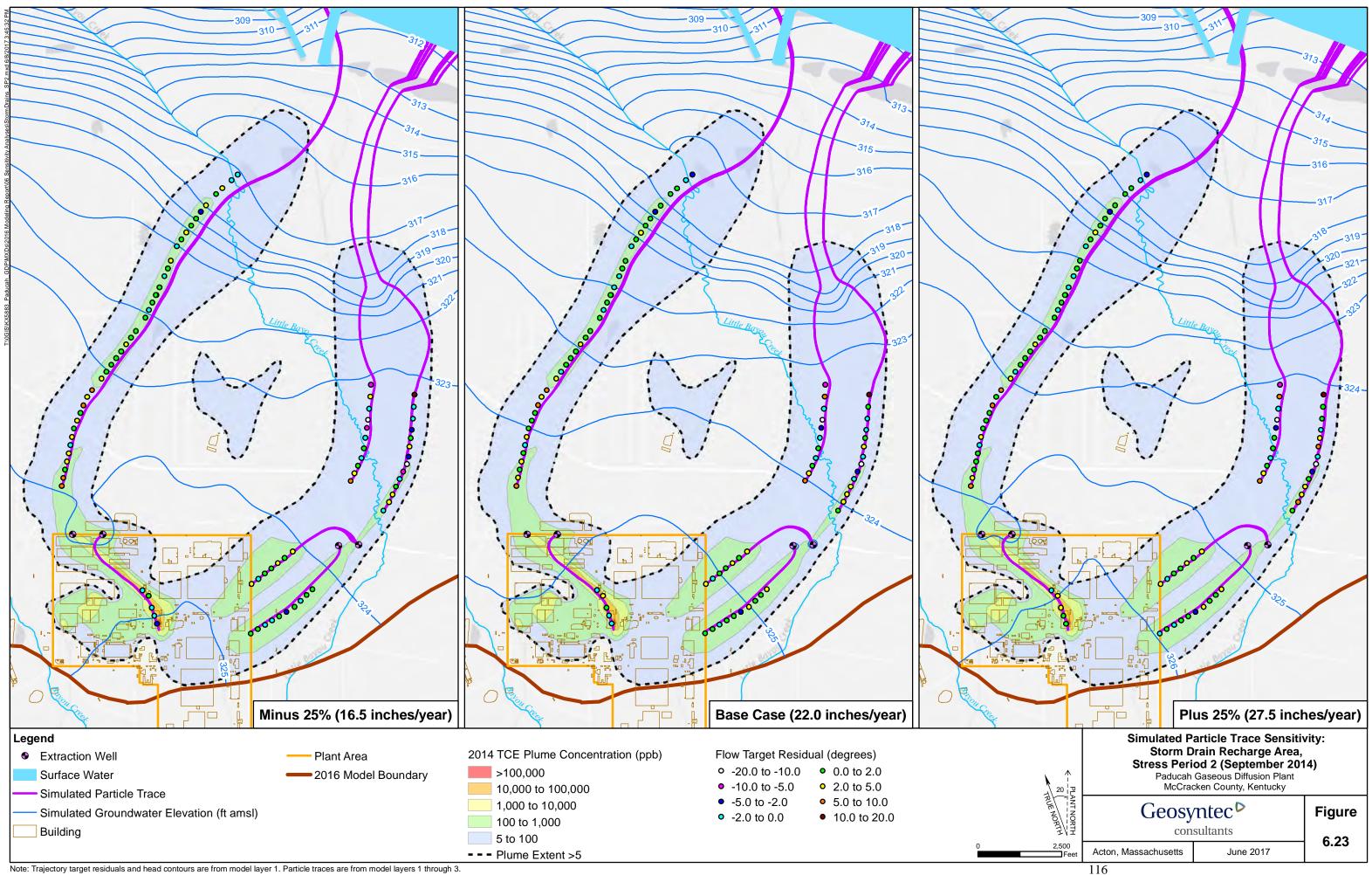
In summary, while increases and decreases in most parameter values result in minimal influence to simulated plume trajectories and minimal deviation from the observed locations of the Northeast and Northwest Plumes, the results of decreasing river hydraulic conductivity (conductance) and increasing Ohio River stage exhibit pronounced shifts in the plume trajectories near LBC and the Ohio River. This suggests that, while groundwater levels fluctuate in response to varying precipitation and anthropogenic recharge rates, the overall long-term PGDP Hydrologic Basin flow directions in the core of the Northeast and Northwest Plumes remain relatively constant. This assessment is supported by the temporally constant Northeast Plume and Northwest Plume geometries observed between 1994 and 2005 (DOE 2010, Figure 4.3) and the current plume configurations (Figure 6.17). On a short-term basis, which corresponds to transient fluctuations in the Ohio River stage, model results indicate a pronounced shift in the Northwest Plume trajectory at the toe of the plume near LBC during a high river stage (i.e., 320 ft amsl). The steady-state simulations used for this sensitivity analysis are not directly comparable to the typical short-term transient conditions present at the site during high Ohio River stages; however, the sensitivity analysis is useful for qualitatively evaluating short-term shifts in groundwater flow directions during short-term, transient site conditions. This hypothesis is supported by the early delineations of the Northwest Plume indicating migration toward LBC in plume delineations for 1994 to 2005 (DOE 2010, Figure 4.3).

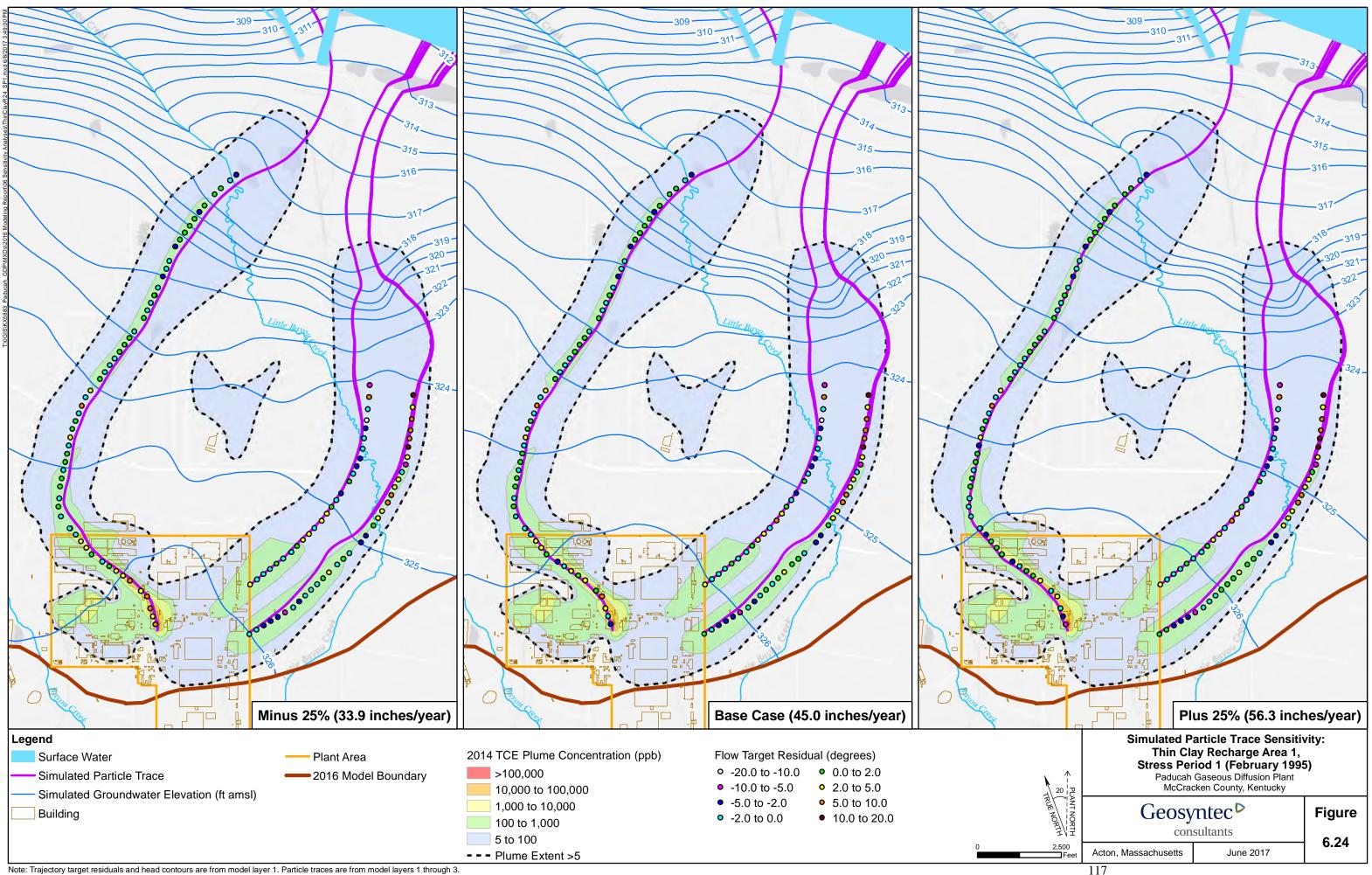
# 6.8 SOURCE AREA FLOW PATH ANALYSIS

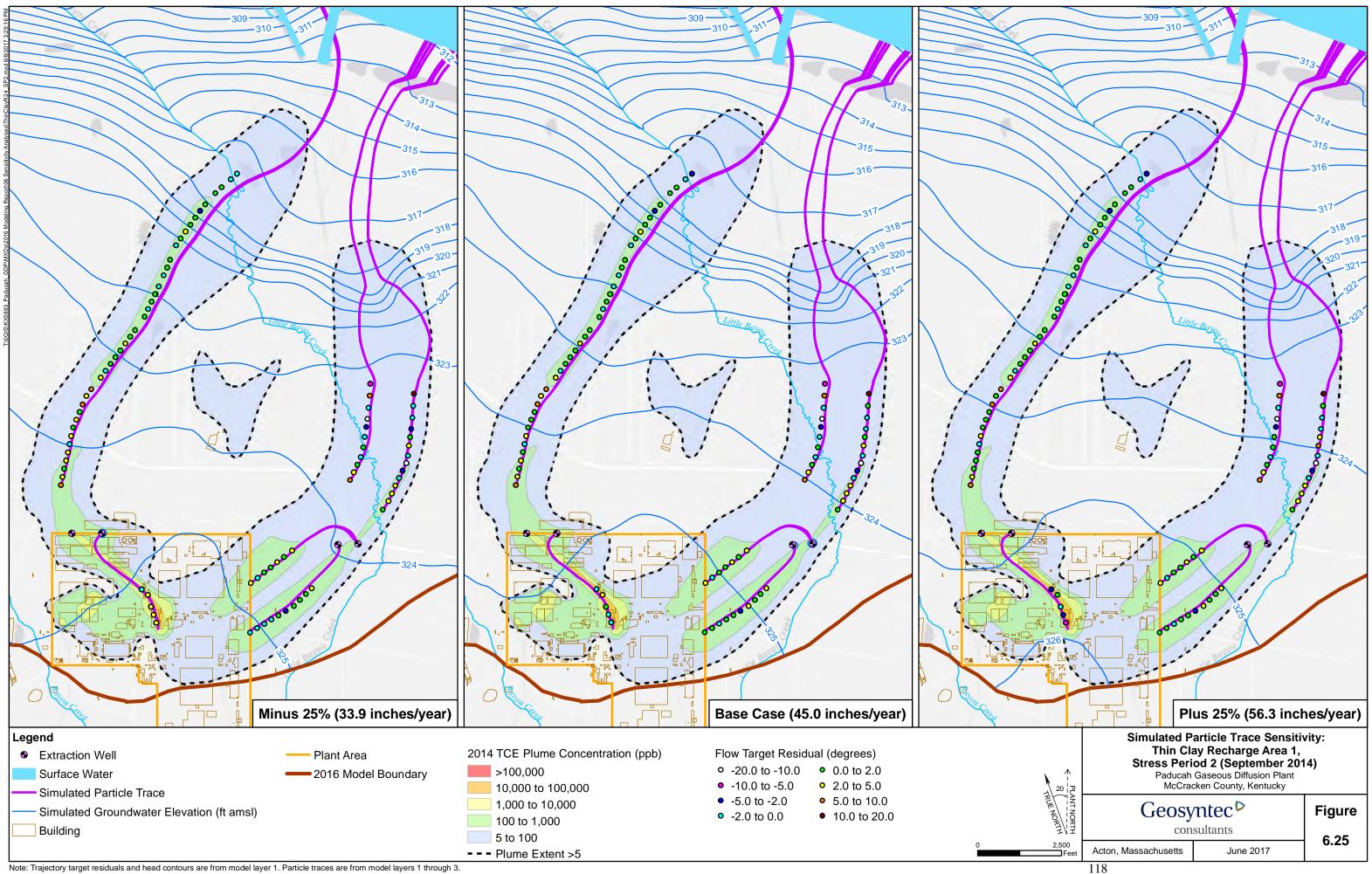
To evaluate near field flow paths in the plant area, particle track analysis was conducted by specifying starting particles at locations of known or suspected TCE and/or technetium-99 (Tc-99) source areas. The areas included in the analysis are described in Table 6.6 and illustrated in Figure 6.34. Note that source material must migrate through the UCRS before entering the RGA, and there is uncertainty regarding the points of contaminant entry into the RGA. Hence, the locations of source areas shown on Figure 6.34 are

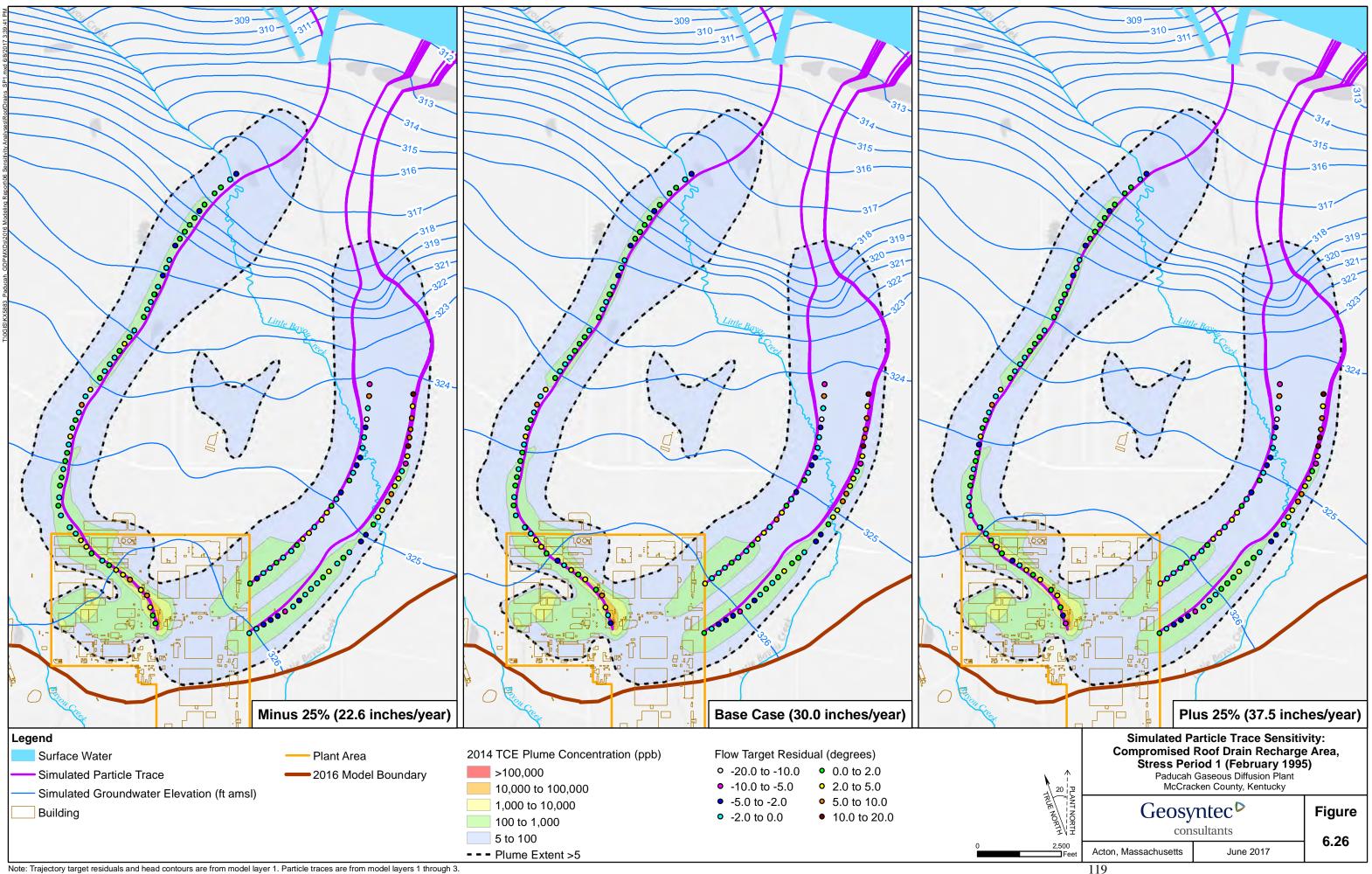
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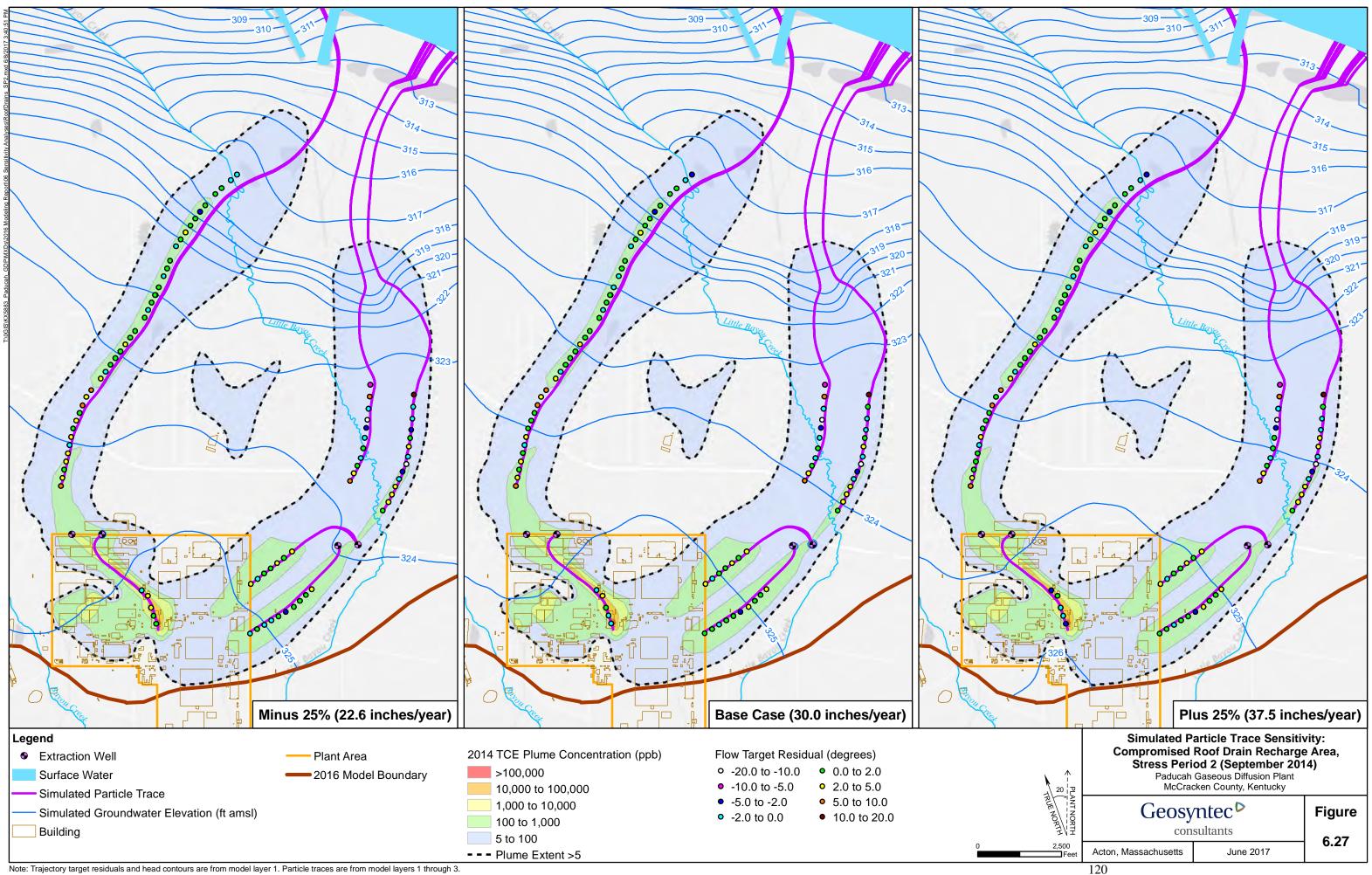


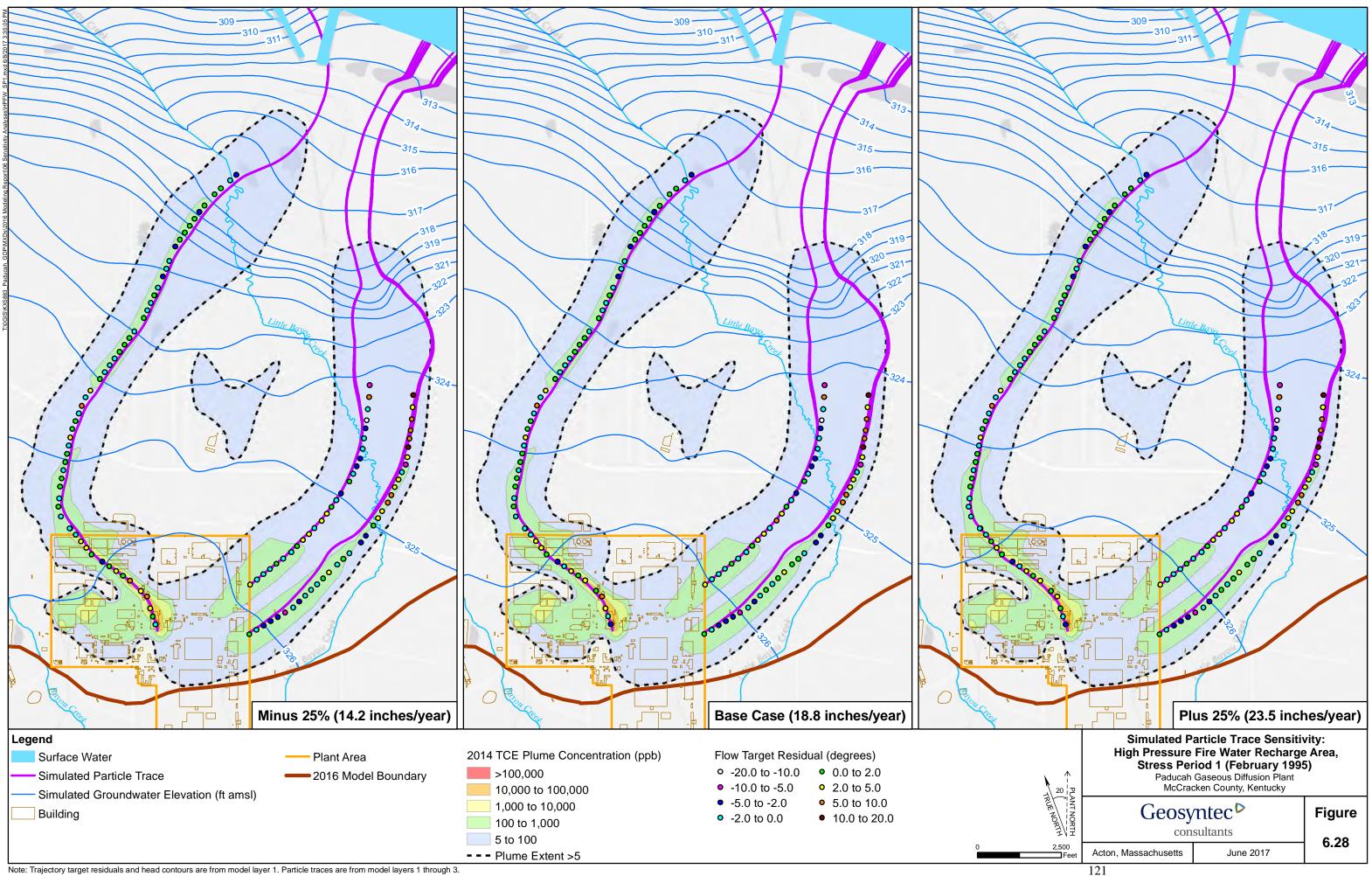


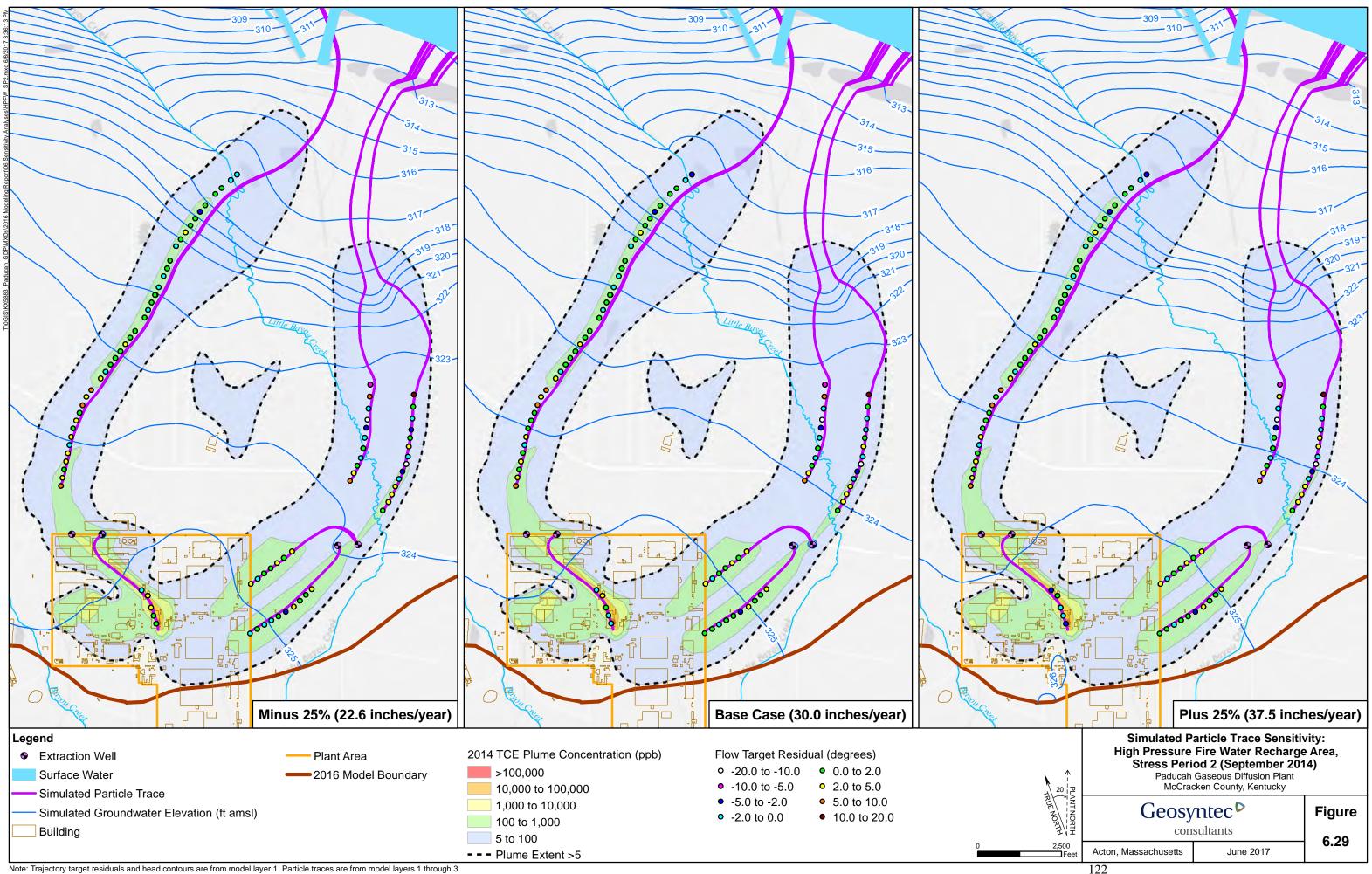


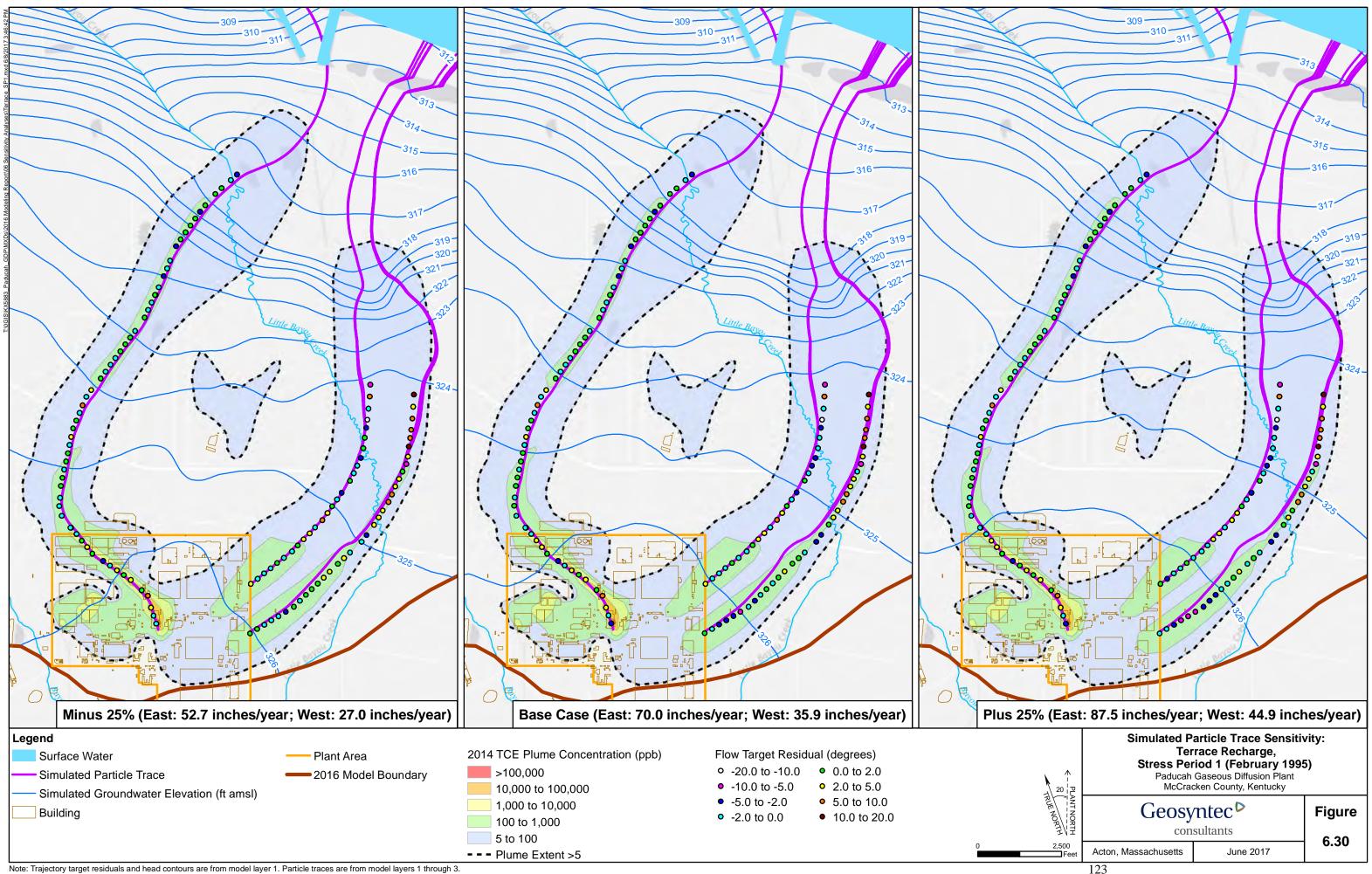


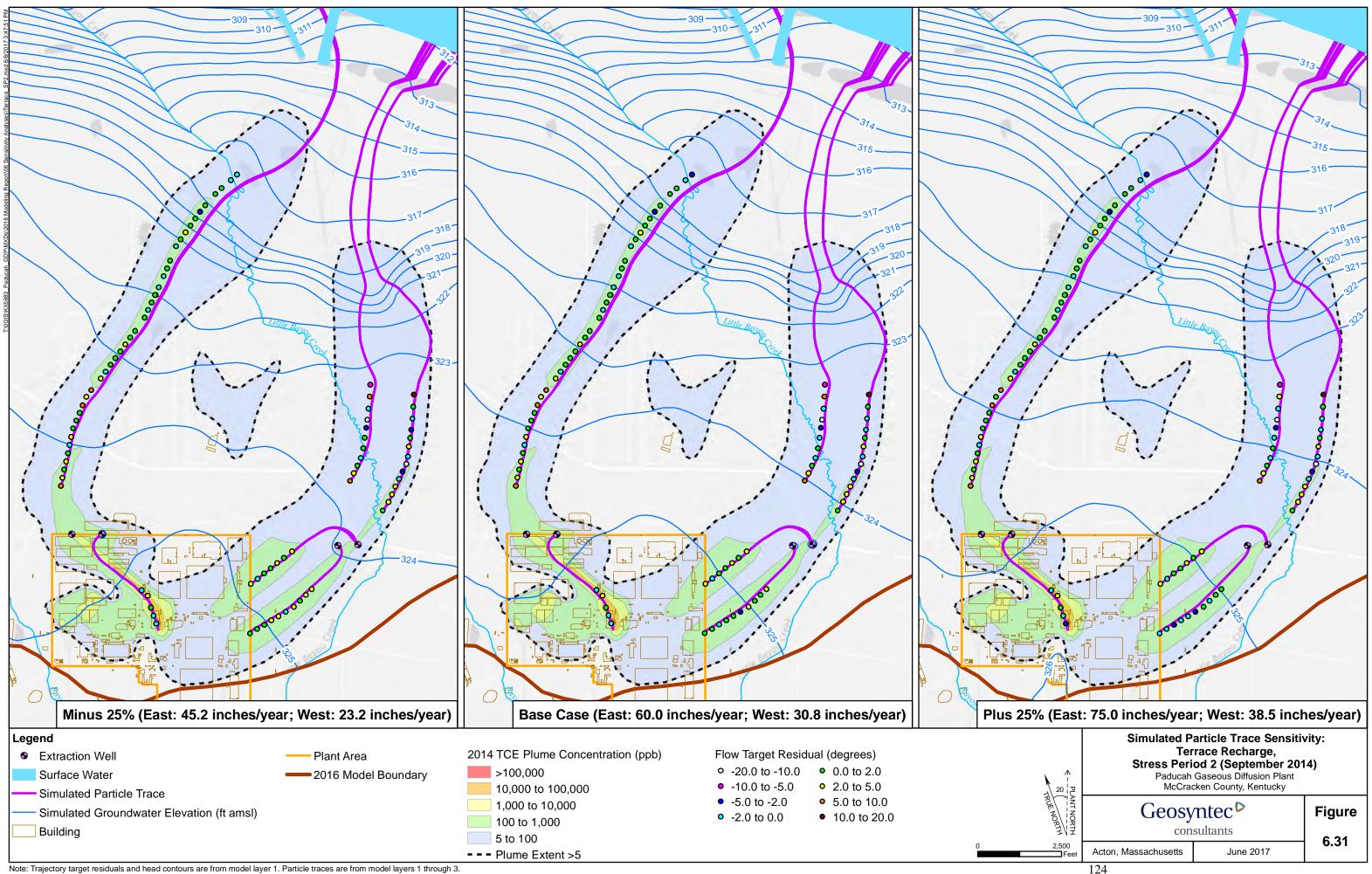


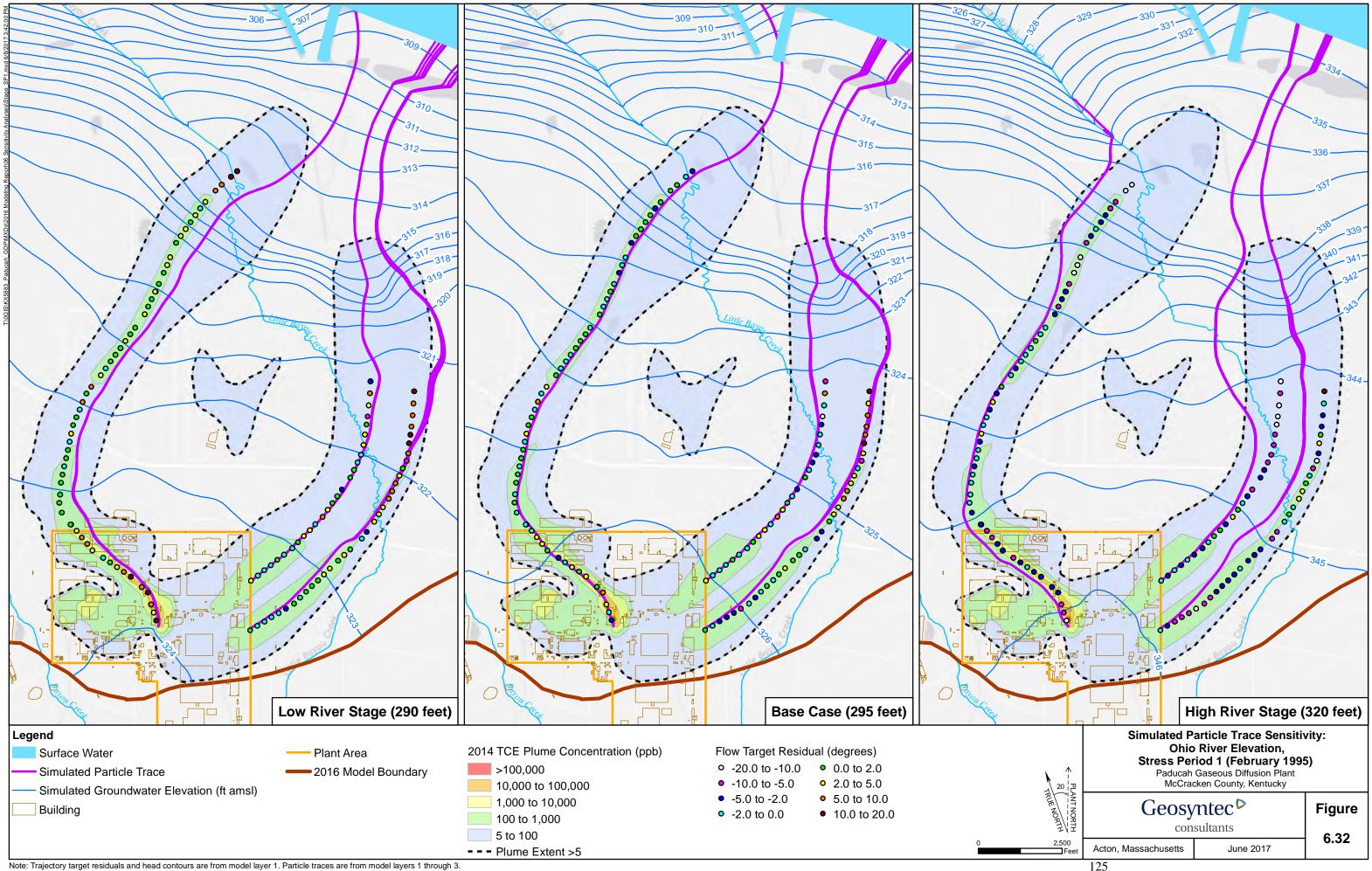


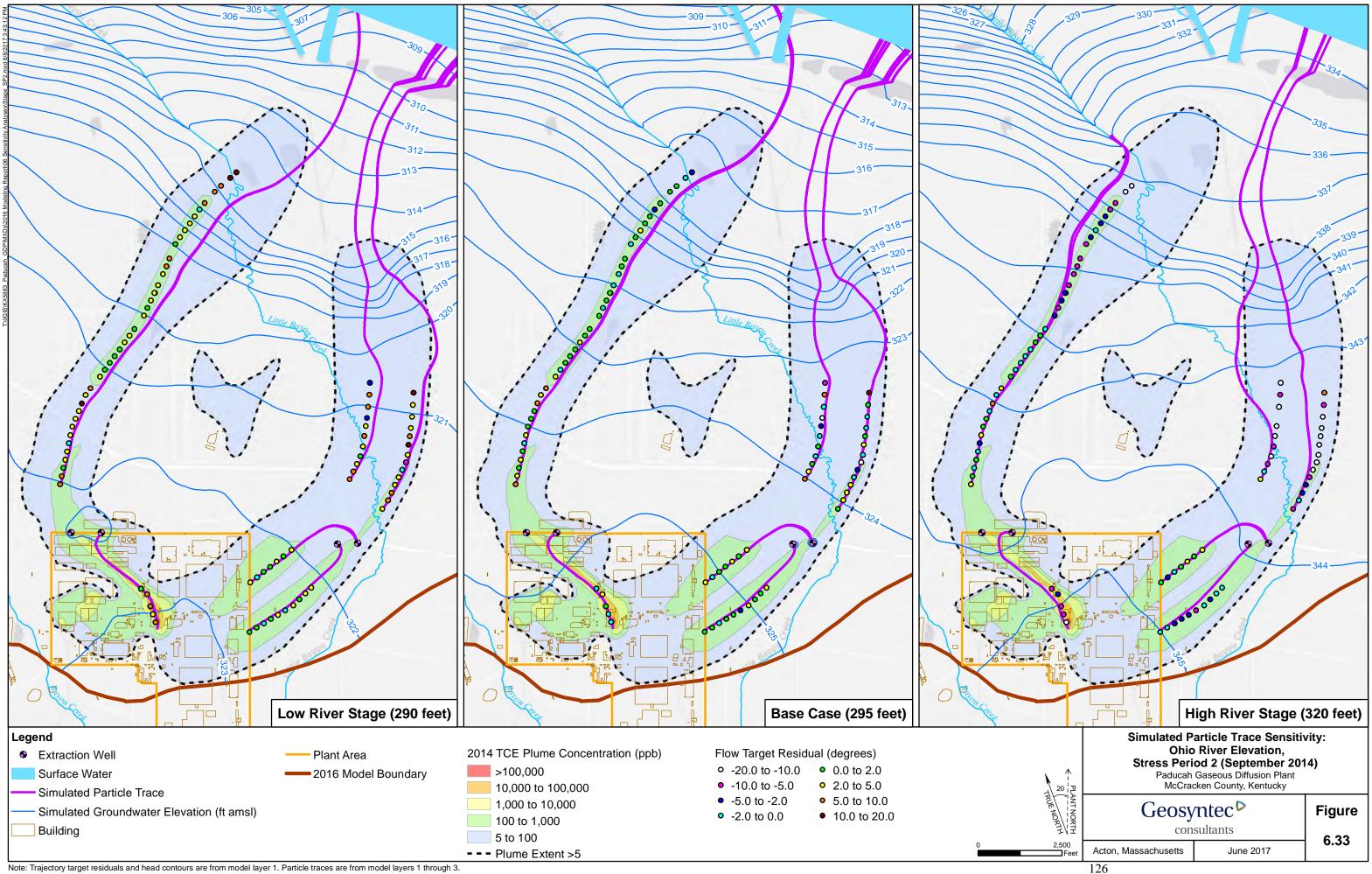












Waste Area Group	Solid Waste Management Unit or Area of Concern	Description	Type(s) of Release	Primary Contaminants Present	Reference		
Northeast Plume (AOC 202)							
6	SWMU 40	C-403 Neutralization Pit	Leak from former waste treatment facility (including UCRS DNAPL zone)	Trichloroethene and Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
28	SWMU 99	C-745 Kellogg Building Site	Leaching of contamination from materials storage yard	Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
28	AOC 204	Dykes Road Historical Staging Area	TCE leak into drainage ditch (including shallow soils DNAPL zone)	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
None Assigned	None assigned	Undefined Source	Near northeast corner of C-333	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 1, Table 1.3		
Northwest Plume (AOC 201)							
6	SWMU 11	C-400 TCE Leak Site	Leak from break in storm sewer	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
6	SWMU 47	C-400 Technetium Storage Tank Area	Leak/spill from former waste storage tank	Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
6	SWMU 203	C-400 Waste Discard Sump	Effluent pipeline sump	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
6	SWMU 533	TCE Spill Site from TCE Unloading Operations at C-400	Leak of TCE transfer pump	Trichloroethene	DOE 1999		
22	SWMU 7	C-747-A Burial Ground	Leaching from waste burial cells (including UCRS DNAPL zone)	Trichloroethene and Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
22	SWMU 30	C-747-A Burn Area	Leaching from waste burial cells and foundation of former incinerator	Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
25	SWMU 59	North-South Diversion Ditch (inside plant security fence)	Leaching from contaminated sediments	Technetium	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
Southwest Plume (AOC 210)							
27	SWMU 1	C-747-C Oil Landfarm	Former oil landfarm (including UCRS DNAPL zone)	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
22	SWMU 2	C-749 Uranium Burial Ground	Leaking drum in uranium burial ground	Trichloroethene	DOE 2010		
22	SWMU 3	C-404 Low-Level Radioactive Waste Burial Ground	RCRA-closed landfill	Trichloroethene and Technetium	DOE 2010		
3	SWMU 4	C-747 Contaminated Burial Ground	Former burial ground	Trichloroethene	DOE 2016		
27	SWMU 91	C-745-B Cylinder Drop Test Area	Former TCE dip tank (including UCRS DNAPL zone)	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
1	SWMU 136	C-740 TCE Spill Site	Raw materials storage shed	Trichloroethene	DOE 1996		
27	SWMU 209	C-720 Compressor Shop Pit	Former waste liquids sump	Trichloroethene	DOE 2001, Volume 2, Appendix A, Table 6.1		
27	SWMU 211-A	C-720 TCE Spill Site - Northeast	Unknown - multiple mechanisms possible	Trichloroethene	DOE 2013		
27	SWMU 211-B	C-720 TCE Spill Site - Southeast	Unknown - multiple mechanisms possible	Trichloroethene	DOE 2013		

#### Table 6.6. Known or Suspected Trichloroethene and Technetium Source Areas

References:

DOE 1996. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation Report for Waste Area Groupings 1 and 7 at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah Kentucky, Volume 1, April.

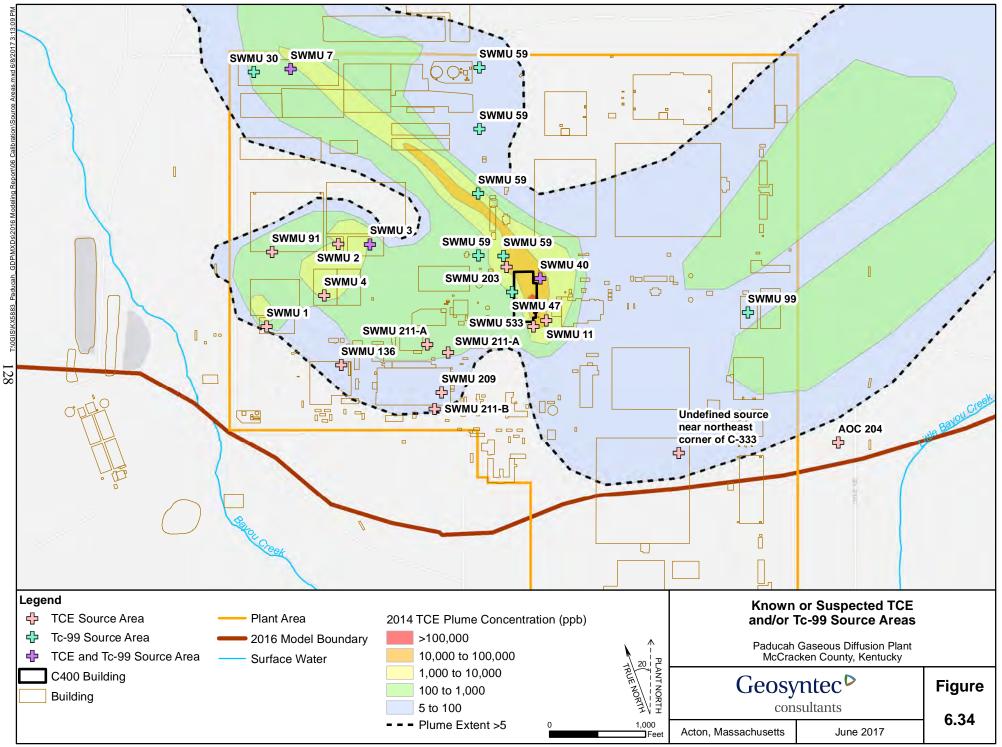
DOE 1999. Remedial Investigation Report for Waste Area Grouping 6 at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky, Volume 1, May.

DOE 2001. Feasibility Study for the Groundwater Operable Unit at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky, Volumes 1 and 2, August.

DOE 2010. Remedial Investigation Report for the Burial Grounds Operable Unit at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky, February.

DOE 2013. Final Characterization Report for Solid Waste Management Units 211-A and 211-B Volatile Organic Compound Sources for the Southwest Groundwater Plume at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky, December.

DOE 2016. Addendum to the Remedial Investigation Report for the Burial Grounds Operable Unit Solid Waste Management Unit 4 at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky, August.



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

approximate relative to the model domain. The particles origination points were specified at the top, middle, and bottom of layers 1, 2, and 3 in the assessed locations and forward particle tracks were calculated for both SP1 (February 1995) and SP2 (September 2014).

The results of the analysis are illustrated in Figure 6.35. The pathlines generally align well with the 2014 TCE plume delineation for both the non-pumping (SP1) and pumping (SP2) stress periods with a few exceptions. Pathlines originating at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 59, Area of Concern (AOC) 204, and an undefined source near the northeast corner of the C-333 Building deviate from the known distribution of TCE as defined by the 2014 plume delineation. SWMU 59 is a diversion ditch with sediments contaminated by Tc-99 and was represented in the model as five particle release locations located along the ditch. Because SWMU 59 is a source area for Tc-99 and not TCE, the pathlines originating at the particle locations representing SWMU cannot be directly related to the 2014 TCE plume delineation. The pathlines originating at AOC 204 and the northeast corner of the C-333 building tend to travel in a more eastward direction than would be expected based on the 2014 TCE plume delineation. Particle tracks for these source areas begin near the periphery or outside of the 2014 plume extent as defined by the 5 ppb TCE contour; introducing more uncertainty in the assessment of the model-predicted flow path compared to the observed TCE distribution. Moreover, the entry points to the RGA from these sources are not known exactly. The source near the northeast corner of the C-333 building is undefined, and dense nonaqueous-phase liquid (DNAPL) could have migrated laterally on low permeability silt/clay layers in the UCRS prior to entering the RGA, which complicates interpretation of these particle tracks in terms of dissolved plume movement in the RGA.

### 6.9 MODEL VALIDATION

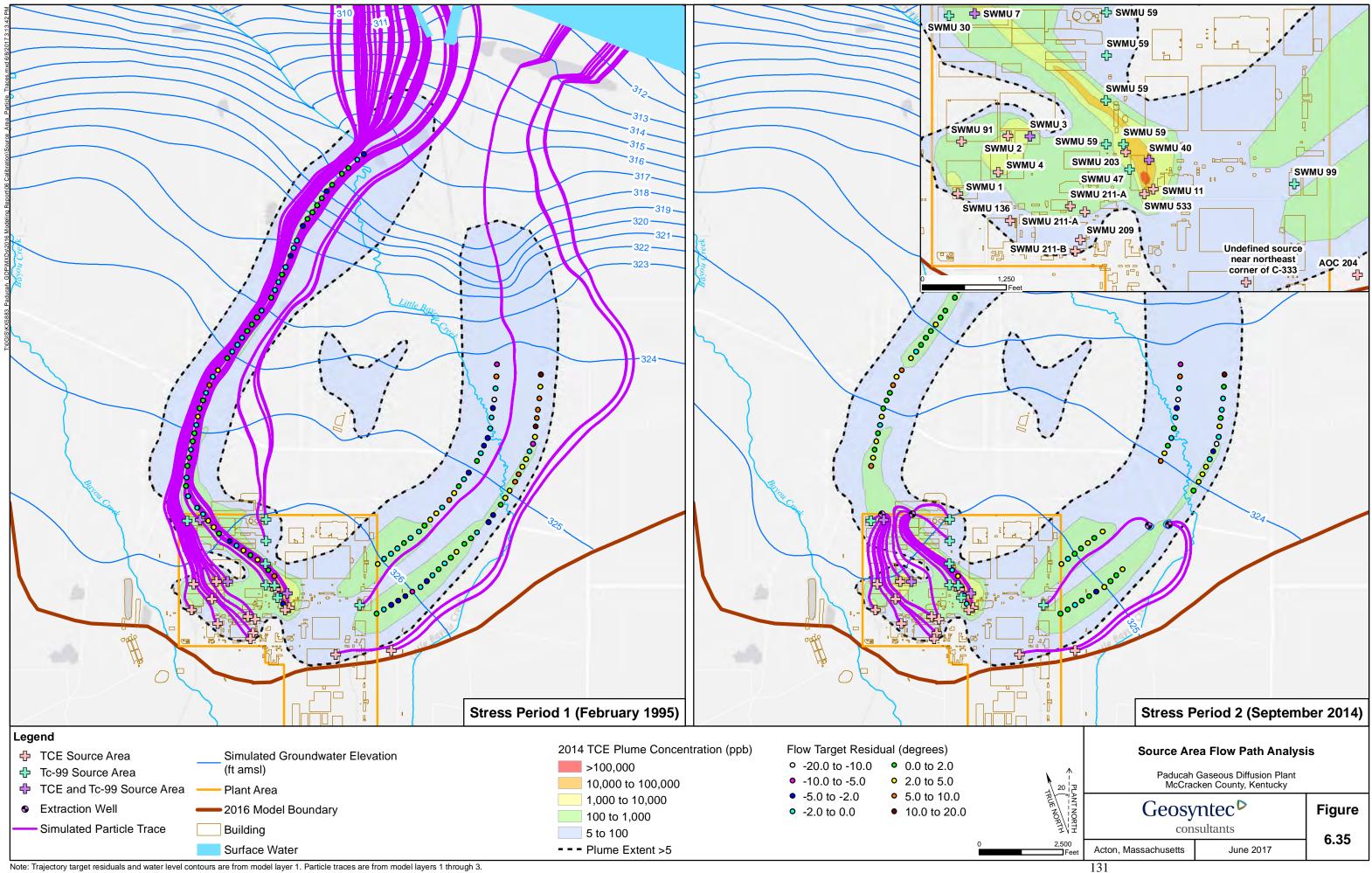
Validation of the model was conducted to evaluate model performance under varied site conditions. The validation approach was implemented by comparing the model calculated output to observed data from datasets identified in Section 3.4 to represent a range of site conditions including extreme flooding and transient hydrogeologic conditions related to seasonally transient boundary conditions (i.e., ambient recharge and river stage). The three data sets remaining from the five that were identified for calibration were also included in the validation. Table 6.7 summarizes the stress periods that were used for validation.

Two key metrics are identified to evaluate model performance and assess the uncertainty regarding use of the model as a tool to evaluate future remediation scenarios and identify data gaps.

- 1. Groundwater flow path lines to assess the model's ability to simulate the Northwest and Northeast Plumes migration.
- 2. Hydraulic gradient across the model domain to assess the change in water level elevation from the plant to the Ohio River.

The ability of the model to simulate the alternative site conditions defined by the validation datasets was assessed to provide insight to potential uncertainty in model predictions.

In addition to a visual match of path lines to plume centerlines, the predicted gradient across the model domain between the plant area and LBC in the direction of groundwater flow was evaluated.



Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

### Table 6.7. Model Validation Monitoring Events

Monitoring Period	Number of Water Level Targets	Ohio River Stage <sup>1</sup> (feet amsl)	Monitoring Event Type	Annual Precipitation (in/yr)	Rationale
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2005	110	300.0 <sup>2</sup>	Sitewide Synoptic	37.5	Representative of steady-state conditions, initial extraction well system in operation. Use to evaluate initial extraction well system configuration.
April 12, 2011	212	327.2	Sitewide Synoptic	74.9	High relative annual precipitation, river at flood stage at conditions that do not represent steady-state conditions. Use to evaluate extreme high river condition.
October 10, 2011	202	295.5	Sitewide Synoptic	74.9	Full synoptic data set representing steady-state conditions at high annual precipitation. Use to evaluate above average rainfall conditions.
July 17, 2012	184	290.0	Sitewide Synoptic	30.1	Full synoptic data set representing steady-state conditions at low annual precipitation and low river stage. Use to evaluate below average rainfall conditions and low river stage.
September 24, 2013	203	292.5	Sitewide Synoptic	60.3	Full synoptic data set representing steady-state conditions at high annual precipitation. Use to evaluate above average rainfall conditions.
September 1, 2015	205	296.7	Sitewide Synoptic	59.2	High relative annual precipitation and dropping river stage prior to monitoring event. Use to evaluate model prediction under non-steady state condition.
August 23, 2016	216	298.0 <sup>2</sup>	Sitewide Synoptic	52.5	Full synoptic data set representing steady-state conditions. Use to evaluate current conditions.

<sup>1</sup> Average Ohio River stage at the Metropolis station for 30 days prior to the water level measurement event except as otherwise noted. <sup>2</sup> 30-day average Ohio River stage not used; see text for details (Section 3.4).

### 6.9.1 Plume Trajectory

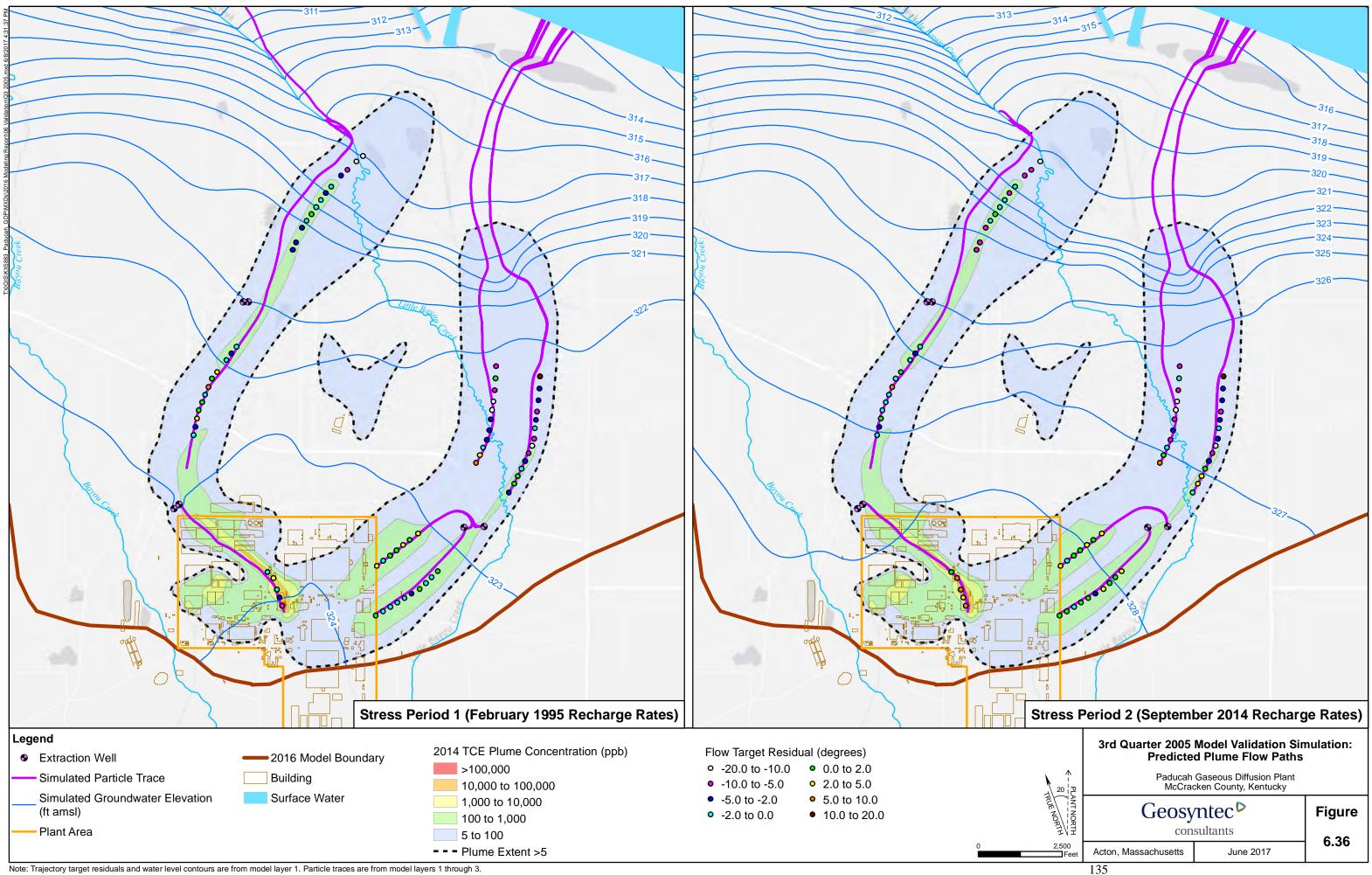
To assess the ability of the calibrated model to simulate alternative site conditions, the validation datasets were imported as water level targets into the calibrated model and the Ohio River stage was revised to the 30-day average, except as noted previously (see Section 3.4), for each validation period. The results of each validation simulation were evaluated using MODPATH to simulate the particle traces for SP1 and SP2 in order to assess the results under the range of recharge conditions simulated in the calibrated model. Unlike SP1, extraction wells were operating during all validation periods. To account for this site condition in the evaluation, pumping rates of extraction wells that were operational during the validation period were specified in SP1 and SP2. The particle traces for the seven validation periods evaluated are illustrated in Figures 6.36 to 6.42.

Site conditions range from extreme flooding conditions in April 2011 (with the river stage at 327.2 ft amsl) to the relative drought conditions in July 2012 (with the river stage at 290.0 ft amsl) as compared to the calibrated model river stage of 295.2 ft amsl. For all validation simulations, the plume trajectories exhibit similar responses between SP1 and SP2. The effects of alternative river stages are more prominent in the Northwest Plume trajectories with minimal deviation in the Northeast Plume trajectories compared to the calibrated flow paths (Figure 6.13).

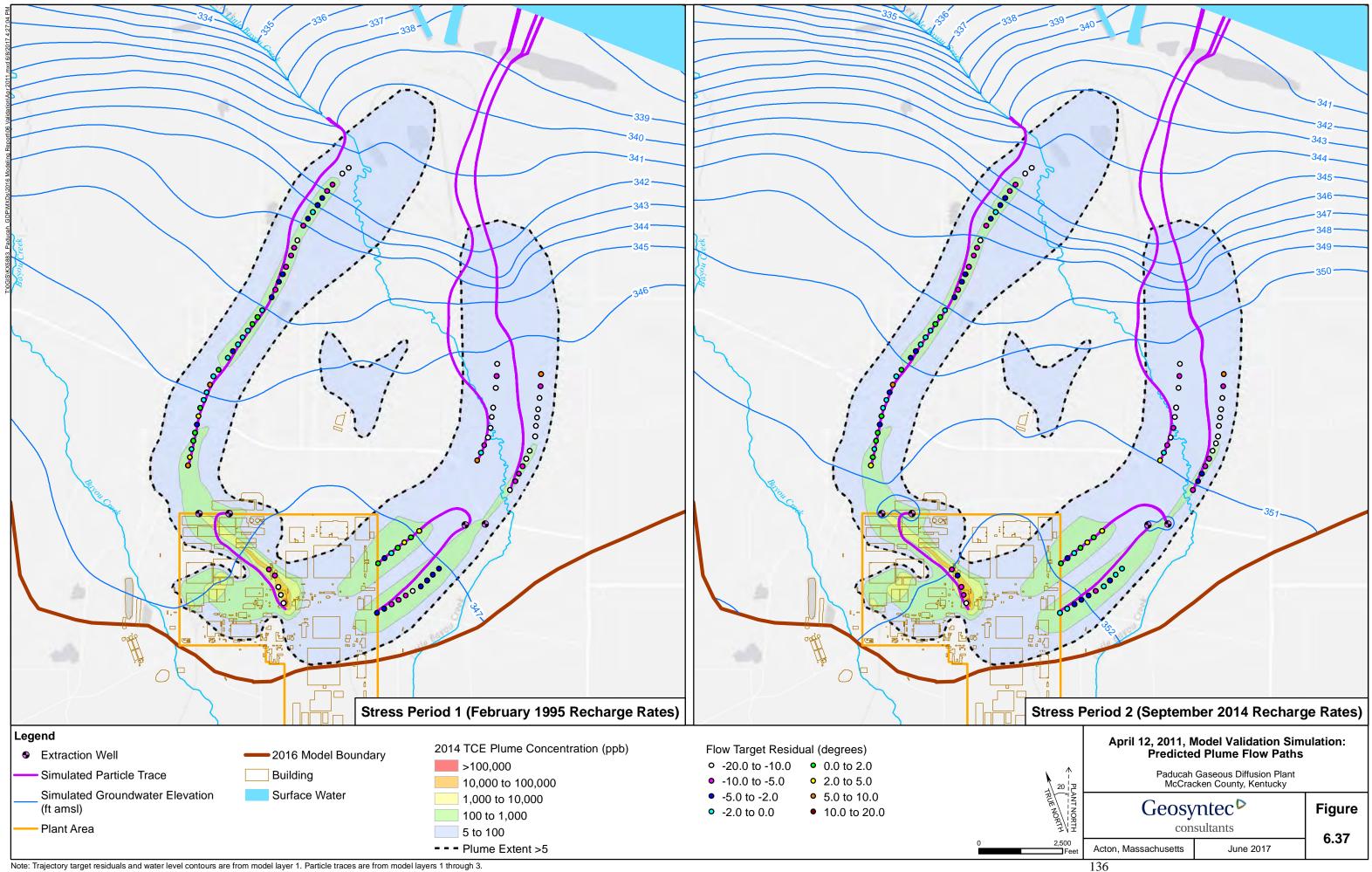
In the Northwest Plume trajectories, the effect of higher than calibrated river stages is to deflect the flow paths westward towards the lower reach of LBC as groundwater discharge is diverted from the Ohio River to LBC due to a shift in gradients caused by the higher river level. The most extreme example is illustrated on Figure 6.37 for April 2011 with less extreme variations exhibited for 3rd quarter 2005 and August 2016 (Figure 6.36 and Figure 6.42; note that the variation in 3rd quarter 2005 is also due to pumping at EW228 and EW229, which are the northernmost extraction wells in the Northwest Plume that are not operational in any of the other calibration or validation periods). The effect of lower than calibrated river stages is to shift the particle traces slightly eastward as illustrated in Figures 6.39 and 6.40 for July 2012 and September 2013. For the simulation with a river stage close to that of the calibrated model, September 2015, the particle traces are similar to those simulated in calibrated model (Figures 6.41 and 6.13).

## 6.9.2 Gradient

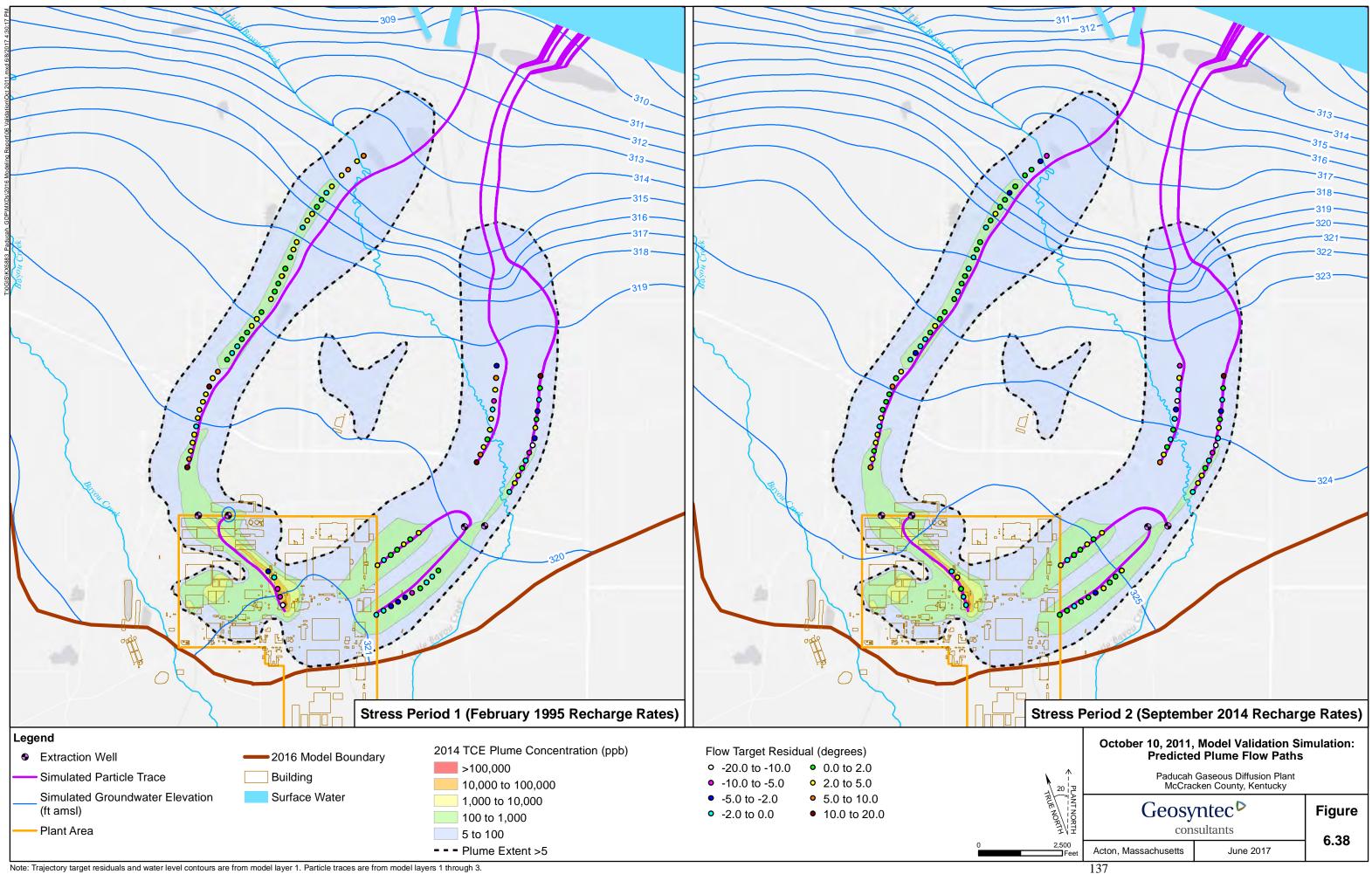
To assess the ability of the model to simulate the gradient from the plant area to the furthest extent of the plume, the gradient between two monitoring wells, MW453 and MW445, was chosen to represent the gradient across the model. These wells are located in the Northwest Plume down gradient and beyond the influence of extraction well pumping in the NW corner of the plant area (Figure 6.43). Similar wells in the Northeast Plume were not selected for this analysis because available monitoring well locations did not provide for a substantial distance over which to evaluate the gradient. For the comparative analysis, results from the calibrated model SP2 (September 2014) were evaluated because they represent more recent site conditions than SP1 (February 1995), and SP2 represents a period of active pumping that is consistent with the seven validation data sets. The results of the gradient analysis are summarized in Table 6.8.



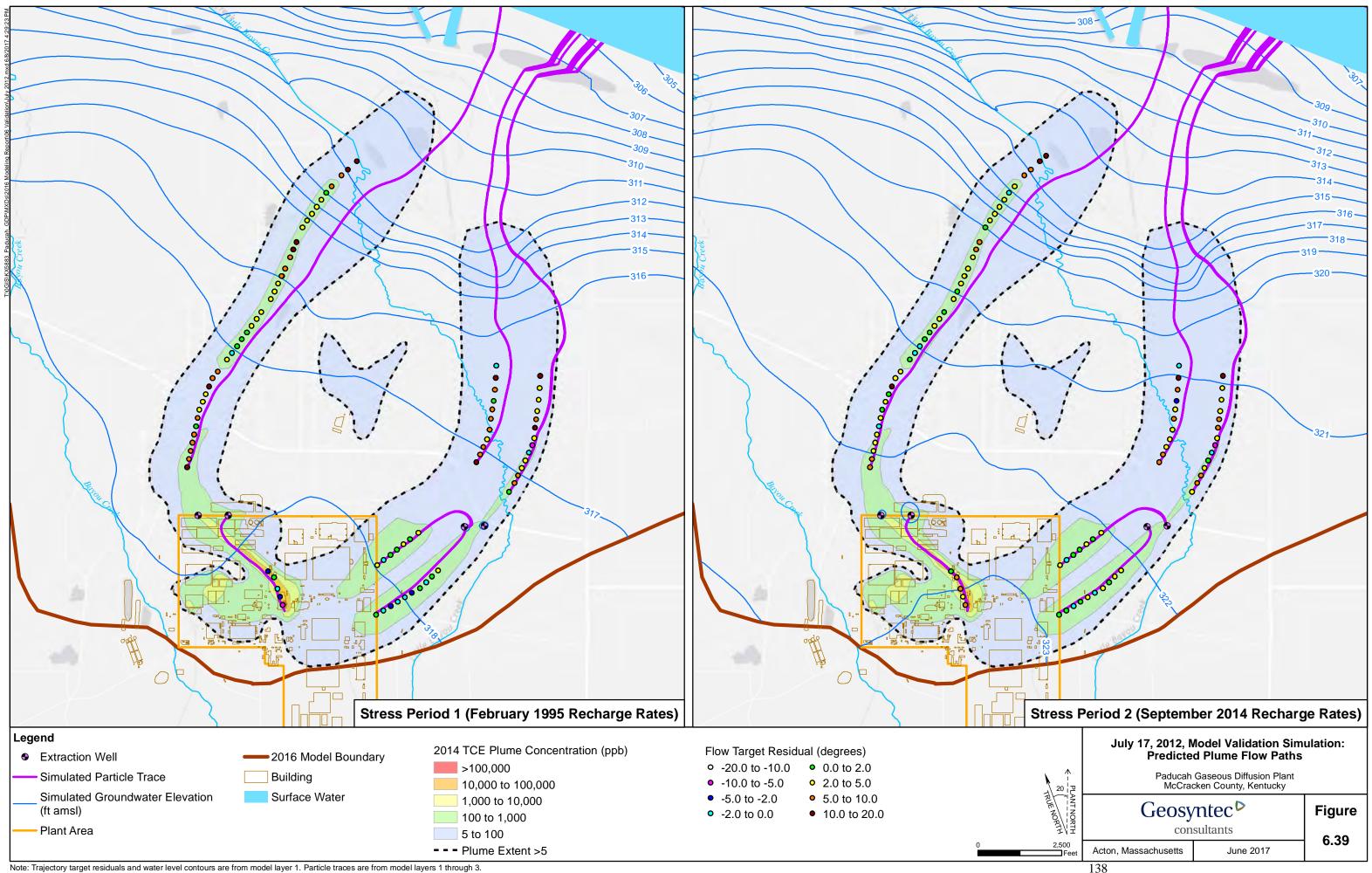
Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



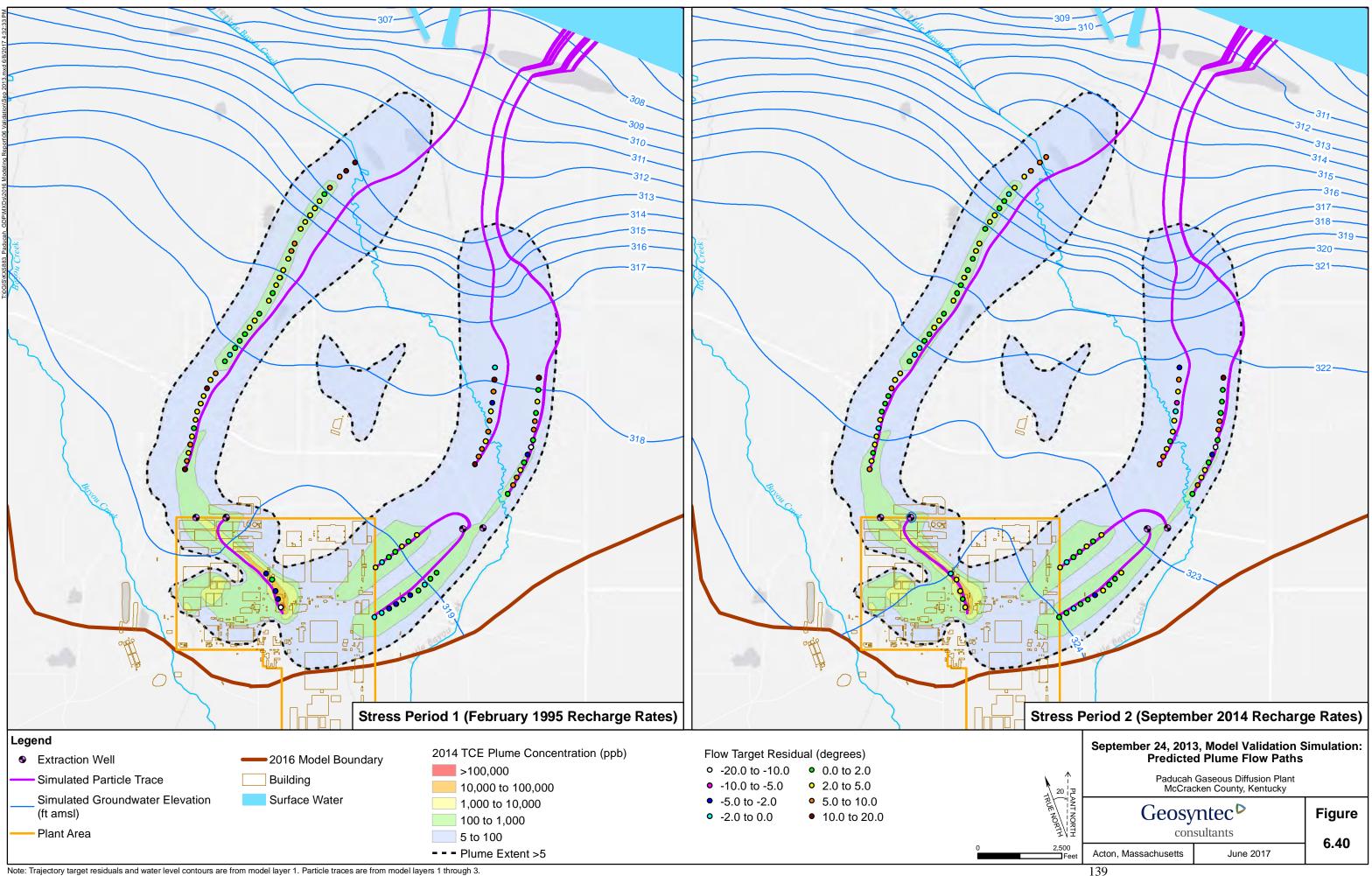
Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



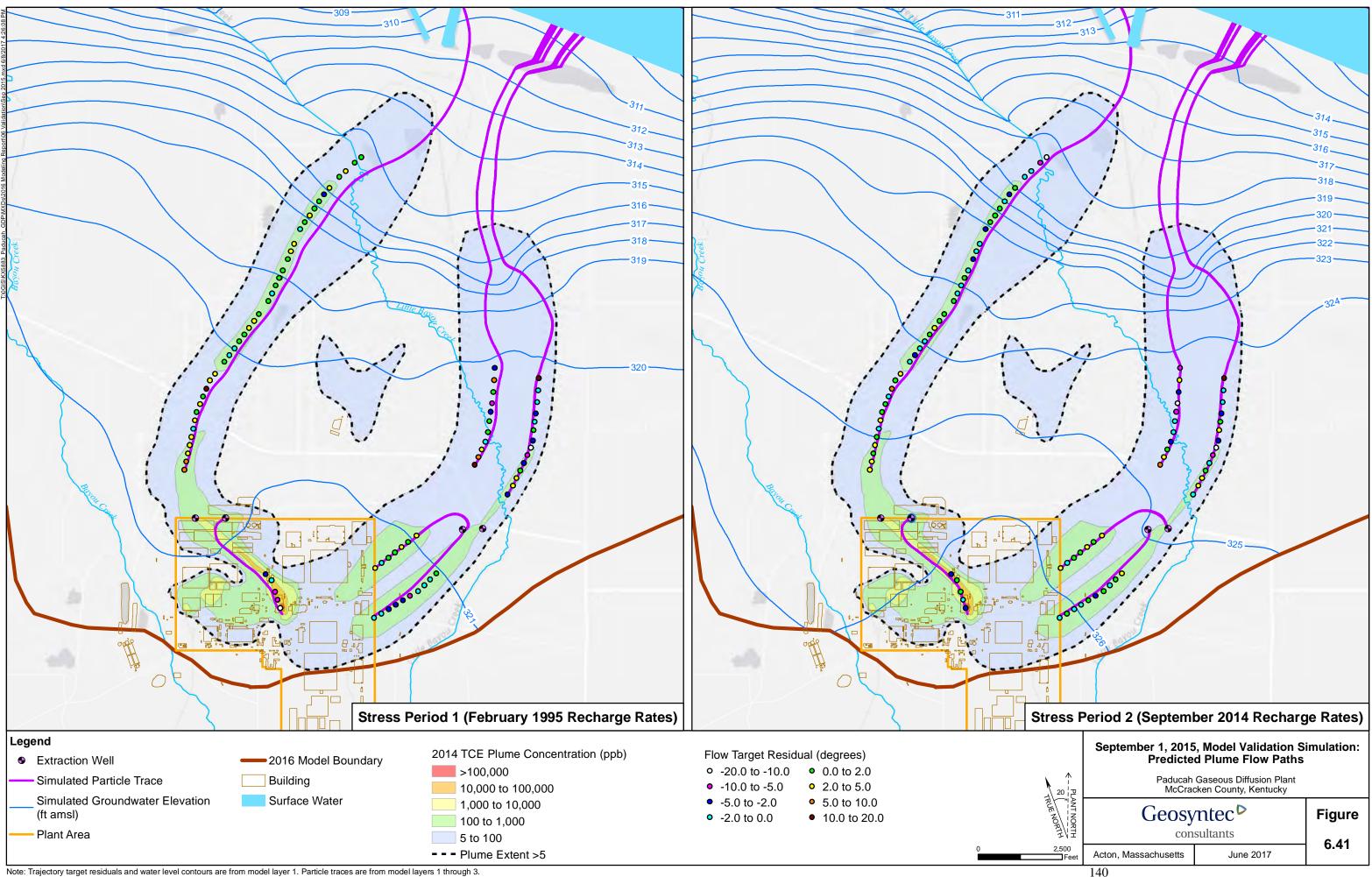
Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



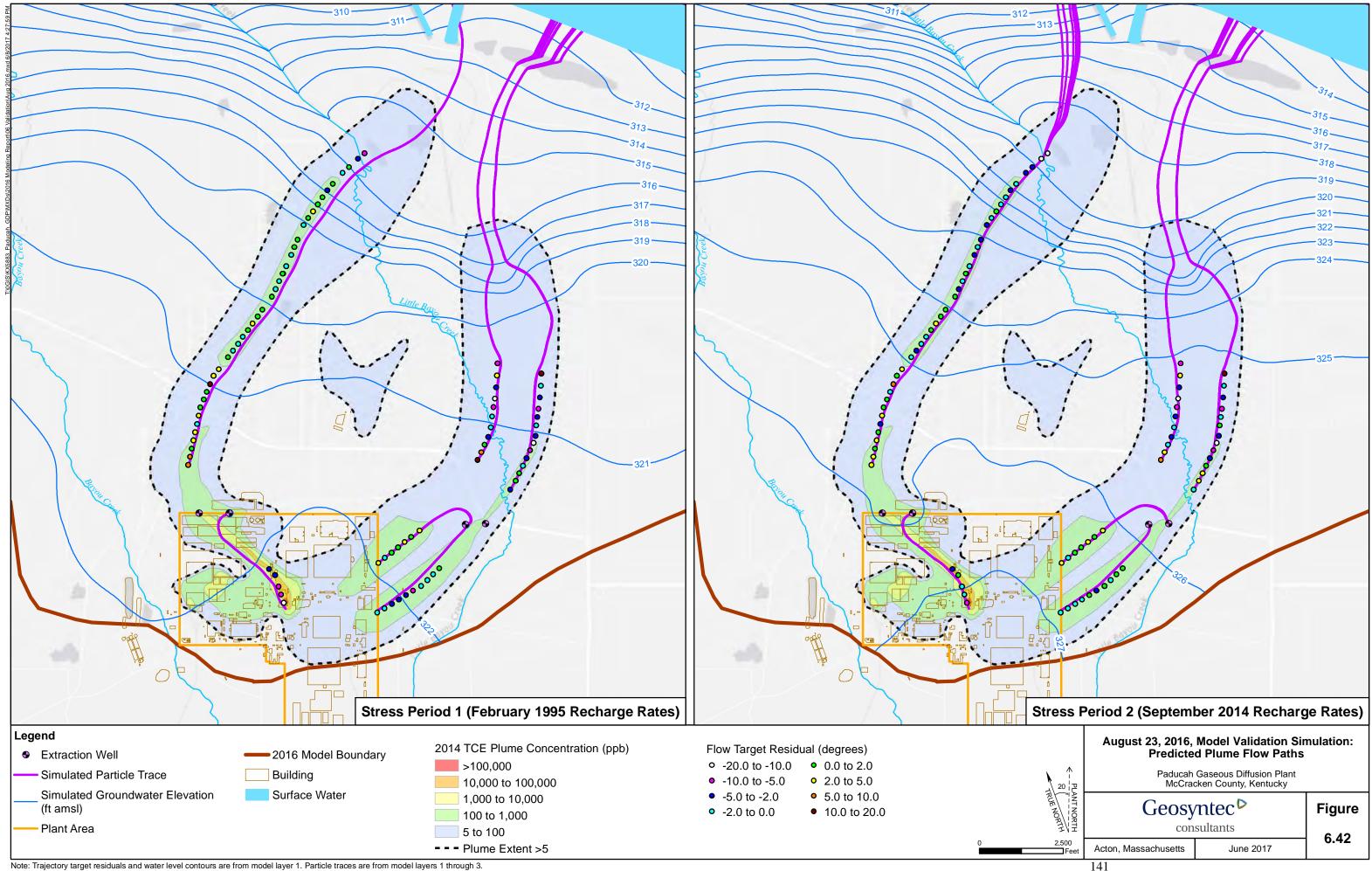
Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



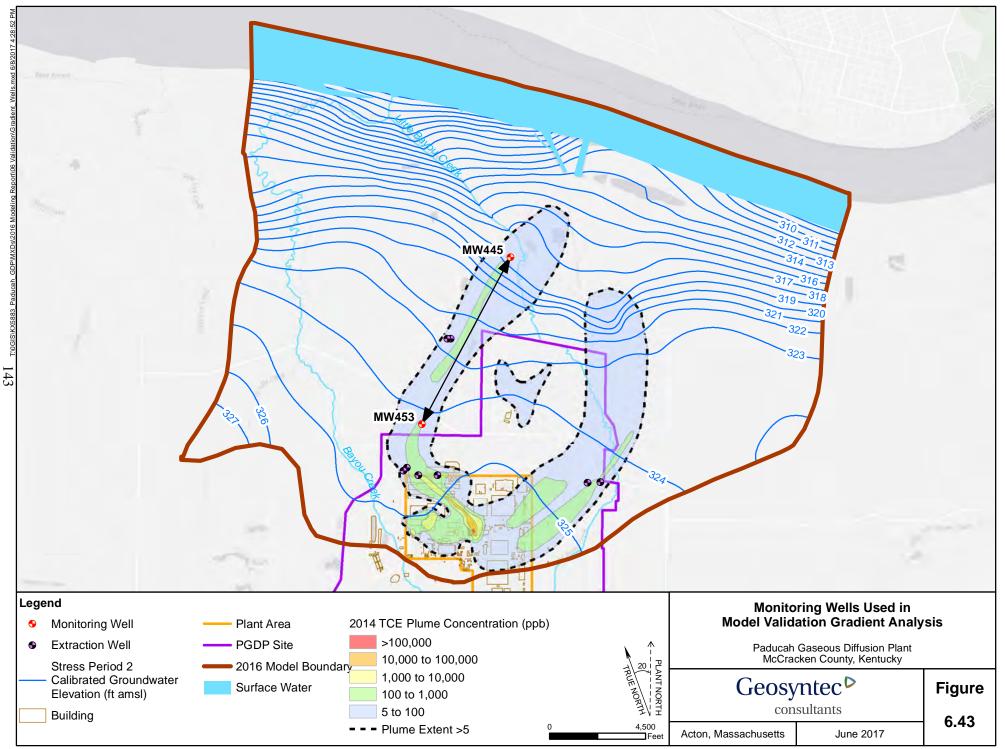
Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Note: Trajectory target residuals and water level contours are from model layer 1. Particle traces are from model layers 1 through 3. Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

#### Table 6.8. Model Validation Gradient Analysis

	Calib	ration	Validation						
Statistic	SP1 Feb 1995	SP2 Sept 2014	SP2 Q3 2005	SP2 Apr 2011	SP2 Oct 2011	SP2 July 2012	SP2 Sept 2013	SP2 Sept 2015	SP2 Aug 2016
River Stage Elevation <sup>1</sup>	295.2	295.2	300.0	327.2	295.5	290.0	292.5	296.7	298.0
Model Calculated Gradient <sup>2</sup>	0.00082	0.00074	0.00075	0.00071	0.00074	0.00077	0.00075	0.00074	0.00073
Observed Gradient <sup>2</sup>	NA <sup>5</sup>	0.00075	NA <sup>5</sup>	0.00032	0.00068	0.00067	0.00069	0.00088	0.00083
Percent Difference <sup>3,4</sup>	NA <sup>5</sup>	1.5%	NA <sup>5</sup>	-120.0%	-9.4%	-13.4%	-9.0%	16.4%	11.5%

<sup>1</sup> River stage elevation is in feet amsl.
 <sup>2</sup> Gradient is calculated by dividing the distance between monitoring wells MW453 and MW445 into the calculated or observed head difference.

<sup>3</sup> Percent Difference = ((Observed gradient-calculated gradient)/observed gradient)\*100.

<sup>4</sup> A negative percent difference denotes an overestimate and a positive percent difference denotes an underestimate.

<sup>5</sup> No observation data available for MW453 and MW445 on this date.

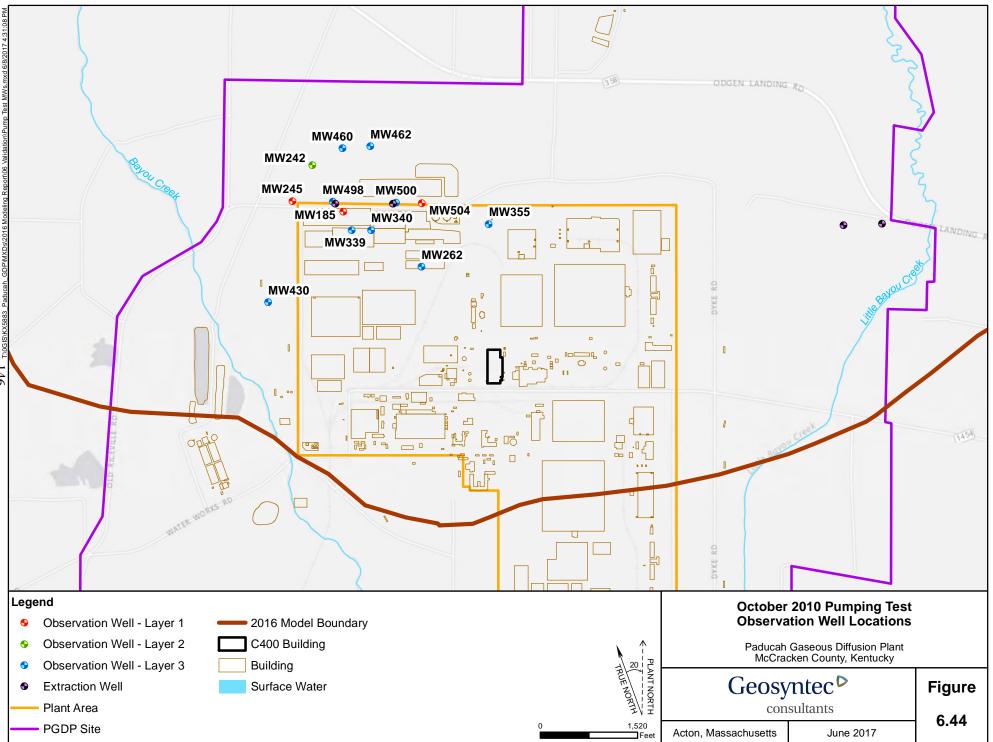
The model calculated gradients were compared among validation simulations, as well as to observed gradient within each validation period. The range of the calculated gradient for all validation periods, 0.00071 to 0.00077, compares well to the calibrated model calculated gradient in SP2 of 0.00074. This is expected because, while the recharge and hydraulic conductivity remain constant, simulated heads will adjust to the river stage such that the gradient across the site also will remain constant to balance model discharge with model recharge. For each validation period, comparison of the model calculated gradient to the observed gradient exhibits a range of variation from 11.5% to 120% (observed vs. calculated). Excluding the extreme flooding scenario (April 2011), the range of variation is -9.0% to 16.4%. The extreme flooding case illustrates the limitation of simulating transient conditions with a steady state model. In the transient state, there is a lag between the change in the river stage and changes in groundwater levels which propagate from areas close to the river inland such that greater groundwater level fluctuation will be observed closer to the river. The magnitude and rate of groundwater water level fluctuation typically observed in the spring season prevents the system from approaching steady-state conditions. The result of simulating the transient condition of high river levels with a steady state model is to overestimate the head, especially in areas farther away from the river (Figure 6.37). For the remaining simulations, with the river stage within approximately 5 ft of the river stage specified in the calibrated model, the percent difference may be attributed to differences in recharge rates, especially ambient recharge, between the validation periods and the calibration periods. For example, the river stage during the September 2015 (296 ft amsl) validation period was similar to SP2 of the calibrated model (295.2 ft amsl) but the percent difference in gradient is 16.4%. For the validation simulation, head residuals are 1.96 and 0.69 ft, for MW453 and MW445 (observed minus calculated), respectively. An adjustment to increase recharge to account for higher annual precipitation in 2015 compared to 2014 (46.8 inches/year versus 59.2 inches/year, Table 3.7) would have resulted in a better match between the observed and calculated heads and an improved match between the simulated gradient in the validation run versus the calibration run.

In summary, the calibrated model provides a representation of the groundwater flow system within the PGDP Basin for steady-state conditions, which typically occur during the drier months of the year. The validation simulations show that for a river stage elevation less than 298 ft amsl, the model reasonably represents the hydraulic gradient from the Plant Area to the furthest extent of the NW Plume. In the case of more transient periods (e.g., the flooding conditions in April 2011) when the increased precipitation rates and higher and more variable Ohio River stages are observed, the steady state model is a less valid representation of site conditions.

### 6.10 TRANSIENT CALIBRATION

A supplemental transient calibration was conducted to evaluate transient conditions using the results from the October 2010 pumping test conducted at EW232 and EW233. The location of the 2010 pumping test head and drawdown targets are shown on Figure 6.44. The simulation included an initial steady-state stress period to establish initial heads followed by ten 1-day transient stress periods to simulate drawdown measured over the 10-day test period (Table 6.9). River stage for the initial steady-state stress period was specified based on the 30-day average of the Ohio River, and daily averages were used for the transient stress period river stages. Ambient recharge was adjusted to calibrate the model to water level targets in the initial stress period, and specific storage was manually adjusted to calibrate the model to the best match between calculated and observed drawdown.

Drawdown targets are based on the Northwest Plume Extraction System performance test, which included 36 RGA observation wells, two of which comprised background wells, and two recovery wells pumping at 110 gpm each (DOE 2011). The field event consisted of three phases:



Plume Contour Source: DOE, 2015; Figure C.2

Monitoring Period	Stress Period Type	Number of Head Targets	Ohio River Stage <sup>1</sup> (ft amsl)	Annual Precipitation (inches/yr)
October 11, 2010	Steady-State	13	293.9	
October 12, 2010	Transient	13	295.5	
October 13, 2010	Transient	13	295.5	
October 14, 2010	Transient	13	294.9	
October 15, 2010	Transient	13	294.5	
October 16, 2010	Transient	13	294.3	36.7
October 17, 2010	Transient	13	293.8	
October 18, 2010	Transient	13	293.5	
October 19, 2010	Transient	13	293.1	
October 20, 2010	Transient	13	292.8	
October 21, 2010	Transient	13	292.7	

**Table 6.9. Transient Calibration Stress Periods** 

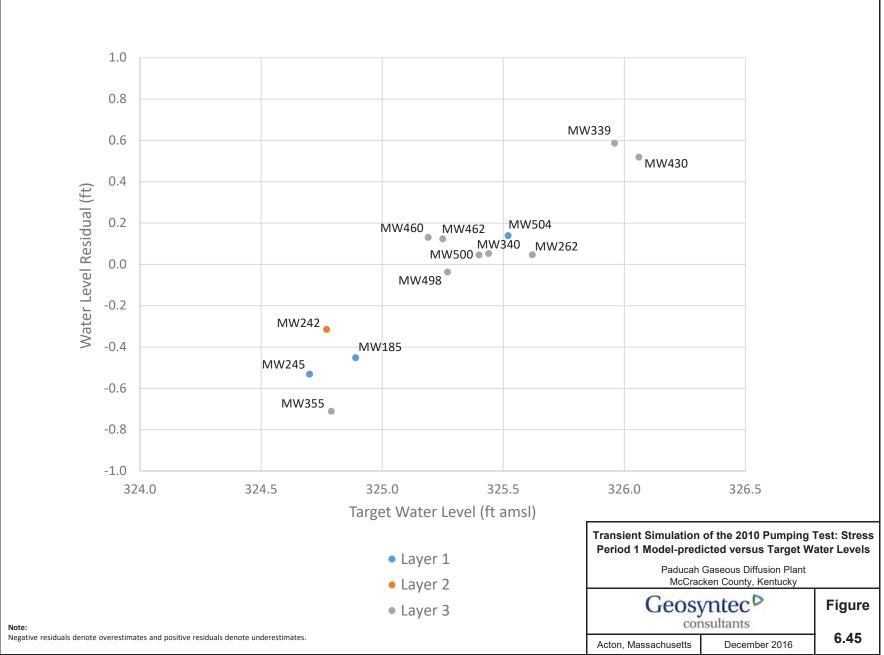
<sup>1</sup> A 30-day average Ohio River stage was used for October 11, 2010, and daily averages were used for the remaining monitoring dates.

- 1. Pre-shutdown monitoring for a minimum of three days;
- 2. System shutdown monitoring for a minimum of ten days (referred to as Phase 1); and
- 3. Restart monitoring for a minimum of ten days (Phase 2).

#### 6.10.1 Transient Calibration Statistics

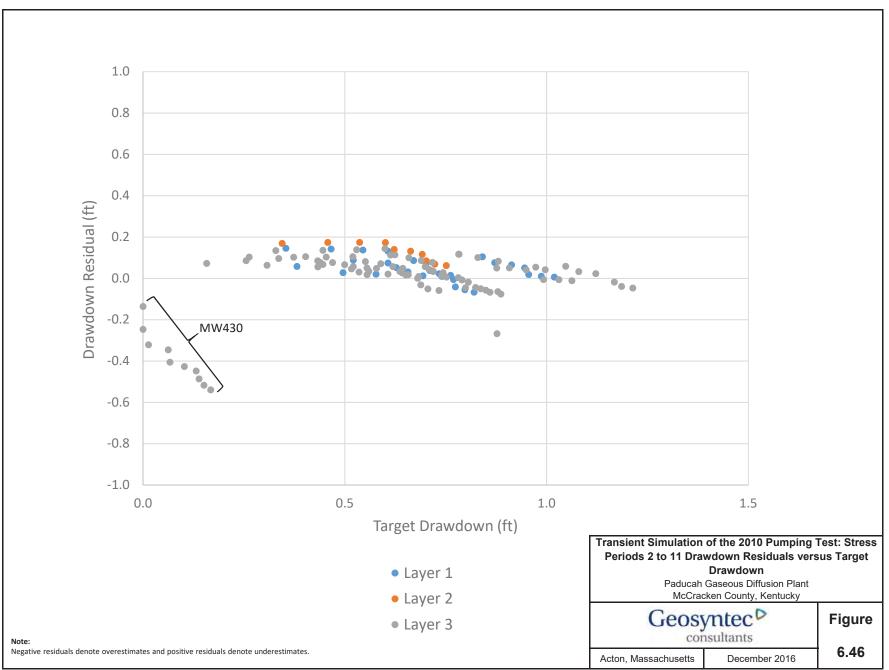
The model was calibrated to water level targets in the initial steady-state stress period by adjusting ambient recharge. No other parameters were adjusted to match the target water levels. Through this process, an ambient recharge rate of 3.9 inches/year was assigned to the model. A chart of water level residuals versus target water levels is presented in Figure 6.45.

During the calibration process, comparison of model-predicted to observed drawdown was evaluated to determine model predicted storage. The calibrated specific storage assigned to the model was 0.0002 ft<sup>-1</sup>. Using an approximate RGA thickness of 40 ft for the location of the October 2010 pumping test in the Northwest corner of the plant area (see Figure 3.4), this translates to a storativity of 0.008. This value matches the geometric mean storativity of 0.008 that was reported for the June 1996 pumping test performed at EW231 (approximately 740 ft west of EW232). A chart of drawdown residuals versus target drawdown is presented in Figure 6.46. A reasonable match of the drawdown targets was obtained, although the results show some bias with drawdown being underestimated early on in the simulation (residual mean of 0.08 ft during the first day of pumping) and overestimated later (residual mean of - 0.06 ft during the tenth day of pumping). This bias could not be corrected by adjusting model storage alone, and additional parameters such as recharge other than ambient would have to be modified to achieve a better fit. The model fit of drawdown at the most distal well, MW430, is noticeably poorer than the fit obtained for all other observation wells. It also was noted in the pumping test report that the response at MW430 was inconsistent with the response at the remaining observation wells.



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# 7. CALIBRATION SUMMARY

# 7.1 CALIBRATION EVALUATION

The 2016 model reasonably matches target water level elevations in the plant area and across the model domain. In addition, based on particle traces, the model reasonably reproduces the Northeast and Northwest Plumes flow paths. Overall, this flow model honors the conceptual model with respect to recharge and discharge rates, relative recharge and discharge volumes, and the predicted range of RGA hydraulic conductivities. Also, the predicted RGA bulk hydraulic conductivity, as evidenced by the model domain hydraulic conductivity (622 ft/day), is close to the estimated range of bulk RGA hydraulic conductivity values derived from site data (713 ft/day to 2,063 ft/day) (DOE 2010, Section 4.5.2.).

Additionally, final predicted PEST sensitivities indicate that it is possible through calibration to obtain reasonably accurate parameter values for 1,072 of the 1,093 model input parameters (including  $K_x$  pilot points). Except for the capped landfill recharge, the remaining input parameters have sensitivities that indicate that it may be possible to obtain reasonably accurate parameter values through calibration. Overall, the calibrated model input parameters are reasonably accurate.

The model-predicted mass balance indicates the greatest source (approximately 81%) of recharge to the PGDP Hydrologic Basin is from precipitation. Anthropogenic recharge contributes approximately 13 to 14% of the total inflow to the PGDP Hydrologic Basin. Approximately 3% of the total basin inflow is contributed by creek recharge and approximately 2% is contributed by recharge from the Terrace Gravel. Most groundwater within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin discharges to the Ohio River (approximately 77% and 65% for SP1 and SP2, respectively), with the remaining groundwater discharging to the lower reaches of BC and LBC and extraction wells (SP2 only) during periods of average to low Ohio River stages.

Validation simulations show that the model reasonably reproduces the observed flow direction when the Ohio River stage is approximately 297 ft amsl or less and the site conditions are generally representative of steady state flow. For Ohio River stages above 297 ft amsl, predicted flow at the toe of the Northwest Plume migrates westward with increased discharge to LBC, rather than northward to the Ohio River. Validation simulations also show that the model reasonably represents the hydraulic gradient from the plant area to the furthest extent of the Northwest Plume, except in the case of extreme flooding conditions.

## 7.2 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The updated PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model presented in this report was developed by the MWG consisting of personnel from DOE, EPA, KDEP, KRCEE, and contractors Fluor Federal Services, Inc., Paducah Deactivation Project, Drummond Carpenter, Navarro, ESI, and Geosyntec. During the model development process, several items were identified as potentially affecting model uncertainty and warrant consideration during planning of future data collection efforts. It is recognized that it may not be possible to address all these issues; however, the following is provided to document the MWG discussions to provide continuity for future model updates.

The configuration and calibration of the 2016 PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model is based on the following key assumptions:

- The groundwater flow system is steady-state for periods where boundary conditions such as the Ohio River stage and precipitation rates are relatively constant.
- The model represents groundwater flow exclusively within the RGA as the primary conveyor of groundwater from the PGDP Site to the Ohio River.
- The McNairy is represented as a no-flow boundary because the groundwater flow rate through the McNairy Formation is negligible compared to the flow rate in the RGA.
- Groundwater flow in the UCRS is represented by a spatially varying recharge boundary condition to simulate recharge originating at land surface and infiltrating to the RGA based on the predominantly vertical flow in the UCRS.

PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model limitations include its formulation and calibration as a steady-state model, its regional scale, and its limited domain which does not include portions of the PGDP Site south of the RGA. Regarding use of the groundwater model for specific project needs, limits on the application of the model for site or project-specific requirements and determinations of the appropriate use of the model should be made by appropriate project personnel on a case-by-case basis. The following is a list of limitations identified by the MWG. Additional data collection to address some of the model limitations is described in Section 8.

- The basis for the maximum calibrated anthropogenic recharge values (maximum constraints between 29 inches/year and 83 inches/year) is the median UCRS vertical hydraulic conductivity based on slug tests and assumed vertical anisotropy on the order of 10:1. Consideration of the full range of values from the slug test data and alternative anisotropy ratios indicates potential calibrated anthropogenic recharge values less than and greater than the specified maximum calibration constraint limits. As with most groundwater models, the model configuration and calibrated input parameters are not a unique solution and it is recognized that lower model-predicted anthropogenic recharge rates potentially would have resulted if the model had used other reasonable values of lower hydraulic conductivity. Conversely, a model configuration allowing the reasonable use of higher hydraulic conductivity values potentially would result in higher model-predicted anthropogenic recharge rates.
- Characterization of the contact area between the Terrace Gravel and the UCRS in the vicinity of the southern model boundary is based on a limited number of monitoring wells.
- Limited data are available to quantify the volumetric flow rates in BC and LBC to determine where and in what quantities water enters and exits the creeks and characterize seasonal variability.
- Groundwater flow from the Terrace Gravel is an estimate from an evaluation of baseflow in upper BC.
- Limited seasonal data are available to assess the hydraulic connection of the RGA to the Ohio River and the nature of river bank storage to assess the impact of transient conditions.
- Limited data are available regarding plant operations and closure activities to support temporal and spatial assessment of anthropogenic recharge.
- Limited data are available (temporal and spatial) to assess seasonal groundwater flow patterns and to verify the occurrence of the inferred groundwater divide within the plant area.

- Some water supply systems in the plant area, including the recirculating cooling water and waste heat system, the sanitary water system, and the plant (nonsanitary) water system, are not well characterized with respect to potential for contribution to anthropogenic recharge.
- Flow, and therefore the potential for mass flux evaluation in future transport models from the McNairy Formation, is not explicitly accounted for in the model.
- The steady state model is calibrated to periods of relatively low river stage and provides a reasonable representation of transient conditions, but is a less valid representation of site conditions during periods of high precipitation rates when higher and more variable Ohio River stages are observed.
- Three of the five datasets that were identified as suitable for model calibration were not included in the calibration process due to run time limitations.

# 8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2016 PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model builds on the most recent version of the model (2012) and the knowledge gained from ongoing modeling efforts since 1990 (Section 1.3). This modeling effort is part of a continuous process to improve and update the model as additional site information becomes available. Future modeling efforts are expected to respond to potentially changing site conditions or the identification of areas of improvement based on additional data collection. The following are the key revisions included in the 2016 model:

- Revised RGA layer elevations based on additional boring data and analysis;
- Revised southern model boundary based on additional boring data and analysis;
- Revised anthropogenic recharge zonation based on enhanced knowledge of plant operations; and
- Added baseflow from the Terrace Gravel into the model domain.

### 8.1 CONCLUSIONS

The calibrated model provides a representation of the groundwater flow system within the PGDP Hydrologic Basin for steady-state conditions, which typically occur during the drier months of the year. During more transient periods when the increased precipitation rates and higher and more variable Ohio River stages are observed, the steady state model is a less valid representation of site conditions. The calibration effort builds upon previous efforts of the 2012 model update, which included the use of up to seven stress periods. Future model calibration activities, including the five datasets identified in Section 3.4 as appropriate for use in calibration, may provide an even more accurate calibration.

Validation simulations show that the model reasonably reproduces the observed flow direction when the Ohio River stage is approximately 297 ft amsl or less and the site conditions are generally representative of steady state flow (Section 6.9.1). For higher Ohio River stages typical of more transient conditions, the model indicates a shift in flow toward LBC rather than the Ohio River in the Northwest Plume. Validation simulations also show that the model reasonably represents the hydraulic gradient from the plant area to the furthest extent of the Northwest Plume, except in the case of extreme flooding conditions (Section 6.9.2).

PGDP Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model limitations include its formulation and calibration as a steady-state model, its regional scale, and its limited domain, which does not include portions of the PGDP Site south of the RGA. Regarding use of the groundwater model for specific project needs, limits on the application of the model for site or project-specific requirements and determinations of the appropriate use of the model should be made by appropriate project personnel on a case-by-case basis.

### 8.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations and potential data collection needs were identified by the MWG for consideration in future model revisions. Sitewide groundwater remediation strategies and their implementation schedules, as well as funding availability, also are important components in the discussion of these recommendations. In some instances, additional data collection may mitigate some of these uncertainties, while not completely eliminating them.

- To reduce uncertainty at the contact area between the Terrace Gravel and the UCRS in the vicinity of the southern model boundary, additional monitoring well installation may be considered to collect water level and soil boring information.
- Additional slug test performed on a selection of appropriate monitoring wells will define hydraulic conductivity better across the model domain. Future discussions should include selecting an appropriate slug test method and criteria for selecting test wells.
- To quantify the volumetric rates at which water enters and exits streams, efforts may be made to gage flows in various portions of BC and LBC to determine where and in what quantities water enters and exits the creeks and to coordinate the stream gauging event with a sitewide water level synoptic measurement event.
- Evaluation of a more accurate method to quantify Terrace underflow to the RGA is recommended.
- The hydraulic connection of the RGA to the Ohio River and the nature of river bank storage remain important aquifer parameters potentially justifying further study to support the model and to assess the impact of transient conditions. Continuous RGA water level records are recommended over a period of a year in the vicinity of the Ohio River and along a transect of wells extending back to the PGDP industrial area.
- To evaluate changes in post closure site operation that may affect anthropogenic recharge in the plant area, monitoring and documentation (including dates) of the enacted utility optimization program (performed by others) are recommended.
- To evaluate groundwater flow patterns and to verify the occurrence of the inferred groundwater divide within the plant area, increased water level measurement events conducted during different seasons, in addition to annual events (conducted in September for the last three years), are recommended. The water level measurements should be synoptic and collected over a relatively short duration, ideally within one or two days. These measurements will provide information regarding seasonal variation and may be considered for use as calibration targets in a subsequent model update.
- If possible, measurement of the water level elevation at Metropolis Lake should be included in the sitewide water level synoptic event. Consideration also should be given to characterizing the thickness and hydraulic conductivity of the lake bottom sediments if the lake is to be simulated using river boundary condition in future modeling efforts.
- Assessing water level and water quality data collected from the newly installed transect of monitoring wells located east of C-400 Building is recommended. This assessment will facilitate better understanding of the groundwater elevation contours and flow directions that indicate an apparent groundwater divide near the new transect monitoring wells. This apparent groundwater divide is a key feature of the current model calibration.
- To understand the groundwater flow north of the site better, the TVA monitoring system data should be compiled and verified (especially datums) for use in future models.
- Two of the main water supply systems and the storm water and HPFW piping were included in the model as discreet recharge zones based on site information (see Section 3.3.2). Assessment of the remaining water supply systems in the plant area, which include the recirculating cooling water and waste heat system, the sanitary water system, and the plant (nonsanitary) water system, is recommended to evaluate potential for contribution to anthropogenic recharge.

- Anthropogenic recharge rates are estimated over a wide range of values (Section 3.3). As with most groundwater models, the model configuration and calibrated input parameters are not a unique solution. It is recommended that continuous water level recorders be deployed in select monitoring wells/piezometers within the plant area to assess recharge better and its impact on nearby water levels.
- Installation of piezometers equipped with continuous water level monitors beneath several of the large buildings would define the thickness of the sub-slab gravel base and the temporal water level fluctuations beneath several of the large buildings better.
- Flow rate in the McNairy Formation is negligible compared to the RGA because the hydraulic conductivity is 2 to 3 orders of magnitude lower than in the RGA; however, the McNairy Formation may be significant for DNAPL source accumulation and contaminant transport. Future transport models based on the 2016 flow model will need to consider potential mass flux from the McNairy to the RGA resulting from back diffusion.
- The Olmsted Locks and Dam are scheduled to be operational in 2018. At that time, the lowest Ohio River stage at PGDP will be the upper pool height of the dam, 302 ft amsl. Seasonally low river stages at PGDP effectively will be increased 7 ft to 12 ft. Future groundwater modeling should consider evaluation of the calibrated model using a synoptic data set collected under steady conditions at the higher river stage anticipated to start in 2018.
- The groundwater system in the PGDP Hydrologic Basin is in a transient state for much of the year, except in dry periods typically experienced in the fall. The model simulates steady state conditions and is calibrated to periods with relatively low river stage. Validation simulations indicate that during higher Ohio River stages the Northwest Plume discharges to LBC and flows west parallel to the creek. This is consistent with early plume depictions, based on water quality data, showing the plume paralleling LBC (Figure 4.5 of DOE 2010). Consideration of transient seasonal conditions at high Ohio River stages should be considered in the use of the model for evaluating remedial strategies.
- A Water Balance Study to identify significant sources of anthropogenic recharge in the model domain may provide a better understanding of key components of anthropogenic recharge and reduce uncertainty in recharge estimates for future model updates.
- Recharge related to the process building roof drains is poorly understood. Future model efforts should compile available information regarding the chronology of roof drain repair to understand temporal variability better and reduce uncertainty in recharge estimates.
- Installation of additional monitoring wells, located inside and outside of the plants industrial area would reduce uncertainty regarding groundwater flow direction, contaminant distribution, and potential source areas for future model updates.
- Conducting tracer tests in the vicinity of the apparent groundwater divide located east of the C-400 Building to refine understanding of groundwater flow in this area should be considered for future model update efforts.

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# APPENDIX A

# **MWG MEETING MINUTES**

Date	Meeting Type	Minutes	Tear Sheet
4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Х	
5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Х	
6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	Х	
6/10/2016	Biweekly call		
6/14/2016	Face-to-Face Meeting	Х	Х
6/24/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
7/8/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
8/5/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
8/16/2016	Bi-Weekly Call - Web-Ex	Х	
8/24/2016	Face-to-Face Meeting	Х	Х
8/31/2016	8/24 Followup - Web-Ex	Х	
9/16/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
9/30/2016	Bi-weekly Call - WebEx	Х	
10/14/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
10/25/2016	Face-to-Face Meeting	Х	Х
12/13/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
1/6/2017	Bi-weekly Call	Х	
1/20/2017	Bi-weekly Call	*	
3/3/2017	Bi-weekly Call	*	
3/23/2017	Face-to-Face Meeting		Х
5/31/2017	Bi-weekly Call	**	

# **Summary of Meetings**

\*Meeting minutes are included; however, they are not finalized. KDWM responded that no edits to the meeting minutes were warranted. EPA has not provided comments to the meeting minutes provided by DOE.

\*\*Meeting minutes are not included. DOE provided meeting minutes to EPA and KDWM for review. KDWM responded that no edits to the meeting minutes were warranted. EPA provided comments and edits to the meeting minutes are to be determined.

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—April 29, 2016

1. Attendees: Eva Davis, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Brian Begley, Nathan Garner, Gaye Brewer, Rich Bonczek, Martin Clauberg, Dave Dollins, Denise Tripp, Al Laase, Jim Rumbaugh, Chad Drummond, Kelly Layne, Ken Davis, Brad Montgomery, Craig Jones

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members:

No issues were raised.

# 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The following schedule was presented. No comments were made on presented information.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call	
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
4/2/2016	6/3/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
4/11/2016	6/10/2016	Draft Modeling Report (D0)	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call	
6/13/2016	6/24/2016	MWG Review of D0	2 weeks
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly call	
6/27/2016	7/1/2016	Incorporate MWG comments to D0	1 week
7/15/2016	7/15/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/4/2016	7/22/2016	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report (D1)	3 weeks
7/25/2016	7/29/2016	Incorporate comments to Final Modeling Report (D2)	1 week
7/29/2016	7/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/31/2016	7/31/2016	Submit D2 to FFA managers	Changes discussed with MWG
7/31/2016	TBD	Final Modeling report with FFA comments (D2R1)	
9/1/2016	9/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Discussion of Meeting Minutes

The MWG March 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, Meeting Minutes (Sent April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016) and MWG April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes were presented and opened for discussion. No comments were received on either.

### 5. Discussion of Action Item List

The Action Item List contains a listing of items that the MWG identified as necessary. The list is an effort to identify those items but also add detail as to which items are necessary to be completed preceding calibration efforts and which are necessary as part of the sensitivity analysis.

### The MWG will also discuss how each item is dependent on other items as precursors, etc.

Denise Tripp discussed the Action Item list (20160425 Draft Action Item List.xlsx). EPA requested clarification on Item #9 ("Initial calibration using averaging of the lithologic information (harmonic averaging) over the depth of the UCRS"). EPA stated that the table of values presented at the March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, face-to-face meeting had not been concurred on to by EPA.

### 6. Discussion on "Slug Test" Information

## The information on "Slug Test" emailed on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be discussed in detail with participation from KRCEE.

Denise Tripp discussed the various tables regarding slug test data at the site (20160425 Draft PGDP Slug\_Test\_Information\_0425\_2016.pdf). Denise noted that if multiple wells were adjacent to each other the deeper well was used.

EPA had a question regarding Table 3. ("Permeameter Results for Samples with 80% or Greater Clay Content"). Ken Davis provided clarification on how the permeameter tests were performed (6-inch samples, Shelby tube samples, etc.). EPA voiced preference for using the data presented in Table 3 and indicated that MW127, 128, 129, and 130 are outside of the plant area and should not be used because those monitoring wells are not in the area of anthropogenic recharge. EPA suggested the team focus on MWs located within the plant area as well as the permeameter values presented in Table 3, and that MW129 and MW130 control the calculated vertical hydraulic conductivity value. EPA indicated that values in slide 26 (from the presentation used in the March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, face-to-face meeting) would be different if some values were removed.

EPA suggested using geometric mean for hydraulic conductivity.

Rich Bonczek asked for clarification regarding if the ranges are for the model domain or for just the plant area. Al Laase stated that all model data should be used within the model domain. Discussion ensued.

Brian Begley indicated that this step is very preliminary and he took the position that at this point in the process, the MWG should keep a "wide" recharge range to start.

2 DRAFT Work Product – For Discussion Only A-5 Discussion ensued regarding volume of leaks. Noman Ahsanuzzaman contended that not all water that leaks will reach the RGA. Various other members of the MWG disagreed, with a focus on observed elevated temperatures indicating fast travel times through the RGA as well as the potentially likely large volumes of leakage.

DOE made a final decision to move forward using the entire dataset as presented. Discussion with EPA and KDEP will occur once initial simulations are performed. Results will be reviewed to verify if the utilized values match known values. Brian Begley concurred with this process. Noman Ahsanuzzaman reiterated his reservations, but concurred with the step-wise strategy to allow for calibration to proceed and then review the validity of that assumption.

### 7. Discussion of the "Isopach Map"

### The information on the "Isopach Map" emailed on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be discussed in detail.

Denise provided a summary of the isopach map (20160425 R8\_RGA\_Isopach.pdf). Denise indicated that the model will have an adjusted southern boundary. Moving the boundary might indicate that MW129 and MW130 should be reassessed as being in the model domain. A revised map will be provided showing how the isopach values were incorporated into the model. The plant boundary will also be added, as well as adding control points. The group agreed to add plume boundary to a separate figure that also shows control points.

Kelly Layne provided a final summary regarding action items.

Attachment:

20160425 Draft Action Item List

Draft Sitewide Groundwater Model MWG Action Items - April 25, 2016

Number	Description	Status	Targeted Completion Date	Calibration Requirement
1	Verify the use of vertical conductivity in the calculation ssignment maximum anthropogenic recharge from slug test data.	Verified. Kv assumed to be = 0.1*Kx	Complete	Y
2	Map and boring logs for wells with slug tetst data from single lithologic zones	To be discussed on 4/29/16 call	4/25/2016	Ν
3	Review C-400 Treatability Study K Data	Review in progress	4/29/2016	Y
4	Land use evaulation and development of qualitative anthropogenc recharge zones	In progress	5/23/2016	Y
5	Delineation map of HU3 greater than 2 feet thick to be completed with KRCEE R8 lithologic evaluation	In progress	4/29/2016	Y
6	Model RGA Isopach map to be completed with KRCEE R8 lithologic evaluation (include summary of approach).	To be discussed on 4/29/16 call	4/25/2016	Ν
7	Specifiy 7-day average river stage for synoptic stress periods (April 2010 to September 2015)	Model revised	Complete	Y
8	Revise southern model boundary consistent with KCREE R8 lithologic evaluation	In progress	4/29/2016	Y
y y	Initial calibration using averaging of the lithologic information (harmonic averaging) over the depth of the UCRS	Waiting on model configuration	5/1/2016	Y
10	Alternative calibration using Kx= 4.62E-04 ft. /day (min) where lithologic data indicates greater than two (2) feet of HU3 materials, else harmonic averaging estimate	To be conducted after initial calibration	5/15/2016	Y
11	Reduce uncertainty in the model by installing monitoring wells and collecting soil borings information near the contact area between the Terrace Gravels and the UCRS		TBD	N
12	Install monitoring stations in the Creeks		TBD	N
13	Assess a more robust base flow evaluation to better quantify groundwater flow ranging north off the Terrace		TBD	N
14	Install transducers in select monitoring wells for evaluation of river stage and impact on RGA groundwater levels		TBD	N
15	Monitor the utility optimization program to assess the status of charged lines, etc		TBD	N
In	Increased synoptic water level events in addition to annual synoptic events conducted in September for the last 3 years to evaluate seasonal variation.		TBD	Ν

Complete

Include with Agenda

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—May 13, 2016

1. Attendees: Eva Davis, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Kelly Layne, Rich Bonczek, Al Laase, Chad Drummond, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent, Steve Hampson, Martin Clauberg, Craig Jones, Gaye Brewer, Brian Begley, Nathan Garner, Julie Corkran

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

No issues were raised.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The following schedule was presented. One variant of the calibrated model will be prepared for June 14 meeting. Julie Corkran mentioned that we needed to understand how the schedule and its use fit into decision making documents and those projects' schedules. References to D1, D2, etc. are to be removed from the schedule.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call	
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
4/2/2016	6/17/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
4/11/2016	6/24/2016	Draft Modeling Report (D0)	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Bi-weekly call	
6/27/2016	7/1/2016	MWG Review of D0	1 week
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/4/2016	7/8/2016	Incorporate MWG comments to D0	1 week
7/15/2016	7/15/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/11/2016	7/22/2016	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report (D1)	2 weeks
7/25/2016	7/29/2016	Incorporate comments to Final Modeling Report (D2)	1 week
7/29/2016	7/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/31/2016	7/31/2016	Submit D2 to FFA managers	Changes discussed
7/31/2016	TBD	Final Modeling report with FFA comments (D2R1)	
9/1/2016	9/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

The MWG April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes (sent May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016) were presented and opened for discussion. Rich Bonczek, Gaye Brewer and Noman Ahsanuzzaman expressed agreement that the minutes were accurately recorded.

### 5. Discussion of Action Item List Items

The Action Item List contains a listing of items that the MWG identified as necessary. The list is an effort to identify those items, add detail as to which items are necessary to be completed preceding calibration efforts and which are designated for post-calibration to address data gaps, and to provide a tool to track progress in addressing each item.

Denise Tripp reviewed the Action Item list (20160509 Draft Action Item List.pdf). There were no comments regarding the list.

### 6. Discussion on hydraulic conductivity data and anthropogenic recharge estimates (Item 2)

Denise Tripp discussed revisions to the tables and figures regarding slug test data at the site (*Draft PGDP Slug\_Test\_Information\_05092016.pdf*). The revisions include correction to the reference well cited on Table 2 for MW163, exclusion of two monitoring wells (MW129 and MW130) that are located south of the revised southern model boundary, exclusion of the replicate slug test at MW170 due to short duration of the test, and recalculation of anthropogenic recharge including additional evaluation using the geometric mean. The proposed path forward was to proceed with calibration using the geometric mean for recharge pilot points, and then switch to the median maximum recharge if needed.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked if permeameter data would be used for the recharge pilot points. Denise Tripp clarified that permeameter data would not be used in for recharge pilot points, but provides a useful check on the assumption that the vertical hydraulic conductivity is one tenth of the horizontal hydraulic conductivity.

A footnote about the vertical to horizontal hydraulic conductivity ratio will be added to Table 3.

### 7. Discussion of the of the C-400 Treatability Study findings evaluation (Item 3)

Denise Tripp discussed the treatability study evaluation (*Draft C-400 Treatability Study Evaluation\_05112016.pdf*). In the study, hydraulic conductivity of 100 and 300 feet per day were used for the upper and lower RGA, respectively. Pilot points near the C-400 area will be used to constrain hydraulic conductivity to similar values.

Pump test that showed 100 feet per day hydraulic conductivity was located about 1000 to 2000 feet from C-400. The exact distance will be confirmed and location placed on reference maps.

### 8. Discussion of the delineation of UCRS clay greater than 2 feet thick (Item 5)

Denise Tripp discussed the delineation of UCRS clay greater than 2 feet thick (*Draft HU3 Clay Thickness\_05092016.pdf*). An isopach map of UCRS clay developed by KRCEE was provided as the basis for the delineation. Denise Tripp opened a discussion about whether or not the 2-feet thick clay criterion should be applied over the entire model domain to be consistent. Noman Ahsanuzzaman expressed concern that there are not enough data outside the plant area to apply the same criterion outside the plant boundary. Steve Hampson noted that the amount of data outside the plant area is extensive relative to many groundwater models but sparse relative to the data available within the plant boundary. Agreement was reached to only limit recharge within the plant boundary for this calibration approach. Item will be discussed further during next call. Denise Tripp noted the recharge constraint in the thicker clay zones, calculated with the lowest reported slug test hydraulic conductivity, would be 0.2 inches per year. Noman Ashanuzzaman expressed that a higher value such as 2 inches per year may be more representative.

### 9. Discussion of Model RGA isopach map (Item 6)

Denise Tripp discussed the revised model RGA isopach map (*Draft Model RGA Thickness\_05092016.pdf*). Rich Bonczek questioned how the model layer thicknesses presented in the isopach map would influence the model results. Al Laase responded that the thickness affects transmissivity.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked why the model thickness was limited to 10 feet and how much of the model area is affected by the constraint. Denise Tripp responded that there are numerical concerns for thin model layers and that the constraint is primarily applied at the southern model boundary and at limited, individual borings within the model domain that represent variability within the bore logs; Steve Hampson agreed with the response. Rich Bonczek noted that the added model thickness might act as a surrogate for flow that actually goes into the UCRS or McNairy. Noman Ahsanuzzaman noted that the calibration might yield high hydraulic conductivity values at the thin layers to compensate. Denise Tripp and Noman Ahsanuzzaman agreed that the current layer elevations should be used moving forward and that thin model areas with high conductivities will be noted during the calibration process.

### 10. Discussion of the revised southern model boundary (Item 8)

The revised model RGA isopach map (Item 6) gave an illustration of the revised southern model boundary.

### 11. Closing

Denise Tripp provided a summary regarding action items.

Rich Bonczek requested that a thorough exercise be performed to consider the importance of anisotropy (noted in the C-400 treatability study evaluation) in the RGA.

Martin Clauberg requested that the action items be presented in a way that would show interactions between each item to allow for the completion of the calibration.

Next modeling meeting would be moved from May 27, 2016 to June 3, 2016.

Attachment: 05092016\_Action Item List

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—June 3, 2016

### 1. Attendees:

Eva Davis, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Rich Bonczek, Al Laase, Chad Drummond, Denise Tripp, Steve Hampson, Craig Jones, Nathan Garner, Julie Corkran, Jim Rumbaugh, Ken Davis, Tracey Taylor, Gaye Brewer, Martin Clauberg, Brad Montgomery, Josue Gallegos

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Denise Tripp and Al Laase provided an update on the model calibration; informed the group that a preliminary calibration run had been successfully performed, and that the next step is to post process and evaluate the results. Al Laase and Jim Rumbaugh informed Group that the model run took 2.5 days to complete using 25 processors. Post processing of data may take 3 to 5 days. The results of this calibration are not final but will be used to adjust the model for future calibration runs.

The Group agreed that Denise Tripp and Al Laase would provide a data package from the preliminary calibration run by close of business 6/9/2016. Rich Bonczek explained that this data package is not expected to be a fully-reviewed, DOE-formatted presentation, but that it will be identified and stamped as a draft, working product.

The Group discussed the expectations and goals for the upcoming 6/14/2016 meeting in Nashville. Rich Bonczek proposed that the focus of the meeting should be to discuss the model results, and evaluate if the path forward with the model needs to be changed. The Group agreed.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was presented. Noman Ahsanuzzaman expressed concern that the time allotted in the schedule for model calibration may not be sufficient, and commented that model calibration is the most important phase in model development. Noman Ahsanuzzaman suggested perhaps extending the model calibration timeline. Rich Bonczek disagreed, and commented that the timeline was aggressive but necessary to keep the project within budget. Rich Bonczek proposed that the schedule (with regards to model calibration) be readdressed at the 6/14/2016 meeting in Nashville.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
6/3/2016	6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call (cancelled)	NA

6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
4/2/2016	6/17/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
4/11/2016	6/24/2016	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG	End date contingent on 6/14/16 meeting
6/27/2016	7/1/2016	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	1 week
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/4/2016	7/8/2016	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
7/15/2016	7/15/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/11/2016	7/29/2016	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report	3 weeks
7/29/2016	7/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	
7/31/2016	7/31/2016	Submit Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
7/31/2016	8/30/16	FFA parties review Modeling Report	30 days
8/31/2016	9/29/2016	DOE reviews FFA parties' comments, resubmits Final Report to FFA parties.	30 days
9/1/2016	9/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

The MWG May 13th, 2016 Meeting Minutes (sent May 27th, 2016) were presented and opened for discussion. The Group expressed agreement that the minutes were accurately recorded.

### 5. Discussion of Action Item List

The Action Item List contains a listing of items that the MWG identified as necessary. The list is an effort to identify those items, add detail as to which items are necessary to be completed preceding calibration efforts and which are designated for post-calibration to address data gaps, and to provide a tool to track progress in addressing each item.

Denise Tripp reviewed the Action Item list (20160531 Draft Action Item List.pdf) and pointed out those action items that were completed.

### 6. Discussion of Hydraulic Conductivity Data and Anthropogenic Recharge Estimates (Item 2)

Denise Tripp summarized the action item (#2) and data package (Draft PGDP Slug\_Test\_Information\_05262016.pdf); indicated that the only revision since the last

call was an added footnote to Table 3. Martin Clauberg noted that the footnote in Table 3 should read "\*Assumed 10:1 horizontal:vertical anisotropy". Beyond this minor comment, the Group agreed that Item 2 is complete.

### 7. Discussion of Evaluation of C-400 Treatability Study Findings (Item 3)

The summary of the study findings and conclusions emailed on May 11<sup>th</sup> was updated to include a site map of historical pumping tests in the vicinity of the C-400 treatability study area (Draft C-400 Treatability Study Evaluation\_05262016.pdf). Al Laase commented that data from the pumping tests will be used at pilot points that coincide with pump test locations. At pilot points that do not coincide with the pump test locations, K will be limited between 100 and 1500 feet per day. Al Laase and Noman Ahsanuzzaman discussed the appropriate use of PEST and Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points. Noman Ahsanuzzaman was concerned that during calibration, PEST Pilot Point results will go beyond reasonable range of K values and proposed using K zones as a more efficient way of calibrating the model. Al Laase discussed the benefits of using PEST pilot points as an appropriate method for model calibration. Julie Corkran pointed out that this conversation should perhaps be better picked up again during the 6/14/2016 Nashville meeting, Noman Ahsanuzzaman agreed. Denise discussed the vertical anisotropy determined by the study as input to the sitewide model. She concluded that the values from the C-400 study values were consistent with the 10:1 horizontal:vertical anisotropy specified in the sitewide model. After a brief discussion, the Group agreed that Item 3 is complete.

### 8. Discussion of Land Use Assessment for Qualitative Designation of Anthropogenic Recharge Zones (Item 4)

Denise Tripp summarized the action item and expressed that the action item was still in progress. Denise commented that the goal is to have one final figure that qualitatively characterizes estimated recharge with high, intermediate, and low recharge zones to be presented and discussed at the Nashville meeting (on 6/14/2016).

### 9. Discussion of Delineation of UCRS Clay Greater Than 2 Feet Thick (Item 5)

Denise Tripp summarized the action item and discussed areas identified within the plant for limited recharge input or anthropogenic recharge pilot points (See Figure 4, Draft HU3 Clay Thickness\_05092016.pdf). Denise Tripp also discussed representative hydraulic conductivity values to assign to low recharge zone in areas of clay greater than 2 feet thick (0.2 inches per year based on lowest slug test results or a higher value such as 2 inches per year). Denise Tripp asked Noman Ahsanuzzaman what input value he felt was reasonable. Noman Ahsanuzzaman commented that 2 in/yr is more reasonable to use within the plant boundary in areas of clay greater than 2 ft thick. After discussing Noman Ahsanuzzaman's comment, the Group agreed that Item 5 is complete.

#### 10. Discussion of Model RGA Isopach Map (Item 6)

Denise Tripp described how model calibration has been initiated using the reported layer configuration (see Draft Model RGA Thickness\_05092016.pdf). Noman Ahsanuzzaman commented that the northern portion of the kriged isopach map (northwest and north of the property boundary) appeared very thin. Denise Tripp replied that she had reviewed the data that was used in the kriging and confirmed that the data supported the kriged thinness in the northern portion of the model and that thin model areas with high conductivities will be noted during the calibration process. No other comments were expressed and the Group agreed that Item 6 is complete.

### 11. Discussion of Revision of Southern Model Boundary (Item 8)

Denise Tripp also commented on and described how the reported layer configuration (see Draft Model RGA Thickness\_05092016.pdf) had been used to address Item 8. No additional comments were made and the Group agreed that Item 8 is complete.

### 12. Closing

Brad Montgomery asked if a second calibration run would be ready for review at the Nashville meeting; Denise Tripp and Al Laase responded that it was unlikely.

The group agreed that the 6/14/2016 Nashville meeting will start at 8 am and should end by 5pm.

The Group planned a short call for 6/10/2016, from 9 am to about 10:30 am, to confirm the receipt of the data package of the first calibration run and for Denise and Al to briefly explain any significant findings/ discoveries.

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-June 10, 2016

A short meeting was held to confirm receipt of data and travel plans for the face-to-face meeting in Nashville four days later on June 14, 2016. Meeting minutes were not submitted to the MWG.

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes - June 14, 2016

### 1. Nashville Attendees:

Dave Dollins, Rich Bonczek, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Brian Begley, Martin Clauberg, Kelly Layne, Todd Powers, Denise Tripp, Al Laase, Steve Hampson, and, Bryan Clayton

### 2. Phone Attendees:

Julie Corkran, Tracy Taylor, Bruce Stearns, Eva Davis, Nathan Garner

### **3.** Presented Materials:

The following documents were distributed via email to the Modeling Working Group (MWG) team on June 9, 2016 for the team's review prior to the June 14, 2016 meeting:

- PGDP Sitewide GW Model Review of Initial Calibration Run: PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02.GWV". (pdf file) (File name "Draft Review of PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02")
- Drawdown Target Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)
- Flux Target Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)
- Kx PP Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)
- Recharge PP Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)
- Trajectory Target Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)
- WL Target Statistics Cal 2 (Excel file)

On the day of the June 14, 2016 meeting, the additional file was transmitted via email to the MWG for discussion during the afternoon meeting time:

• Draft Review of PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02 Part 2 (pdf file)

### 4. Meeting Objectives:

• MWG approval to continue the calibration efforts as a result of the presented criteria.

## Review of Presented Material: [Note: Captured actions are grouped into three "Action Group" categories: (1) Actions required before or as part of the first calibration and/or Actions required to be a part of the Draft Modeling Report (due 7/29/16), (2) Actions after the first calibration, and (3) Actions that are "Wish List" items.

• The MWG discussed the inclusion of all data sets presented in the differing stress periods. EPA expressed the concern that a subset of the data should be withheld from the calibration so as to use that subset for model validation. Kentucky and DOE

expressed the concern that the entire data set should be included at the onset of the calibration efforts. The MWG reached an agreement to continue with the initial calibration using the full data set but the team should reserve the possibility to "weight" or perform an alternative calibration using either the transient or steady-state data set and reserving the second data set for validation of the model. (Action Group 2)

- The discussion on validation triggered a more programmatic discussion regarding validation strategy and the labor (and subsequent cost) associated with the validation. MWG identified an action: Need validation strategy but would be discussed following the July 29, 2016 report deliverable. (Action Group 2)
- The calibrated hydraulic conductivity analysis prompted the following actions, which needed to be vetted prior to the continuation of the calibration. MWG identified actions: Transmissivity analysis, and weighted plume trajectories (or "zoned" trajectories within certain areas where more information may be available to better weight the trajectory values). (Action Group 2)
- When reviewing Slide 16 of Draft Review of PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02.pdf, the MWG noted that the "Model Parameter" associated with PP373 should be revised from Very Upper LBC to Very Upper BC. (Action Group 1)
- The MWG spent considerable time noting information that needed to be captured in the modeling report. Topics for inclusion, where applicable and appropriate, included (All 11 items are Action Group 1):
  - 1) Keep scales consistent (and if scales should be adjusted there should be notations highlighting the change).
  - 2) Scrub units and look for maps that are lacking in units
  - Pump test locations (example, Slide 8-B) should be noted on maps of calibrated hydraulic conductivity (slides 8 to 13; Draft Review of PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02.pdf).
  - 4) Include a section in the modeling report with a discussion of how the model is a fluid or "living" model that requires periodic reviews and discussion from the MWG and the necessity for a "wish list" of data that would make for a better model that will be used for decision making purposes.
  - 5) Difference of units
  - 6) Mass balance information
  - 7) Flood sheets and elevations
  - 8) Add stress period dates
  - 9) Dry cell notations (Discussed during slides 30 -41)
  - 10) Denotations for well clusters should be vetted and discussed in the report

- 11) Consider splitting pages so as to show complementary information so that the reviewer does not have to "flip" back and forth between pages to perform a comparison when asked to do so within the verbiage of the report.
- The MWG discussed the impacts from the site's change in operational status. The MWG concluded that current "operational" status of the site has not likely impacted the recharge. MWG identified two actions: Add plume trajectory into last two stress periods and evaluate the areas outside of the limited area that may need special recharge considerations (i.e., K002, C001, lagoons, etc). (Action Group 1)
- The MWG discussed the slides presenting water levels (slides 42 44; Draft Review of PGDP\_RGA\_CAL\_2016\_02.pdf) and thought that the layers should be combined. (This was an action for the MWG but also should be carried forward as a modeling report request as well.) Additionally, the MWG discussed the necessity to pull out data associated with MW430 (see slide 67) and if the data is removed that the rationale for the exclusion of the data should be fully discussed in the modeling report. (Action Group 1)
- The MWG continued with a lengthy discussion on water levels. The MWG took an action: For the residual versus observed water level, a 95% confidence level should be evaluated. (Action Group 1)
- The MWG discussed the land use and the importance for consideration while calibrating. The MWG took an action: Work with LeAnne (Garner) on the 2009 Land Use percentages. (Action Group 1)
- The evaluation of reuse of spare or unused water level gauge instruments that had been purchased for use at the Waste Disposal Alternative's Site 11. (Action Group 3) Note: Other "Wish List" items have been mentioned as follow: Water level measurements in the gravel underneath the buildings, Strategy for increasing calibration run speed through cloud computing, etc.

### 5. Model Simulations:

The MWG evaluated the simulations of the results of the calibration efforts. The stress periods using the agreed upon criteria was used and the results from each were discussed in detail. The group concluded that the model required continued revisions based on the pre-defined weighted criteria and the sensitivity analyses discussed in more detail during the meeting.

### 6. Schedule and Objectives:

The MWG concluded with a discussion on the additional meetings needed to complete the MWG's target dates. The following denotes the schedule and objectives reached by the MWG:

### 1. 7/29/16

a. MWG review of report (include strategy, objectives, data analysis and add validation/verification)

### 2. 8/16-8/17

a. Discuss draft report

- b. Discuss 4-6 calibration runs
- c. Validation strategy
- 3. Bi-weekly meetings- 6/24/16, 7/8/16, 8/5/16

In summary, the MWG agreed that no new information was presented that required the MWG to cease with calibration efforts. The bi-weekly meetings would be used to discuss the results of the action items identified in the June 14, 2016, meeting before finalizing the model.

P. Z => (not a clear breaker) but possibly weight (or calibrate Separately) The transient vs. Steady state (or use one set to Chuck the other) Econductivity then leave in Etake out (5)15, run model, of date Sensitivity analysis - Compared owns (10-15%) - Will limit strage drawdowns (10-15%) - Will limit strage drawdown (400000) - Welliday - Waliday (EPX programmatic approach?) -Need validation strategy (afer 7/31/16)=)E



# PUse transient & Steady state data sets to model.

Action: Need validation strategy (Concern => Funding Elarger programmatic impacts at senior level)



P.9 - Transmissivity Analysis - Weighted trajectory plume trajectories (for at modul report : check scales of maps) - Add pump test locations (slide 8-B) - hook at "zoned" trajectory (calibratian statistics within the plume) "Grea specifics"

(4) (plle for model report =) double check reference of location 373... its BC not (BC) (model report: "wish list" inclusion & that the model is (model report: Dunits, include mass balance info,) add stress period dates -Keep - Plant ODS real relevance due to pressurization food Dune trajectory

-Recharge: Add plume trajectory into last two stress periods ble plant operation change likely hasn't impacted the recharge - hook at areas outside LA that may need recharge considerations (ex. KOOI, COOI, etc., layoons)



# -p. 30-41 (dry cell notation, units

Water hevels - D.42-44 - Combine Lager points On the 3 layers - Pull out MW430 (See p. 67) (document in model report) Trationale

Residual vs. Observed HO Fevel -95% CL - Denotation for well clusker? Put thought into splitting pages to include complimentary info. -2009 Land Use - Le Anne on Percentage

B Schedale & Obj DTBELLES 1/29/16 (Non-meeting - MWG Review of Report (inc. strategy, objectives, Deta Analysis) add validation/verification 2 8/16-8/17 (APEREGIO) - Discono Draft Report - Discuss 4-6 cel runs - Validation strategy 3 Biweekly nuctings totalthe 718/16 There 8/5/16

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—June 24, 2016

1. Attendees: Jim Rumbaugh, Rich Bonczek, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Denise Tripp, Chad Drummond, Brian Begley, Eva Davis, Martin Clauberg, Tracy Taylor, Todd Powers, Ron Kent, Bruce Stearns, Al Laase

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

- a. Meeting minutes from Nashville meeting will be distributed early next week.
- b. Update on Model Calibration
  - i. See below revised schedule. Schedule was revised in accordance with discussions held in Nashville. Denise asked if there were any comments. Martin asked if planning is occurring for next face to face on August 15-16. KDEP requested the city be chosen within 3-4 weeks. Denise asked if anyone had preferences. Nashville seems to be preferred. KDEP will put in their paperwork for the meeting to occur in Nashville.

Denise noted that estimated completion dates are aggressive to push progress.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

644					
Start	End	Deliverable	Notes		
4/2/2016	8/16/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting		
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16		
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16		
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA		
6/3/2016	6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16		
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call			
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent		
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Conference Call with MWG			
7/8/16	7/8/16	Conference Call with MWG			
7/29/16	7/29/2016	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG			
7/29/16	8/5/16	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week		
8/5/16	8/5/16	Conference Call with MWG			
8/5/16	8/12/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week		
8/15/16	8/16/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting Location TBD		

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8/26/16	8/26/16	Conference Call with MWG	
8/26/16	8/26/16	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG	
8/26/16	9/2/16	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/2/16	9/2/16	Conference Call with MWG	
9/2/16	9/9/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/9/16	9/30/16	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report	3 weeks
10/14/16	10/14/16	Submit Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
10/7/16	11/13/16	FFA parties review Modeling Report	30 days
11/13/16	12/5/16	DOE reviews FFA parties' comments, resubmits Final Report to FFA parties.	30 days
12/5/16	1/5/17	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Discussion of Action Item List Items

- a. Action Item 4: Will pull together map from various sources to get a qualitative sense of anthropogenic recharge at the facility. Currently looking at information presented at Nashville meeting and putting all of the data on one map. Anticipating sending out draft version next week.
- b. Action Item 17: Have received some recent water level data from Site 5a and 11. The data will be compiled and analyzed to evaluate areas of increased recharge. A summary data package is planned to be sent out for next call.
- c. Action Item 10: Alternative calibration limiting recharge to estimates using Kx = 4.62E-04 ft/day (minimum) where lithologic data indicates greater than two (2) feet of clay in HU3. The alterative model calibration will be conducted after completion of the initial calibration process per discussion by Noman and Denise. Current estimate for completion is Aug 1.
- d. Model revisions for the next calibration run were discussed and included:
  - Adding trajectory targets to stress periods 20 and 21
  - Evaluation of MW430 water level and drawdown residuals and consideration of revised recharge configuration in the vicinity of Outfall 001. Denise visited site on Wednesday June 16 and found evidence that this is an area of enhanced recharge.
  - Evaluation of reported pumping test results for MW79 and PW1, located in the NE quadrant of the plant area. Historical reports suggest that pumping wells may have been poorly constructed or not well developed prior to the test. These are the two lowest calculated K's (100 ft/day range).
  - Evaluation of additional targets to be added from other layers to improve coverage across the modeled area in all layers.

- The next calibration run is scheduled for next week.
- The model output will be processed the middle of the following week, but may not be complete for next call (Monday is a holiday).

Brian asked Denise if she found anything else of interest during her site visit. Denise noted that it had rained heavily for about an hour when she arrived at the site. Brian mentioned adding recharge points at outfall points but added that flow amounts are uncertain. Denise responded that she did not identify any areas other than outfall 001 that appeared to be areas of increased recharge.

Brian asked if she found any areas off of the terrace to indicate an area where the recharge may be greater than is currently modeled. Denise said she did not, and noted that not many water level targets are available in the vicinity of the Terrace recharge zone and that a sensitivity analysis is planned.

- e. Developing a validation strategy. Denise will add this to the Action Item Lists as Item #18.
- f. Martin asked if Al has found a way to speed up the calibration runtime. Al responded that the only way is to go to the cloud; however, he prefers to proceed with the current computer processing.

Attachment:

20160621 Action tem List.pdf

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—July 8, 2016

### 1. Attendees:

Kelly Layne, Dave Dollins, Eva Davis, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Al Laase, Chad Drummond, Denise Tripp, Craig Jones, Nathan Garner, Jim Rumbaugh, Ken Davis, Tracy Taylor, Martin Clauberg, Brad Montgomery, Brian Begley, Todd Powers, Eva Davis

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Dave Dollins indicated there will not be a face to face August 15<sup>th</sup> but rather it will be a webex. Kelly Layne asked that this information get passed along to others that need to know that travel will not be necessary.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was presented. The schedule will be updated to indicate that the face meeting (that was reflected in the schedule for 8/15/16 and 8/16/16) will be replaced with a WebEx. The due date for the preliminary modeling report (primary components) is still July 29.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked if the second model configuration (Action Item #10) will be part of the model calibration. Denise Tripp said the initial calibration will be done using the current pilot point calibration and the second model calibration effort using clay thickness will come afterward. The intended schedule goal is August 1. Noman asked if "model calibration" included both model configurations (pilot point model and clay thickness model). Action Item 10 tasks will be discussed during August 15<sup>th</sup> WebEx. Martin Clauberg suggested the group keep the focus on the draft report for the August 5<sup>th</sup> bi-weekly call. MWG agreed that calibration results will not be included in the initial draft modeling report.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/2/2016	8/16/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
6/3/2016	6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call	
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16
7/8/16	7/8/16	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16

7/29/16	7/29/2016	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	
7/29/16	8/5/16	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week
8/5/16	8/5/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/5/16	8/12/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week
8/15/16	8/16/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting Location TBD
8/26/16	8/26/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/26/16	8/26/16	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG	
8/26/16	9/2/16	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/2/16	9/2/16	Bi-weekly Call	
9/2/16	9/9/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
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12/5/16	1/5/17	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 1. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

The MWG June 24th, 2016 Meeting Minutes (sent July 05, 2016) were presented and opened for discussion. The Group expressed agreement that the minutes were accurately recorded.

The MWG meeting minutes from the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting in Nashville will be reviewed by DOE next week.

### 2. Discussion of Action Item List

Denise Tripp led the discussion. An updated Action Item List was provided on July 6th (20160706 Draft Action Item List.pdf). Updates include Action Items 4, 9, 17, 18.

<u>Action Item 17</u> included a review of water level data from UCRS monitoring wells and comparison with maps of land use, pipe locations, and RGA water level maps (see 8-page pdf Draft UCRS WLE Assessment\_0706 2016). A summary of the assessment process and description of data sources including the updated KRCEE database to include 2015 data from Sites 5A and 11 and several maps showing water levels, water temperature, and soil saturation information. The findings of the assessment are illustrated in Figure 1 and indicate a high UCRS level near TVA water supply line leak. Water levels from September-2014 in RGA also show impact of leak. The MWG agreed that there is a zone of higher recharge near TVA water supply and in the eastern portion of the plant.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman requested the use of hashed lines for contours in cones of depression and indicated that Figure 3 shows why the plumes are aligned the way they are. He also asked if the plume trajectory calibration is still needed given the area of higher recharge. His point is that model-predicted plume should be steered by higher recharge not high conductivity zone. Denise Tripp clarified that since we have better recharge data, the pilot points can be constrained to indicate areas of higher recharge. Al Laase indicated that trajectory targets have a weighting of 0.1 Head targets have weighting of 1.0.

Additional discussion regarding sources of anthropogenic recharge in the plant area included:

- Cooling towers which are about 50 ft across by 200 ft wide (15 feet deep). This is four modeling cells. Al Laase asked if they should be added as individual features in the model. Cooling tower lines are still under pressure to this day.
- Denise Tripp discussed a KPDES flow diagram indicating significant outflow in the form of steam while the plant was in operation and minimal difference in outflows before and after plant shut down. Denise will provide her summary to Kelly Layne who will look for additional information.
- After plant operations stop, the temperature signatures will likely go away. However, elevated recharge zones have not gone away.
- Martin Clauberg mentioned that temperature is only one line of evidence and that a little very hot water can create a large signature in the UCRS. The primary line of evidence is water level data.

The MWG agreed that the action item is complete (agreed to by KDEP and EPA) but findings will be updated if additional information become available.

<u>Action Item 4</u>, Land use evaluation and development of qualitative anthropogenic recharge zones, was summarized by Denise Tripp (see Draft Land Use Assessment\_0706 2016.pdf). Four zones of increased recharge were identified:

- 3. TVA Raw Water line leak
- 4. Outfall 001 surface water
- 5. Lagoons C-616
- 6. Eastern portion of plant with 4 buildings connected to high pressure fire line and cooling towers

Brian Begley indicated that gravel under buildings (generally thought to be about 10

feet thick) can provide significant recharge from utility lines and roof drains. Noman Ahsanuzzaman stated that there are several UCRS wells near the buildings. Other members responded that the UCRS wells may not be in connection with effects of the gravel layers under the buildings. Noman responded that wells could be put in to evaluate UCRS water levels near the buildings (could use hand auger). However, if the gravel layers are 10 to 20 ft deep, then hand augers would not be feasible. A discussion ensued regarding RGA plume delineation.

Brian Begley suggested additional monitoring wells near switchyard if conditions change in the future (high power lines). This is a wish list item. Piezometers under process buildings were also added to wish list.

The MWG agreed that the action item is complete (agreed to by KDEP and EPA) but findings will be updated if additional information become available.

Brian Begley stated that the compilation of anthropogenic recharge, which is also reflected in the figure, is an important contribution to the understanding of the site and is a significant advancement over the previous years' modeling efforts. The MWG concurred and acknowledged the progress made by the development team.

<u>Action Item 9</u>, initial calibration using anthropogenic recharge pilot points in the main plant area, is ongoing. The goal is another calibration run started next week. Model revisions being considered include:

- Excluding water level targets that are outliers based on a review of residuals
- Added recharge zonation in area of Outfall 001 and to represent buildings and cooling towers in the eastern portion of the plant
- Revising recharge target constraints to reflect sources recharge identified in Action items 4 and 17.
- Limiting boundary conditions to the divided along the centerline of the Ohio River. This would better align with the CSM.
- Specifying flux targets as brackets targets to allow for a range of flux at the seeps and the river. If model predicts flux outside of bracket it would be factored into the objective function. Jim Rumbaugh has enabled this in GW Vistas. This was discussed by MWG at last face-to-face meeting.

Action Item 18, development of a strategy for model validation, was added to the Action item list and will be included in Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report.

Next teleconference will be August 5. Draft report will be submitted to the MWG team on July 29. The MWG agreed to have reviewed the Draft report by the August 5<sup>th</sup> teleconference so as to be able to raise and address issues.

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—August 5, 2016

### 1. Attendees

Kelly Layne, Gaye Brewer, Dave Dollins, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent, Martin Clauberg, Bruce Stearns, Chad Drummond, Jim Rumbaugh, Ken Davis, Eva Davis, Rich Bonczek, Steve Hampson, Al Laase

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Draft Modeling Report was submitted to members of MWG (7/29/2016). Gaye Brewer did not receive the modeling report and stated that Brian Begley probably did not receive report either (due to email issues). Kelly Layne will check and make sure copies of the draft modeling report are sent to members of the MWG from KDEP.

Rich Bonczek asked if anyone had any comments on the Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report. Most have only skimmed the report. Ken Davis commented that the Draft Modeling Report needs sites and locations better defined. It was agreed that this is a common issue at PGDP. Rich Bonczek said that either verbal or written comments would be accepted prior to the upcoming WebEx meeting.

Kelly Layne asked if past modeling reports are available in proper places online. Kelly will check and provide an update to MWG at the WebEx meeting. Al Laase stated that there is a concise summary of past modeling reports in the 2008 report.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was presented. An all-day WebEx meeting had previously been scheduled for August 16 in lieu of a face-to-face meeting. Kelly Layne asked about everybody's availability for a face-to-face meeting in late August or early September in addition to the WebEx meeting. Everybody will check with their organization/management about attending a face-to-face meeting in Paducah on August 24 and solidify their plans by early next week. The purpose of the August 24 meeting will be to discuss written comments about the Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report that was issued to MWG on 7/29/2016 and to discuss any additional modeling progress. Due dates for the Draft and Final Modeling Reports will be rescheduled pending comments received for the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. An alternative meeting date and location of September 20 in Lexington will be used if there is an issue with the August 24 date.

Martin Clauberg suggested that the MWG may want to have a tour of the site at the face-to-face meeting. Kelly Layne will arrange the tour. The meeting will likely be at Kevil facility but not the hotel. Kelly will send out a hotel list to the group. There are several hotels available at per diem rate.

The August 16<sup>th</sup> WebEx meeting will be changed from an all-day event to a 2-hour meeting from 10 AM to 12 PM Eastern time. Kelly Layne will send an updated meeting invite and the schedule will be updated.

Biweekly calls will be scheduled for August 19 through the end of September. Kelly will send an updated invite and the schedule will be updated. Calls will be cancelled as warranted.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/2/2016	8/16/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
6/3/2016	6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call	
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16
7/8/16	7/8/16	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
7/29/16	7/29/2016	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16
7/29/16	8/5/16	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week
8/5/16	8/5/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/5/16	8/12/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	1 week
8/15/16	8/16/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Online meeting
8/26/16	8/26/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/26/16	8/26/16	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG	
8/26/16	9/2/16	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/2/16	9/2/16	Bi-weekly Call	
9/2/16	9/9/16	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/9/16	9/30/16	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report	3 weeks
10/14/16	10/14/16	Submit Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
10/7/16	11/13/16	FFA parties review Modeling Report	30 days
11/13/16	12/5/16	DOE reviews FFA parties' comments, resubmits Final Report to FFA parties.	30 days

12/5/16	1/5/17	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

Kelly Layne asked for concurrence on meeting minutes from MWG June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting in Nashville (sent July 25, 2016) and MWG July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes (sent July 22, 2016). Eva Davis noted that she was listed as a phone attendee on the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, but she was not in attendance and should be removed from the list. Kelly Layne will remove Eva's name from the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.

### 5. Discussion of Action Item List Items

Denise Tripp led the discussion. An updated Action Item List was provided on August 3<sup>rd</sup> (20160801 Draft Action Item List.pdf). Action items 9, 10, and 18 are currently open.

<u>Action Item 18</u>, development of a strategy for model validation, was summarized by Denise Tripp (see Draft Summary of Validation Approaches\_2016 0801.pdf). Two approaches were suggested for model validation: 1) exclude transient 2010 pumping test periods from calibration and use for validation, and 2) use data from alternative gauging events available from quarterly landfill permit monitoring.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked if the quarterly landfill permit monitoring wells are all situated in the RGA and if they are mostly in the upper or lower RGA. Denise Tripp responded that they are all located in the RGA and that they have an even distribution between the upper, mid, and lower RGA. Noman asked about extraction wells in the figure that he was unfamiliar with. Rich Bonczek and Ken Davis clarified that those extraction wells were turned off years ago. Denise Tripp responded that only pumping wells that are in use will be included in future versions of the figures.

Rich Bonczek asked if there was any reason not to use both validation strategies. Noman Ahsanuzzaman agreed that he would like to see both approaches used for validation. Al Laase responded that both strategies will be used for model validation

Steve Hampson noted that a storage term would need to be used for the transient 2010 pumping test periods, and that the calibration on steady-state stress periods would not provide this term. He requested that definitions for verification and validation be provided in the modeling report, and he mentioned that "post-audit" might be a better term. Jim Rumbaugh mentioned that an ASTM panel he was on did not arrive at a consensus for defining validation or verification. MWG will come up with a definition for validation for the modeling report.

Rich Bonczek asked which target types that are used in the model calibration will also be used for validation. The modelers will provide a recommendation.

<u>Action Item #9</u>, initial calibration, was summarized by Denise Tripp. The calibrated recharge values were not as expected. The approach moving forward will be to use only the September 2014 stress period for calibration initially, and then use the calibrated parameters from this stress period as initial

values for calibration on the entire set of stress periods. The single stress period calibration will begin this weekend or early next week.

### Modeling Working Group WebEx Meeting Minutes—August 16, 2016

### 1. Attendees

Kelly Layne, Gaye Brewer, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent, Martin Clauberg, Bruce Stearns, Chad Drummond, Jim Rumbaugh, Eva Davis, Rich Bonczek, Steve Hampson, Al Laase, Nathan Garner, Craig Jones, Julie Corkran, Tracy Taylor, Brian Begley, Todd Powers, Bryan Clayton, Brad Montgomery

### 2. Discussion of Draft Modeling Report

Kelly Layne opened a discussion on the draft modeling report that had been sent to the MWG for review on 7/29/2016. Brian Begley will review the report and have comments ready at the 8/24/2016 face-to-face meeting in Paducah. Noman Ahsanuzzaman will review the report and discuss his comments with Julie Corkran on the Monday before the face-to-face meeting. Julie Corkran stated that EPA will not send written comments before the meeting, but will have items to discuss at the meeting. Rich Bonczek said he would save his remarks on the report for the face-to-face meeting. Rich clarified that it is not a comment resolution in the formal sense. The comments do not need to be written or formal and will not follow the traditional comment-response format. He requested that the discussion of the draft report focus on big picture issues.

### 3. Calibration Status Update

Denise Tripp presented an outline of the current work status as described in the PowerPoint presentation sent to the MWG on 8/11/2016 (0816 2016 PGDP Sitewide GW Model Webex\_Draft R1.pptx). Recent model revisions include additional recharge zones to represent cooling towers, roof drains, and Outfall 001; expanded water level target network; limiting the Ohio River extent to the river's centerline to represent divide between discharge form the north and the south; and changing flux targets to bracket targets.

Denise Tripp reviewed simulated water levels and noted trends in the results that still need to be addressed. She reviewed particle tracking results for selected stress periods and noted that the TCE plume is not matched well in stress period 16. She summarized that the path forward would be to develop initial recharge estimates using a steady-state single stress period model (stress period 20), refine constraints for recharge pilot points using site data, and limit the number of stress periods used for the full calibration (stress period 4 would be removed because of limited data points, and stress periods 5 through 15 would be used for model validation instead). Steve Hampson suggested that some other stress periods prior to implementation of the pump-and-treat system should be excluded. Rich Bonczek agreed that simplifying the model would be a good path forward, and he emphasized the importance of matching the TCE plume.

### 4. Discussion of Roof Drains

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked for clarification on the geometry of the roof drain recharge zones. Denise Tripp responded that they are modeled by the building footprint. Noman expressed concern about the size of the roof drain recharge zones and the amount of recharge applied to the zones. He said the roof drains are designed to carry water away from the buildings. Denise and Steve Hampson remarked that anecdotal evidence of flooded buildings indicates that the roof drains are not working as designed. Noman said there is no quantitative data showing that the roof drains are not working. Steve Hampson asked if site operations staff could be asked for more information about the roof drains. Kelly Layne responded that site operations staff could not provide quantitative information

about the flooding, but she will take the action item to ask them for more information. Noman suggested that the current model recharge configuration assumes the drains are operating exactly opposite of their intended purpose. He asked about potential runoff and evaporation that would reduce the amount of recharge. Denise Tripp responded that the maximum recharge is being used as a pilot point constraint, but the calibrated recharge could be less than the maximum constraint and therefore the model configuration does not assume that the roof drains work exactly opposite of their intended design. She said the calibration is an iterative process and that if the recharge is at the maximum constraint during the calibration, then the reasonableness of the constraints would be revisited.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman said he thinks 52.6 inches per year is too high for the pilot point constraint on the roof drains based on the lithology. Denise Tripp replied that the value falls within the range of median vertical hydraulic conductivity values estimated for the UCRS lithology and represents a reasonable maximum constraint. Al Laase said that the reasonableness of the recharge values will be revisited once the model is calibrated. Noman said that all the precipitation would have to recharge the aquifer to have 52.6 inches per year of recharge, so the value is unrealistic because the roof drains should convey some runoff away from the buildings and there should be evaporative losses. Brian Begley noted that the recharge represents a combination of anthropogenic sources and precipitation, so not all the precipitation has to recharge the aquifer to achieve a recharge rate of 52.6 inches per year. Denise Tripp highlighted the head contour near the process buildings in question as evidence of elevated recharge in the area. Noman said that there is not a mound in the area because the gradient is not steep enough to be considered a mound. Al Laase said that it represents a significant amount of mounding considering the high hydraulic conductivity of the RGA. Noman said that the definition of a mound depends on the height of the water level rise and does not depend on hydraulic conductivity, and the spacing of the contours near the northwest corner of the plant is more indicative of a mound. Denise and others said that the spacing of the contours near the northwest corner of the plant is due to the presence of pumping wells. Rich Bonczek said that there must be a lot of water going in near the process buildings to cause the observed head contours. Noman asked if UCRS water levels are available for the area. Rich Bonczek and Steve Hampson replied that the UCRS is too heterogeneous for the water levels to be useful for that purpose.

### 5. Discussion of Ohio River Boundary Condition

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked for clarification about the change of the Ohio River boundary condition. Denise Tripp responded that one half of the river was taken out of the model, and now the model boundary extends only to the centerline of the Ohio River to represent the groundwater divide that is conceptualized near the river's centerline. She said that based on a preliminary analysis the change does not seem to significantly affect the modeled discharge to the river.

### 6. Discussion of PZ-554

Brian Begley asked if the current model boundary takes into account recent information from PZ-554. This information could change the interpretation of the location of the Terrace slope and the southern model boundary. The model has not been updated with this information. Field work associated with the finding is ongoing, and the data needs to be checked against surveys before it can be finalized. Once the data from the field investigation is final, it will be reviewed to determine its impact on the model boundary. Efforts will be made to finalize the data by the face-to-face meeting on 8/24/2016.

### 7. Discussion of Hydraulic Conductivity Distribution

Denise Tripp presented information about the hydraulic conductivity distribution from the most recent calibration effort. Martin Clauberg asked about the high hydraulic conductivity zone in model layer 1 near the TVA plant. Denise responded that it represents Metropolis Lake.

Denise Tripp identified an area of Layer 2 where the interpolated hydraulic conductivity was higher than the pilot point constraints. She said the result would be corrected by adding more pilot points in the area to prevent the interpolation issue in future calibration efforts. Noman Ahsanuzzaman said the area might be an indication that the maximum pilot point constraints are too high. Denise Tripp responded that using a more restrictive range for the pilot points could lead to underestimates of hydraulic conductivity in areas of the plant where it should be high, and the interpolation issue would be resolved by using additional pilot points. Al Laase clarified that the model is not yet calibrated and that the hydraulic conductivity values will be checked for reasonableness throughout the calibration process.

### 8. Discussion of Recharge Zones

Denise Tripp presented information about the current status of recharge zones and recharge pilot points. She said that the recharge pilot point statistics indicate that the model might have too many variables. She noted that revisions are needed and the model is still not calibrated. Brian Begley asked if the location of Outfall 001 was based on Denise's site visit. Denise replied that it was. Steve Hampson asked if the oil control dam is located inside the perimeter road. Kelly Layne responded that it is between the perimeter road and the outfall. More information about the location of the dam will be gathered for the face-to-face meeting.

Steve Hampson asked if the cooling tower recharge zones were not used in the last stress periods because the plant was shut down. Brad Montgomery responded that the basins are still full of water even though the equipment is no longer operational.

### 9. Discussion of Fire Water and Raw Water Leaks

Brian Begley asked about the location of the fire water leak and how it was determined to be 40 gpm. Brad Montgomery replied that the amount of water that needs to be pumped to the water tower indicates that there is a 40 gpm leak somewhere in the system. The piping for the fire water system goes around the process buildings and is densest near the process buildings, so the 40 gpm is probably in that area. Otherwise, no information is available about the location of the leak and whether there is one big leak or many small leaks.

Brian Begley noted that a figure that had been presented in a previous meeting showed that several raw water leaks had been repaired in 2016. He asked if the raw water leak presented in the figure of the refined conceptual model for anthropogenic recharge (slide 13) had also been fixed. Brad Montgomery responded that the leak shown in the figure had not been located or quantified. Brian asked if information is available about the magnitude of the raw water leaks that had been repaired. Kelly Layne made an action item to get an update on the leak repairs. Denise Tripp clarified that the land use assessment figure was qualitative and the leak locations shown in the figure do not represent recharge locations in the model. The model recharge zones and pilot points are shown in two separate figures that were also presented (slides 15 and 16).

### 10. Discussion of Verification and Validation

Definitions of verification and validation were presented. Verification: Does the model perform as intended (i.e., the model is programmed correctly and does not contain errors, oversights, or bugs). Validation: Does the calibrated model represent and correctly reproduce the behaviors of the real world system? Al Laase said that the modelers are not ready for a discussion of validation yet, but the validation process is already in progress according to the descriptions of validation used in various DOE documents.

### 11. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was presented. The bi-weekly call on 8/19/2016 will be cancelled. During the face-to-face meeting in Paducah on 8/24/2016, dates will be determined for the remaining items on the schedule.

7/29/16	TBD	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	TBD
8/5/16	8/5/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/5/16	TBD	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	TBD
8/16/16	8/16/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
8/19/16	8/19/16	Bi-weekly Call	
8/24/16	8/24/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
TBD	TBD	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG	
TBD	TBD	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	1 week
9/2/16	9/2/16	Bi-weekly Call	
TBD	TBD	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
TBD	TBD	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report	3 weeks
TBD	TBD	Submit Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
TBD	TBD	FFA parties review Modeling Report	30 days
TBD	TBD	DOE reviews FFA parties' comments, resubmits Final Report to FFA parties.	30 days
TBD	TBD	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

# Modeling Working Group Face-to-Face Meeting Minutes—August 24, 2016

### 1. Attendees

Rich Bonczek, Dave Dollins, Julie Corkran, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Brian Begley, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Steve Hampson, Martin Clauberg, Bryan Clayton, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Kelly Layne, Ron Kent, Stefanie Fountain, Heather Lutz

### 2. Comments on the Draft Modeling Report

Kelly Layne opened a discussion on the draft modeling report that had been sent to the MWG for review on July 29, 2016. The draft was annotated during the meeting, and the annotated version is provided to the MWG as an attachment to these meeting minutes.

### References

Recommendations: use detailed references including all data so that an independent third party could reproduce any of the work; include informal documents such as presentations as appendices; cite the KRCEE Revision 8 report; in-text citations should include table numbers, figure numbers, or page numbers; add year of plume delineation to figures that show the TCE plume boundary; cite the plume map document; add an appendix that includes all meeting minutes; tables and figures should include references to the sources of the data presented.

### Definitions

Recommendations: hydrogeological terms such as recharge and mounding need to be defined; sitespecific terms such as DOE property boundary, DOE industrial area, model domain, Site, and so forth need to be defined; boundaries should all be shown on figures at the beginning of the report to aid with definitions; an annotated list of definitions could be included at the beginning of the report similar to an annotated list of abbreviations.

### **Document** Text

Clarification was given that much of the text in Sections 4, 5, and 6 of the draft report was placeholder text that needed to be updated. Much of the text is out of context if not referenced to the 2008 report. Discussion was had about whether citing the 2008 report would be sufficient or if substantial sections of text should be reproduced (e.g., for explaining the conceptual site model details such as the relative amounts of flow between the RGA and McNairy).

Recommendations: add discussion of why some data/outliers were excluded; provide a description of what the KRCEE database is and why it is used for this project; clarify that the 2012 modeling effort was project activities and not MWG activities; consistent units should be used; clarify why particular datasets were used (e.g., the 2014 water level contours or the 2012 plume map); a section on model assumptions and limitations is needed in the final report, including discussion of the steady-state assumption; final report should include a discussion of the metrics used to determine that the model is adequately calibrated; include in depth discussion of known and unknown anthropogenic recharge conditions and assumptions; need to clarify how 40 gpm fire water leak is interpreted in the model.

### Figures and Tables

Recommendations: figures and tables that use units of volume per time to describe recharge should include a note citing the area used to convert from units of length per time; tables that reference a location should have an accompanying map that illustrates the location;; including coordinates in tables would be helpful; an interactive figure that allows the reader to turn on/off GIS layers and view GIS data would be helpful; legends showing discrete intervals are preferred over legends showing stretched scales (e.g., an elevation map should have a legend giving a different color for each elevation interval rather than a single, stretched elevation scale); scales should be consistent but still use enough contrast to highlight areas of interest; a figure should be included to explain the conceptual site model.

Table 3.3— the UCRS column should be removed and the title could be changed to "UCRS slug test results"; the note on reference wells is confusing and needs to be revised

Figure 3.7—both TVA supply lines should be bolded instead of just one; consider using a different color or no color for the plume boundary; figure needs to be revised to indicate that buildings are highlighted to show areas of increased recharge due to water retained in the gravel; figure needs to be revised to highlight fire water piping and associate the 40 gpm leak with the piping (not the buildings).

### 3. Discussion from Site Tour

All the buildings have sumps that provide hydraulic relief, and the sumps are operational. Information needed on how often the basement sumps run or under what conditions they run, and where they move the water. The gravel areas are smaller than the building footprints, and information is needed on the gravel drain specifications. Anecdotal evidence of "floating" buildings was excluded on site tour; however, current DOE expenditures on repairs to the process buildings demonstrates that the issue is real—the drains are not working correctly and water is not flowing away from the buildings.

The standing water from Outfall 001 extends beyond the fence and may need to be extended farther upstream in the model.

Discussion with Andy Anderson indicated a significant leak in the TVA lines. Water meters reportedly demonstrate a loss of nearly 2 million gallons per day between the intake and the plant; however, all of that loss may not be attributed to leaks but rather is used by the West Kentucky Wildlife Management group to fill small ponds within the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area

Typically, 1.6 million gallons per day flows through the lagoon. The lagoon is 8 to 10 ft deep.

### 4. Discussion of Anthropogenic Recharge

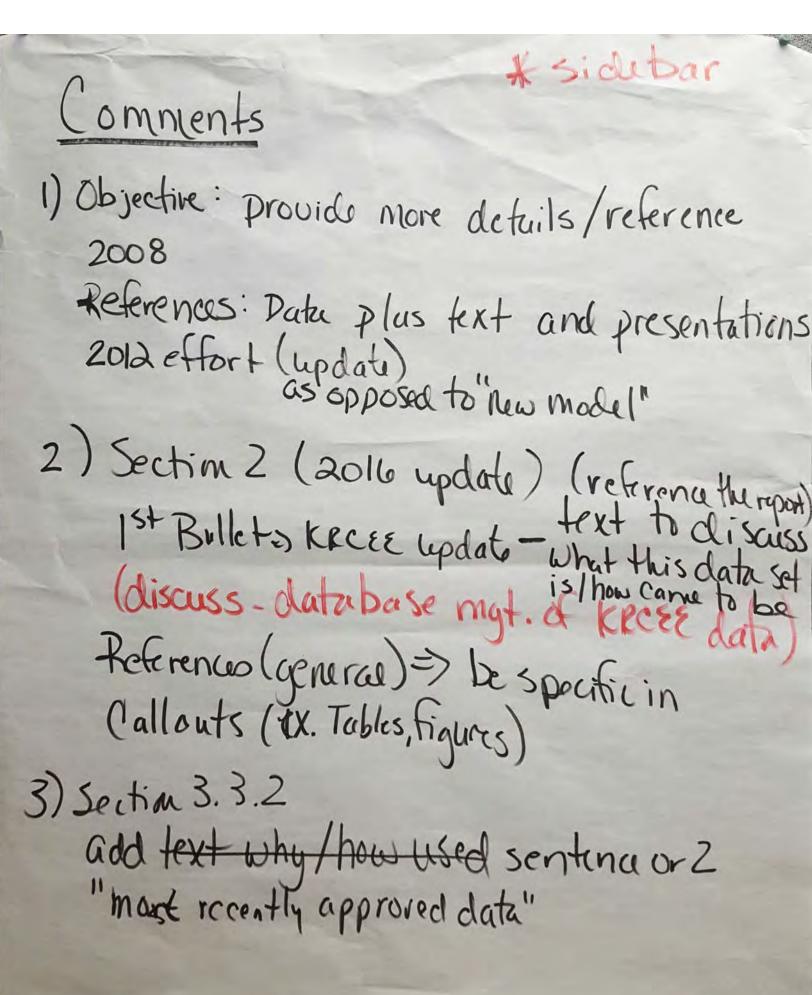
Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked how long the 40 gpm fire water leak has lasted, if 40 gpm is an average condition or a maximum condition, and where the location of the leak is. Andy Anderson needs to be asked about how long the leak has been going. 40-50 gpm is the average condition. Leak is associated with fire water piping, which is densest around the process buildings, but the exact location is unknown. Noman also asked if there is a known connection between the sumps and the RGA, or if the water still travels through low permeability UCRS materials. Al Laase noted that the water levels and flow directions provide evidence of leak locations. Steve Hampson noted that two wells have measured elevated temperatures that provide evidence of leaks.

### 5. Discussion of Model Calibration

Denise Tripp described calibration efforts that used one stress period without trajectory targets. Questions were raised about the need for flow trajectory targets and whether the plume path is due to preferential lithology or locations of enhanced recharge. Steve Hampson noted that in 2008 the plume trajectory could not be matched without flow direction targets and high permeability zones. He noted that there is some lithologic evidence for preferential pathways.

### 6. Schedule

Not all of the material prepared for the meeting was presented due to time limitations. A WebEx meeting was scheduled for August 31 to present the remaining material. Decisions about schedule and deliverable dates to be determined during the WebEx meeting.



# 4) General => Outlier discussion/ why something excluded 5) Add appendix with meeting Minutes 6) Consistent units (ex. gal/min or gd/day) (ex. etc. etc. ) => where appropriate Per time av 7) General => Datinitions (recharge, mounding) (Dolindustrial Site, limited area) ("inclustrial Grea") => land use map 6) Section 5.2=> future activity"

9) # Sidebar - Kich & Steve Cliscuss referencing reproducibility of info. Used in report.

10) Sensitivity analysis =) €€(C.g. (inductiona) 11) ≢ Section 1.2 =) RMD reference sentence.

Tutto General Tutto Ceneral Maps. 13) Stuble 3.3 (eliminate UCKS column & Make UCRS in Title)

14) X sidebar - maps presented in report. Further evaluate an electronic delivery (appendix) tor layered viewing. 15) Table 3.3 => clarification "ind. lith log not available. Figures 14) General => nud retrence on TCE plume Map [7] General Selonyak legend for more dotail. (give range per color) per parameter revolain, be consistent De consistent De consistent De consistent

Figures (cont.) 12) General => Consistent Color use throughout 3/ explain, be consistent as possible 19) General > adobe file, scroll over and have Well identified 20) Figure 3.7 (label H20 line) 21) Fire Water leaks => Knownsk the date of eaptured known Conditions. 22) Sidebar - Swan notifications (Hoo line repair)

Figures (cont.) 23) Figure 3.7 (plume map Ø blue)

Text. Text. (Duildings retain H20 from leaks 24) Section 5/3 include a very for indepth discussion of known and unknown anthroprognic discharge Conditions & assumptions made about it. 25) Figure 3.7. (delineate Fire Hotek) line

EPA - Text 26) Add limitations kassumptions need a summary 27) 40, gpm leak-more detail k Visaypm discussion (inc. any Duilding WI nuc material KC310 + C-315 \* cooling towers) > highlight on Fig3.7 \* add to text 28) Section 4.0 - add photo for CSM For solumatics 29) Summaryin Section 4.0, discuss limitations. New bullet: Noman text

EPA-Text(cmt.) 30) Section 4.0 => reference the 2008 AALNairy Data Discussion K-reference (give specific reference in 6)=> (ex. McNairy) 31) Section 4.0 => recharge... ayain, We may need to pull into from 2008 report 32) Section 32) hydraulic conductivity 33) General discussion Point # Rainfall events Vs. River Level 34) Noman-What makes the model good? Steve - process v. results - ??

Discussion from Sik Tour

- all buildings have sumps, the Sumps have hydraulic relief - Sumps operational

\* how much gravel under buildings (look at specs)
\* how often/under what conditions Cause basement sumps to run & where does it go
\* basement schematic vs. toof

Discussions from Site tour (Cont.)

River intake (4-4.5mg/day to karriving (2.7mg/day) \* Add Figure for different Hzo Systems \* Extend recharge zome Of Koul further upstream

Schedulz

0/31/16 - 9-12 (EST) - Discuss Presentation - Integrate what we learned today on site tour k Comment resolution

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—August 31, 2016

### 1. Attendees

Rich Bonczek, Dave Dollins, Julie Corkran, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Tracy Taylor, Brian Begley, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Steve Hampson, Martin Clauberg, Ken Davis, Kelly Layne, Al Laase, Chad Drummond, Stefanie Fountain, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

There was an apparent miscommunication about a 2 million gallons per day loss in the TVA lines. An email communication from Andy Anderson stated, "There is not a way to determine any leakage on the line through metering at this time from the pump inlet to delivery at our site." Rich Bonczek noted that some of the 2 million gallons per day "lost" water is used by the WKWMA for wetlands management and that the amount used in this way is unknown. Kelly Layne took the action item to follow up with an evaluation of the Water Withdrawal Permit for water withdrawn at the Ohio River.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was presented. Rich Bonczek noted that the contract period will end on July 1, 2017 and that the final modeling report will need to be finished on April 1, 2017. The FFA managers will need the report three weeks before that date in order to give acknowledgement by April 1, 2017. A modeling report will be due to the MWG by mid-November to leave enough time for two review cycles prior to submittal to the FFA managers. Martin Clauberg clarified that all future draft reports will be full reports. The model calibration will need to be done by the end of October. A list of consensus items will be prepared and final consensus on all items achieved in September meeting.

The September 2, 2016 meeting was cancelled. A biweekly call will be held on September 16, 2016, a WebEx meeting will be scheduled for the week of September 26, 2016, and the next face-to-face meeting will be held around October 24, 2016.

Start	End	Deliverable	Notes
4/2/2016	8/16/2016	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
4/29/2016	4/29/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
5/13/2016	5/13/2016	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
5/27/2016	5/27/2016	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
6/3/2016	6/3/2016	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6/10/2016	6/10/2016	Biweekly call	
6/14/2016	6/14/2016	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
6/24/2016	6/24/2016	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16

7/8/16	7/8/16	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
7/29/16	7/29/2016	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16
7/29/16	8/24/16	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Discussed in 8/24/16 meeting in Paducah
8/5/16	8/5/16	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
8/16/16	8/16/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
8/19/16	8/19/16	Bi-weekly Call	Cancelled
8/24/16	8/24/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
8/24/16	TBD	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	TBD
8/31/16	8/31/16	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	3 hour WebEx
9/16/16	9/16/16	Bi-weekly Call	
9/30/16	9/30/16	Bi-weekly Call	
TBD	TBD	Draft Modeling Report Issued to MWG (Full Report)	TBD
TBD	TBD	MWG Review of Draft Modeling Report	TBD
TBD	TBD	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft Modeling Report	1 week
TBD	TBD	DOE review of Draft Final Modeling Report	3 weeks
TBD	TBD	Submit Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed
TBD	TBD	FFA parties review Modeling Report	30 days
TBD	TBD	DOE reviews FFA parties' comments, resubmits Final Report to FFA parties.	30 days
TBD	TBD	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days
12/1/2016	12/1/2016	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
3/1/2017	3/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
6/1/2017	6/1/2017	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting

### 4. Meeting Minutes

Kelly Layne will send out the August 16, 2016 meeting minutes and the tear sheets from the August 24, 2016 face-to-face meeting in Paducah.

### 5. Continuation of August 24<sup>th</sup> Paducah Meeting Presentation

The remainder of the presentation from the August 24, 2016 face-to-face meeting in Paducah was reviewed and discussed. (August 25, 2016 Face to Face Paducah Meeting PGDP Sitewide GW Model Paducah\_Draft\_Rev 2.pdf, sent August 25, 2016).

### Soil Moisture Data

Denise Tripp presented a figure of soil moisture data. Brian Begley commented that adding sources to the maps is helpful for understanding the data that is presented, and he asked where the data in the figure came from. Ken Davis explained that it is based on a subjective determination of soil moisture content from boring logs. Denise Tripp said that it is only available for a subset of boring logs. Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked what the depth is for the moisture content descriptions. Chad Drummond responded that the depth is 0 to 16 feet below land surface. Noman asked why dry points are adjacent to saturated points in some cases. Al Laase responded that the temporal component of the data complicates the interpretation. Noman said that the temporal component would not be important if the leaks are happening all year, and he asked about the usefulness of the moisture content as a line of evidence for leaks. Denise Tripp clarified that the figure was presented to show the distribution of the logs because MWG had asked about the distribution of data in previous meetings. The figure shows data is sparser in the area of the process buildings, partly due to the size of the buildings.

### <u>Outfalls</u>

Questions were asked about how much of the water from the northeast plume treatment goes to Outfall 001. Kelly Layne responded that it formerly went to the lagoon, but not anymore. Rich Bonczek noted that it will go to an eastern outfall in the future, but the model is being calibrated to historical data and needs to match the time period being modeled.

### Boring Logs

Two boring logs drilled through the floor of the C400 building were reviewed. The logs provide evidence of the thickness of the gravel backfill beneath the buildings—apparently 8 ft and 12 ft of backfill in the two borings. Noman Ahsanuzzaman commented on 5 ft of clay separating the backfill from the RGA in one of the logs, which could limit recharge. The clay was absent in the other log, demonstrating the variability of the UCRS.

PZ554 was also reviewed. Denise Tripp said that she does not think the boring log is inconsistent with the current model layering. Other MWG members agreed. The model will not be updated with the information from this log during the current effort.

### Hydraulic Conductivity

Ken Davis asked about the bullseye in the hydraulic conductivity distribution to the northwest of the plant. The point used the 3,600 ft/d value measured by a pumping test, but the surrounding pilot points had a maximum constraint of 1,500 ft/d. There was a miscommunication previously, and the group agreed that the maximum constraint would be 1,500 ft/d for pilot points within the plant boundary and 3,660 ft/d for pilot points outside the plant boundary. Clarification was given that

values determined by pumping tests were used for pilot points at the location of pumping tests. Kelly Layne took the action item to distribute the pumping test reports to the MWG via ftp site.

### Creek and River Boundary Conditions

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked for clarification on the creek boundary conditions. Denise Tripp and Al Laase responded that recharge boundary conditions are used for upstream creek segments and that river boundary conditions are used for downstream creek segments (starting at the seeps for Little Bayou Creek). Al said that the creeks only contact the RGA near the Ohio River. Ken Davis said that Little Bayou Creek is incised 8 ft, but the water is generally 1 to 2 ft deep, and that Bayou Creek is perennial but Little Bayou Creek is intermittent (except it usually has flow because of discharge from outfalls). Noman suggested that the creeks should be modeled as river boundary conditions along their entire lengths. Others noted that the model is configured according to the available data. Denise Tripp said she would provide the 1989 USGS study of the creeks to the group.

Denise presented figures that indicate a 7-day average river stage might not be appropriate for the Ohio River boundary condition, and a longer average (e.g., a 30-day average) should be used instead. The group agreed.

### Stress Periods

Denise Tripp asked for agreement on removing stress periods 2 (not a synoptic event), 3 (not a synoptic event), 4 (limited data points), and 5 through 15 (transient pumping test stress periods to be used for validation) from the calibration. Steve Hampson suggested that the April 2011 dataset should also be excluded because it was an unusual year with a high river stage. MWG agreed that these stress periods would be removed from the calibration run. Brian Begley requested that descriptions be added to the table of stress periods so that the rationale for removing certain stress periods would not be lost.

### 6. Review and Update of Current Action Item List

An updated Action Item List was provided (20160830 Draft Action Item List.pdf).

<u>Action Item #18</u>, development of a strategy for model validation, was included in the Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report issued to MWG on July 29, 2016 (Section 6.7). In that report, two approaches were suggested: 1) exclude transient 2010 pumping test periods from calibration and use for validation, and 2) use data from alternative gauging events available from quarterly land fill permit monitoring. Two new suggestions were given: (1) use the April 2016 synoptic event as a validation dataset, and (2) use the April 2011 dataset for validation under extreme conditions (possibly illustrating model limitations for non-steady-state conditions). The validation could be added as an appendix to the report and could be finished in January.

<u>Action Item #19</u>, development of revised recharge zonation in the plant area based on continued updates of land use and operational information (Action Item #17). Consideration of reconfiguring recharge in the plant area as discreet recharge zones in place of a dense grid of recharge pilot points. Rough estimates of recharge rates for different zones were presented.

Question was asked about liners in the lagoon and TVA ponds. During the call, an email from Andy Anderson was received, and he confirmed through a personal interview that the C-616 lagoon does not have a liner. (The USGS evaluation showed that a natural amount of clay present at the location was sufficient and no additional "lining" was needed). Martin Clauberg requested documentation. Kelly Layne will follow up to retrieve the "as builts" from Andy. Brian Begley asked if the lagoon

had ever been dredged. Kelly and Rich Bonczek replied that to the best of their knowledge it had not been dredged.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman suggested that the maximum recharge constraints under the lagoon and other enhanced recharge zones should still be limited by UCRS lithology. Al Laase said that the vertical hydraulic conductivity is not well known, which results in uncertainty in recharge rates based on lithology. Noman said that hydraulic conductivity will calibrate at the high end of the range without a tighter constraint on the recharge. Al suggested calibrating and then assessing afterward whether the recharge rates are reasonable.

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-September 16, 2016

1. Attendees: Eva Davis, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Dave Dollins, Martin Clauberg, Chad Drummond, Denise Tripp, Steve Hampson, Craig Jones, Ken Davis, Todd Powers, Tracy Taylor

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

No issues were raised.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The below schedule was presented. The upcoming 9/16/2016 Bi-weekly call and the 9/30/2016 WebEx meeting were discussed. It was mentioned that the 10/25/2016 meeting would be a face-to-face (in-person) meeting and the calibration is scheduled to be complete on 10/31/2016.

ID	Start	End	Duration (days)	Deliverable	Notes
1	4/2/2016	8/16/2016	136	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
2	4/29/2016	4/29/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
3	5/13/2016	5/13/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
4	5/27/2016	5/27/2016	1	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
5	6/3/2016	6/3/2016	1	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6	6/10/2016	6/10/2016	1	Biweekly call	
7	6/14/2016	6/14/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
8	6/24/2016	6/24/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16
9	7/8/2016	7/8/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
10	7/29/2016	7/29/2016	1	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16
11	7/29/2016	8/24/2016	1	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Discussed in 8/24/16 meeting in Paducah
12	8/5/2016	8/5/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
13	8/16/2016	8/16/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
14	8/19/2016	8/19/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Cancelled
15	8/24/2016	8/24/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
16	8/24/2016	11/7/2016	75	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Incorporate into Full Report to be issued to the MWG

17	8/31/2016	8/31/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	3 hour WebEx
18	9/16/2016	9/16/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
19	9/30/2016	9/30/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	3 hour WebEx
20	10/14/2016	10/14/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
21	10/25/2016	10/25/2016	1	Face-to-Face Meeting	Draft final calibration
22	10/31/2016	10/31/2016	1	Calibration Complete	
23	11/7/2016	11/7/2016	1	Submit Draft 2 Modeling Report to MWG for review	Full Report, incorporating response to comments re: Primary Components
24	11/11/2016	11/11/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
25	11/7/2016	11/28/2016	21	MWG Review Draft 2 Modeling Report	3 weeks
26	11/28/2016	11/28/2016	1	MWG Comments Provided on Draft 2 Modeling Report	MWG concurs on final model calibration
27	11/28/2016	12/28/2016	30	Prepare Draft 3 Modeling Report	Includes model validation
28	12/13/2016	12/13/2016	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
29	12/28/2016	12/28/2016	1	Draft 3 Modeling Report Issued to MWG (Full Report)	Incorporating response to comments re: Draft 2 Modeling Report
30	12/28/2016	1/11/2017	14	MWG Review of Draft 3 Modeling Report	2 weeks
31	1/6/2017	1/6/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
32	1/11/2017	1/25/2017	14	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft 3 Modeling Report (Prepare D1 Report)	2 weeks
33	1/20/2017	1/20/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
34	1/25/2017	2/8/2017	14	DOE review of D1 Modeling Report	2 weeks
35	2/3/2017	2/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
36	2/8/2017	3/1/2017	21	Finalize D1 Modeling Report	3 weeks
37	2/17/2017	2/17/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
38	3/1/2017	3/1/2017	1	Submit D1 Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
39	3/1/2017	3/31/2017	30	FFA parties review D1 Modeling Report	30 days
40	3/3/2017	3/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
41	3/14/2017	3/14/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
42	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
43	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	FFA parties respond to D1 Modeling Report to DOE	
44	3/31/2017	5/1/2017	31	DOE response to FFA Parties' comments on the D1 Modeling Report and Prepare D2 Report	Additional day added to have End Date on Monday

45	4/7/2017	4/7/2017	1	FFA parties meet to discuss D2 Report prior to submittal	Conference Call
46	4/18/2017	4/18/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
47	5/1/2017	5/1/2017	1	DOE submit D2 Modeling Report to FFA Parties	
48	5/1/2017	5/31/2017	30	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days

Note: Durations are in calendar days.

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

Attendees discussed the MWG August 24, 2016 Face-to- Face Meeting Minutes. Attendees from EPA, KDEP, and DOE were asked if they had any comments on the meeting minutes. None were voiced. The MWG August 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes are finalized as distributed to the MWG.

### 5. Update of Current Action Item List

An updated Action Item List was provided to the MWG (20160912\_Draft Action Item List.pdf). Ms. Denise Tripp presented the Action Items to the MWG, with a particular focus on the Action Items described below.

Ms. Tripp also briefly described the pdf files that were emailed to MWG members. These files include:

- 20160912\_Draft Action Item List.pdf
- Draft Summary of Validation Approaches 2016 0912.pdf
- Draft Land Use Assessment 0912 2016.pdf
- Draft Model Recharge Zonation 2016 0912.pdf

### 6. Action Item 4

Ms. Tripp presented to the MWG that Action Item #4, land use evaluation and development of qualitative anthropogenic recharge zones, has been updated to include additional information from the 8/24/2016 site tour with the facilities manager, Andy Anderson. Initial findings indicate zones of increased recharge near the TVA supply line, Outfall 001, 601 Lagoon, cooling towers, and process building roof drains. Agreement was reached on 7/8/2016 that item #4 was complete but would be updated as more information became available. Additional data and information were provided on the 8/24/2016 site tour, with research into details ongoing. Ms. Tripp indicated to the MWG that a summary of current information is provided in *Draft Land Use Assessment 0912 2016.pdf*.

### 7. Action Item 18

A discussion then ensued regarding the water level data sets to be used for the model calibration. Mr. Steve Hampson indicated that the current list of stress periods provided in *Draft Land Use Assessment 0912 2016.pdf* may be biased toward lower water levels. Ms. Tripp presented that the listed data sets (i.e., stress periods) were picked previously by the MWG because they are the most complete data sets over the time period used for the model calibration. Dr. Noman Ahsanuzzaman suggested that Ms. Tripp review the data, consider including data collected from different time periods during the year (particularly wetter time periods), and make a recommendation to the MWG. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman recommended using data that represents a spread of aquifer conditions. Mr. Steve Hampson opined that 2011 contained an "extreme" flood event and that during 2010 a less extreme flood event occurred. Ms. Tripp agreed to discuss suitable datasets with Mr. Al Laase (not on call) to add more "seasonality" to the overall calibration data set. They will also discuss data available for use during the model validation. Mr. Chad Drummond suggested that Ms. Tripp confer with Mr. Laase and email their recommendation to the MWG to expedite the process given the tight schedule. Mr. Martin Clauberg agreed with emailing the recommendation to the MWG prior to the next teleconference. Regarding data, Dr. Ahsanuzzaman and Ms. Tripp agreed that not all available data will be used for the model calibration.

Mr. Hampson mentioned that he is concerned there is a discrepancy with the elevation datum used for the Pegasus data repository. He and Mr. Ken Davis agreed to evaluate the data to see if a discrepancy exists. However, as voiced by Ms. Tripp, any potential datum discrepancy in Pegasus will not affect the groundwater modeling effort because data from Pegasus was not used to develop, calibrate, or validate the model.

### 8. Action Item 19

Ms. Tripp indicated that Action Item #19 consists of developing recharge zonation in the plant area based on land use and operational information (Action Item #4). Action Item #19 was added to the 9/16/2016 action item list to include consideration of a simplified recharge reconfiguration in the plant area. The reconfiguration includes discreet recharge zones in place of a dense grid of recharge pilot points (see *Draft Model Recharge Zonation 2016 0912.pdf*).

Ms. Tripp provided a description of each figure in the handout *Draft Land Use Assessment 0912* 2016.pdf. One particular figure of interest to MWG members was Figure 3, which shows four indicated areas of inferred greater recharge. A discussion among members of the MWG ensued regarding the ellipse located east of Building C-400. MWG members agreed that the area has the potential for greater recharge. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman cautioned that plume trajectories will need to be honored to ensure the plume location matches available data.

To assist with assessing recharge east of Building C-400, water level data from a recently emplaced transect of seven RGA monitoring wells at six locations will be evaluated. However, Mr. Todd Powers stated that data will not be available for several months, which will be after the model update is complete. Mr. Clauberg reminded the MWG members that the model is a "living model" and will be updated in the future as needed to incorporate new data. Dr. Eva Davis stated that the transect data will assist with verifying the source of the Northeast (NE) plume.

During a discussion of page 2 in the handout *Draft Model Recharge Zonation 2016 0912.pdf*, Ms. Tripp reminded MWG members that the calibration effort may use pilot points in place of the indicated recharge zones.

### 9. Additional Action Item

Ms. Tripp will add Action Item #20 which will consist of explaining the rationale for selected stress periods used for model calibration and validation.

Ms. Tripp will also add Action Item #21 to evaluate RGA monitoring well transect data from newly installed wells once the data becomes available.

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-September 30, 2016

1. Attendees: Rich Bonczek, David Dollins, Martin Clauberg, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Brian Begley, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Kelly Layne, Ken Davis, Todd Powers, Tracy Taylor, Bruce Sterns, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Josue Gallegos.

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Brian Begley asked for clarification of a discussion initiated by Steve Hampson on the September 16 call regarding an apparent discrepancy between the control point elevations listed in Pegasis and those used in the September 2014 RGA potentiometric surface map. Kelly Layne explained the issue had been resolved and noted an action item to forward an email from Steve Hampson describing the resolution to the MWG. No other issues were raised by the MWG.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

Denise Tripp confirmed commitment to Oct 31, 2016 calibration deadline. Discussion ensued on timing of next face-to-face meeting and the schedule for validation to be complete on 12/28/2016. Rich Bonczek stated that the validation will still be documented as an appendix in the report. Noman Ahsanuzzaman requested that some validation runs be completed for discussion at the next face-to-face meeting. MWG discussed the appropriateness of performing validation in conjunction with calibration. Rich Bonczek raised a concern about not having an agreed upon validation work plan for the team to follow, and he noted that the approach discussed in July was to develop the validation work plan in November after submittal of the second draft modeling report to the MWG. Todd Powers noted that model validation for the C-400 Steam Treatability Test model was performed after the model was calibrated. No consensus was reached by the group on whether the validation approach or validation schedule should be changed. The Oct 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was confirmed with the location to be determined.

ID	Start	End	Duration (days)	Deliverable	Notes
1	4/2/2016	8/16/2016	136	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
2	4/29/2016	4/29/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
3	5/13/2016	5/13/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
4	5/27/2016	5/27/2016	1	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
5	6/3/2016	6/3/2016	1	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6	6/10/2016	6/10/2016	1	Biweekly call	
7	6/14/2016	6/14/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
8	6/24/2016	6/24/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16
9	7/8/2016	7/8/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
10	7/29/2016	7/29/2016	1	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16

11	7/29/2016	8/24/2016	1	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Discussed in 8/24/16 meeting in Paducah
12	8/5/2016	8/5/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
13	8/16/2016	8/16/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
14	8/19/2016	8/19/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Cancelled
15	8/24/2016	8/24/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
16	8/24/2016	11/7/2016	75	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Incorporate into Full Report to be issued to the MWG
17	8/31/2016	8/31/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	3 hour WebEx
18	9/16/2016	9/16/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
19	9/30/2016	9/30/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	3 hour WebEx
20	10/14/2016	10/14/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
21	10/25/2016	10/25/2016	1	Face-to-Face Meeting	Draft final calibration
22	10/31/2016	10/31/2016	1	Calibration Complete	
23	11/7/2016	11/7/2016	1	Submit Draft 2 Modeling Report to MWG for review	Full Report, incorporating response to comments re: Primary Components
24	11/11/2016	11/11/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
25	11/7/2016	11/28/2016	21	MWG Review Draft 2 Modeling Report	3 weeks
26	11/28/2016	11/28/2016	1	MWG Comments Provided on Draft 2 Modeling Report	MWG concurs on final model calibration
27	11/28/2016	12/28/2016	30	Prepare Draft 3 Modeling Report	Includes model validation
28	12/13/2016	12/13/2016	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
29	12/28/2016	12/28/2016	1	Draft 3 Modeling Report Issued to MWG (Full Report)	Incorporating response to comments re: Draft 2 Modeling Report
30	12/28/2016	1/11/2017	14	MWG Review of Draft 3 Modeling Report	2 weeks
31	1/6/2017	1/6/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
32	1/11/2017	1/25/2017	14	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft 3 Modeling Report (Prepare D1 Report)	2 weeks
33	1/20/2017	1/20/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
34	1/25/2017	2/8/2017	14	DOE review of D1 Modeling Report	2 weeks
35	2/3/2017	2/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
36	2/8/2017	3/1/2017	21	Finalize D1 Modeling Report	3 weeks
37	2/17/2017	2/17/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
38	3/1/2017	3/1/2017	1	Submit D1 Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG

39	3/1/2017	3/31/2017	30	FFA parties review D1 Modeling Report	30 days
40	3/3/2017	3/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
41	3/14/2017	3/14/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
42	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
43	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	FFA parties respond to D1 Modeling Report to DOE	
44	3/31/2017	5/1/2017	31	DOE response to FFA Parties' comments on the D1 Modeling Report and Prepare D2 Report	Additional day added to have End Date on Monday
45	4/7/2017	4/7/2017	1	FFA parties meet to discuss D2 Report prior to submittal	Conference Call
46	4/18/2017	4/18/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
47	5/1/2017	5/1/2017	1	DOE submit D2 Modeling Report to FFA Parties	
48	5/1/2017	5/31/2017	30	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days

Note: Durations are in calendar days.

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

Discussed MWG August 31, 2016 and September 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes sent September 29 2016.EPA has not reviewed meeting minutes. KDEP has reviewed the meeting minutes and had one comment on the September 16 Meeting Minutes regarding a discussion led by Steve Hampson regarding the Pegasis database (resulted in new action item #22 to be discussed during the meeting but since Steve Hampson was not in attendance – the action item was postponed. Kelly Layne will forward email from Steve Hampson where he discussed the use of the data sets).

### 5. Review and Update of Current Action Item List

An updated Action Item List was provided (<u>20160926\_Draft Action Item List.pdf</u>). Action Item #20, development of rationale for selected stress periods used for model calibration and validation, and Acton Item #21, evaluation of RGA monitoring well transect data from newly installed were added to the list during the 9/16 call. In addition, Action Item #22 was added to document the resolution of measure point elevation data discrepancies identified by Steve Hampson on the 9/16 call.

### 6. Review Action Item 4

Action Item #4, land use evaluation and development of qualitative anthropogenic recharge zones, was summarized in <u>Draft Land Use Assessment 0912 2016.pdf</u>.

Denise Tripp discussed page 3 which identifies areas of potentially increased recharge. Areas take into account the lithology of the UCRS, water level contours, and potential for anthropogenic recharge based on site operations. The identified areas were incorporated in to the recharge zonation of the model. The MWG agreed that this action item is complete.

### 7. Review Action Item 18

Action Item #18, development of a strategy for model validation, was discussed on the 9/16 call. A new action Item was identified for the evaluation of suitable datasets with for calibration and validation to include more "seasonality" to the overall calibration data set (Action Item #20). Discussion of this Action Item was discussed in conjunction with Action Item #20 (see below).

### 8. Review Action Item 19

Action Item #19, development of recharge zonation in plant area based on land use and operational information (Action Item #4), was presented on the 9/16 call. Consideration of a simplified recharge reconfiguration in the plant area including discreet recharge zones in place of a dense grid of recharge pilot points was discussed. A two-stress period model with the discreet zones is currently being used to develop estimates of initial values for a subsequent model to include more stress periods.

Denise Tripp reviewed map of recharge zones provided in <u>Draft September 30 2016 WebEx.pdf</u>, specifically pages 12 and 13 which showed areas of higher recharge and approximate zonation, based on calculated geometric mean and lithology. Martin Clauberg requested that in the future, zone numbers be added to the map legend. Brian Begley stated he is comfortable with the interpretations shown. Noman Ahsanuzzaman inquired about the two "blue" areas north and west of Building C-400 and noted that these two areas will be important regarding predicted plume migration. After further discussion, EPA, KDEP, and DOE approved the presented recharge zonation and agreed that Action Item #19 is complete.

### 9. Review Action Item 20

Action Item #20, develop a list of calibration and validation datasets with rationale, was added on the 9/16 call. The purpose is to evaluate all available datasets for use in calibration or validation to include more "seasonality" to the overall calibration data set. A summary of available data and recommendations for use in the modeling process (<u>Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events</u> 0922 2016.pdf) was sent to the MWG on 9/27/16.

Denise Tripp reviewed graphs provided in <u>Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events 0922</u> <u>2016.pdf</u>, and presented rationale for selecting proposed stress periods for the model. For proposed calibration and validation datasets, only data considered representative of steady-state aquifer conditions was used (except 1995 to ensure inclusion of a non-pumping dataset). On Figure 1, DOE requested that x-axis be corrected by removing the first January label. EPA requested that "gauging event" label be changed to "water level event" in all graphs, and that future graphs indicate which events correspond to calibration or validation data sets. Brian Begley requested that from 2011 forward, "synoptic" should be changed to "sitewide" in table 1.

Significant discussion occurred regarding how many and which data sets to use. Noman Ahsanuzzaman expressed dissatisfaction that so many data sets were omitted from the proposed calibration data sets. Denise Tripp described the criteria used to select the proposed group of data sets from the available data to supporting the calibration and validation process. MWG also discussed how landfill monitoring data is localized data and may not be representative of the entire model domain; based on this, the landfill monitoring data set may not be useful for calibrating. Rich Bonczek stated that the report will need to include maps showing the wells providing data for each calibration stress period so that it is clear how the selected datasets encompass the model domain.

Further discussion by MWG resulted in the decision to further consider the addition of September 24, 2013 and October 20, 2015 data sets as a calibration data set. Rich Bonczek noted that the addition of these data sets for the calibration of the model will be balanced against the information the data set

could provide to the calibration, the alternative benefit of having these data sets for validation of the calibrated model, and the project cost/schedule. DOE did not agree to add the data sets to the calibration effort without these further considerations. The list of calibration stress periods that was proposed (Table 1) was not finalized on the call. Denise Tripp will update Table 1 to include the number of data points for each data set; number of data points per data set will be provided to Denise Tripp by Ken Davis. Once Table 1 is updated, the table will be provided to Noman Ahsanuzzaman (EPA) no later than next Wednesday, for his review. Finalization of the proposed calibration stress periods will be discussed on the call next week.

Denise Tripp briefly covered the remainder of the slides in <u>20160930 PGDP Sitewide GW Model</u> <u>WebEx.pdf and d</u>iscussed the current calibration results using the two stress period model.

### 10. Review Action Item 21

Action Item #21, review NS Transect data in context of the calibrated model, will be conducted to evaluate the RGA monitoring well transect data from newly installed wells once the data becomes available. Ken Davis communicated that wells would be sampled in October. Also, it was noted that these data would not be available until December. Therefore, these data cannot be used to calibrate the current model and will need to be considered in some other way in the modeling report.

### 11. Review Action Item 22

Action Item #22, resolve apparent MPE discrepancy between Pegasis and September 2014 RGA potentiometric data set. Action item was postponed to next meeting.

### 12. Additional Action Item

Ken Davis will provide Denise Tripp with number of data points for each data set shown in Table 1 from <u>Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events 0922 2016.pdf.</u> Denise will then update Table 1 and send the table to Noman Ahsanuzzaman (EPA) by next Thursday.

Denise Tripp will send Noman Ahsanuzzaman a copy of the excel spreadsheet used to generate the river stage graphs shown in <u>Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events 0922 2016.pdf</u>.

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes—October 14, 2016

### 1. Attendees:

Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Nathan Garner, Dave Dollins, Martin Clauberg, Brad Montgomery, Ken Davis, Kelly Layne, Todd Powers, Tracy Taylor, Steve Hampson, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Josue Gallegos.

### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Kelly Layne asked if EPA had reviewed the past three sets of meeting minutes. Noman indicated that he had not reviewed those meeting minutes and he is using his own set of meeting notes. Ms. Layne will discuss with Julie Corkran EPA's review and concurrence of meeting minutes.

Kelly brought up briefly that the modeling report is not a Primary Document. The plan is to follow FFA process and submit as a Report.

### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

ID	Start	End	Duration (days)	Deliverable	Notes
1	4/2/2016	8/16/2016	136	Model calibration	Discussed status at 8/24/16 face-to- face meeting in Paducah
2	4/29/2016	4/29/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
3	5/13/2016	5/13/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
4	5/27/2016	5/27/2016	1	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
5	6/3/2016	6/3/2016	1	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6	6/10/2016	6/10/2016	1	Biweekly call	
7	6/14/2016	6/14/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville
8	6/24/2016	6/24/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16
9	7/8/2016	7/8/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
10	7/29/2016	7/29/2016	1	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16
11	7/29/2016	8/24/2016	1	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Discussed in 8/24/16 meeting in Paducah
12	8/5/2016	8/5/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16

13	8/16/2016	8/16/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
14	8/19/2016	8/19/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Cancelled
15	8/24/2016	8/24/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
16	8/24/2016	11/14/2016	82	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Incorporate into Full Report to be issued to the MWG
17	8/31/2016	8/31/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	3 hour WebEx
18	9/16/2016	9/16/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
19	9/30/2016	9/30/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	3 hour WebEx
20	10/14/2016	10/14/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
21	10/25/2016	10/25/2016	1	Face-to-Face Meeting	Draft final calibration presented at face-to-face meeting in Nashville
22	11/7/2016	11/7/2016	1	Calibration Complete	
24	11/11/2016	11/11/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
23	11/14/2016	11/14/2016	1	Submit Draft 2 Modeling Report to MWG for review	Full Report, incorporating response to comments re: Primary Components
25	11/14/2016	12/5/2016	21	MWG Review Draft 2 Modeling Report	3 weeks
26	12/5/2016	12/5/2016	1	MWG Comments Provided on Draft 2 Modeling Report	MWG concurs on final model calibration
27	12/5/2016	12/28/2016	23	Prepare Draft 3 Modeling Report	Includes model validation
28	12/13/2016	12/13/2016	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
29	12/28/2016	12/28/2016	1	Draft 3 Modeling Report Issued to MWG (Full Report)	Incorporating response to comments re: Draft 2 Modeling Report
30	12/28/2016	1/11/2017	14	MWG Review of Draft 3 Modeling Report	2 weeks
31	1/6/2017	1/6/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
32	1/11/2017	1/25/2017	14	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft 3 Modeling Report (Prepare D1 Report)	2 weeks
33	1/20/2017	1/20/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
34	1/25/2017	2/8/2017	14	DOE review of D1 Modeling Report	2 weeks
35	2/3/2017	2/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
36	2/8/2017	3/1/2017	21	Finalize D1 Modeling Report	3 weeks
37	2/17/2017	2/17/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
38	3/1/2017	3/1/2017	1	Submit D1 Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
39	3/1/2017	3/31/2017	30	FFA parties review D1 Modeling Report	30 days
40	3/3/2017	3/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	

41	3/14/2017	3/14/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
42	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
43	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	FFA parties respond to D1 Modeling Report to DOE	
44	3/31/2017	5/1/2017	31	DOE response to FFA Parties' comments on the D1 Modeling Report and Prepare D2 Report	Additional day added to have End Date on Monday
45	4/7/2017	4/7/2017	1	FFA parties meet to discuss D2 Report prior to submittal	Conference Call
46	4/18/2017	4/18/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
47	5/1/2017	5/1/2017	1	DOE submit D2 Modeling Report to FFA Parties	
48	5/1/2017	5/31/2017	30	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days

### 4. Concurrence of Meeting Minutes

Brief discussion of MWG September 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes sent October 11, 2016. Martin Clauberg provided suggestions on the meeting minutes. Ms. Layne will review and incorporate as appropriate. Neither EPA nor KDEP have reviewed the MWG September 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

### 5. Discussion of Action Item List

An updated Action Item List was provided (20161010\_Draft Action Item List.pdf), including further discussion on the exclusion of September 2013 and October 2015 data sets.

Denise Tripp provided an update on the Action Item List. Denise explained that the September 2013 data set will not be used for calibration since the data is not unique enough to add value to the calibration effort. Denise also explained that the October 2015 data set will not be used for calibration because the data is too sparse.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked about the September 21, 2015 dataset, which he believes is suitable for validation. Ms. Tripp said it was excluded because it does not represent steadystate aquifer conditions. Noman countered that just because the Ohio River stage is changing that does not mean the aquifer is unsteady. Ms. Tripp added that the September 2015 dataset is not unique compared to the other fall datasets. Martin Clauberg thanked Noman for his input which has spurred much discussion and caused the MWG to reconsider all of the datasets. Based on this, DOE's modelers have decided that the five proposed datasets are the proper path forward based on technical, budget, and schedule considerations. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman stated his opinion that the calibration datasets are skewed to low river stages. The October 2015 dataset is already included as a validation dataset. The MWG agreed to consider the September 2015 dataset as a validation dataset. Al Laase described how the response times of surface water and groundwater are different and how that complicates the steady-state calibration; therefore, it is best to calibrate to steady state conditions which correspond to lower river stages. The validation can then be used to qualitatively assess strengths and weaknesses of the model under different conditions. An extended discussion ensued regarding the impact of changing river levels on the model calibration. Mr. Clauberg assured the MWG that EPA's concerns have been heard and the calibration needs to move forward. The calibration will be presented at the face-to-face meeting. The MWG agreed to

move forward with the five calibration datasets and discuss results at the face-to-face meeting. The MWG will not include the September 2015 dataset as part of the calibration effort.

Action Item 23 has been completed. The MWG agreed that Action Item 23 is complete.

Steve Hampson provided an update on perceived discrepancies regarding measuring point elevations. Mr. Hampson has been getting updated measuring point elevations from various people and has included them in his work. Now that he has a complete set of MPE data the perceived discrepancy has been resolved.

Steve Hampson requested a conference call with Denise Tripp and others later today regarding LiDAR data. Steve will send out preliminary data before the call which is tentatively scheduled for 2:30 pm EST today.

Martin Clauberg requested that a system for tracking miscellaneous action items such as adding zone numbers to the legend on model recharge maps and including meeting minutes as an appendix in the modeling report be considered. Kelly Layne agreed to look into it.

### 6. Upcoming face to face meeting

Ms. Layne will set this up as a WebEx to facilitate attendance remotely. There have been issues with the hotel but those have been resolved. Ms. Layne provided meeting information in an email dated 12 October 2016 and also summarized meeting logistics to MWG members. Ms. Layne will send out an agenda with specific meeting times.

# Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Modeling Working Group (MWG)

Nashville, Tennessee - 25 October 2016

### Attendees

In-person: Kelly Layne, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Rich Bonczek, Martin Clauberg, Chris Young (KDEP), Brian Begley, Ken Davis, Dave Dollins, Nathan Garner, Noman Ahsanuzzaman

Remote: Eva Davis, Chad Drummond, Steve Hampson, Bruce Stearns

### Handouts:

Two handouts were provided with the Microsoft Outlook invitation. Filenames are provided below.

- 20161023\_ PGDP MWG Meeting Nashville\_Oct 25.pdf
- Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events 0922 2016\_Rev1.pdf

### Agenda

Modelers are proceeding with modeling tasks. To meet project deadlines, MWG decisions must occur to allow modeling to proceed unimpeded. The meeting agenda consists of the below topics.

- Status of Calibration
- Validation Approach
- Proposed Project Schedule

### Objective

Ms. Layne provided the Objective of the meeting. Today we need to resolve questions regarding how the MWG team is moving forward. Therefore, any questions or concerns regarding calibration and validation need to be resolved today.

### Presentation

Presentation materials were provided to members of the MWG prior to the meeting (20161023\_ PGDP MWG Meeting Nashville\_Oct 25.pdf). Ms. Tripp went through the presentation materials once without entertaining questions. After the presentation was completed, questions were answered during the discussion period. Highlights of the presentation are listed below.

- Ms. Tripp reminded the MWG that the calibration is not complete, but good progress has been made and simulations have informed the modelers as to how the model responds to changes in parameter inputs.
- Slide 3: Calibration activities were performed including two stress periods February 1995 and September 2014 as well as a single stress period (September 2014). Calibration simulations are being performed with acceptable simulation run times (which was not the case in the past).
- Slide 4: Run 21 provides a good match to data regarding plume trajectory and head targets.
- Slide 5: Maximum horizontal hydraulic conductivity (K<sub>h</sub>) of 1,500 ft/day onsite (see bottom 3 panels). Maximum K<sub>h</sub> of 3,660 for entire model domain (top 3 panels).

- Slide 6: Single Stress Period (SP) model (Run 23). Used K<sub>h</sub> from two SP model calibration (Run 21). Had good match to heads and trajectory. However, Ohio River flux target exhibiting greater contribution to residual statistics. Ambient recharge was at maximum of range, which may be too high for September data set.
- Slide 7: Ran simulation (Run 29) with K<sub>h</sub> =300 ft/day except in locations where pump test data exists. Had good head match (i.e., head residuals generally +/- 0.5 feet) but poor trajectory match (i.e., the flow path from the C400 building did not have the pronounced westward component observed in the Northwest Plume).
- Slide 8: Note more subdued and lower K<sub>h</sub> values compared to panels presented in slide 5.
- Slide 9: Presentation of single stress period calibration water level residuals. Results indicate a slight bias toward eastern portion of model. Calibration statistics are appropriate.
- Slide 10: Recharge zonation shown. Zone 16 has thin clay and greater recharge potential, this correlates well with observed water level data.
- Slide 11: Some of the recharge values (ambient is 4.1 in/yr) are at extreme (min/max) values including Zone 8 and Zone 16. Zone 12 calibrated recharge is at the minimum constraint value.
- Slide 12: Trajectory targets have a good match to observed plume data.
- Slide 13: Overall mass balance looks good. Ambient recharge and Ohio River Flux values are most sensitive. Next most sensitive is anthropogenic recharge.
- Slide 14: Discussed proposed calibration approach going forward.
  - Use K<sub>h</sub> distribution from single SP run 29 as initial input to multi-stress period model
  - o Correlate ambient recharge to plant recharge
  - Exclude river flux target
  - Calibrate with trajectory weight = 1
  - Refine head match with trajectory weight = 0.1
- Slide 15: Discussed evaluation criteria for calibration and validation data sets. Criteria included that Ohio River stage was steady for at least one month prior to observation date of data set. Also desired steady cumulative precipitation prior to data set. Note "1993" on slide should be "1995."
- Slide 16: Rows shaded grey are events determined to not be steady-state or unique.
- Slide 17: Same chart as 16 with unused events removed. Presents proposed calibration and validation data. Table legend is provided on bottom of slide.
- Slide 18: Ms. Tripp presented a summary of the evaluation criteria for model calibration.
  - Representative of steady state conditions
    - Steady river stage approximately 1 month prior
    - Steady trend in cumulative rainfall
  - Representative of unique period of site operation
  - o Representative of the range of annual precipitation
  - Model domain distribution of target locations
- Slide 19: Current multi stress period data sets:
  - February 1995 (day unavailable)
  - o 3rd Quarter 2005 (month and day unavailable)
  - o October 10, 2011
  - o July 17, 2012
  - o September 29, 2014

- Slide 20: October 28, 2015 data set not recommended due to limited monitoring locations across the model domain and would likely confound calibration.
- Slide 21: September 24, 2013 data set not recommended because it is similar to September 29, 2014 site conditions. Therefore, the increased runtime and data processing resultant from using this data set are not justified.
- Slide 22: Shows cumulative precipitation for stress periods for use during calibration.
- Slide 23: Validation approach for steady-state simulations was presented as shown on slide.
  - Run calibrated multiple stress period simulation
  - Specify data sets as targets for all stress periods
  - Revise Ohio River and creek stages to 30-day average for all stress periods
  - For each stress period assess gradient between the plant and Ohio River, flow direction (use pathlines), and match between observed and model-predicted heads.
- Slide 24: Validation approach for transient simulations was presented as shown on slide.
- Slide 25: Ms. Tripp presented the proposed project schedule. November 7 is due date for calibration. If meeting objectives are met then it is likely that the MWG will meet that due date.
- Slide 27: Background slide showing pumping test locations.
- Slide 28: Background slide showing max potential recharge based on lithology.
- Slide 29: Background slide presenting map of anthropogenic recharge.

#### Discussion

Upon completing the presentation, Ms. Tripp entertained questions from other members of the MWG.

- Dr. Clauberg referred members of the MWG to slide 3. He asked if the reason for starting with a single stress period is to use a most representative data set for steady-state simulations to remove "fuzziness." Ms. Tripp confirmed that is the reason for starting with a single stress period, including that it takes 24 hours to run each simulation and process data. Ms. Layne asked if anyone else had comments on this approach. Al Laase provided a summary of why it takes approximately 24 hours to get a single stress period model to be completed and data processed. Ms. Tripp stated that it takes a couple of hours to process and assess the data.
- Dave Dollins had a question regarding the recharge zonation shown on slide 10, particularly Zone 16 east of Building C-400 and its location between the lobes of the plumes. Ms. Tripp indicated that this location matches with water level contours. Mr. Begley asked if this changes the CSM that there is one source of contamination for both plumes. Mr. Hampson agreed with the location of Zone 16 and that it aligns with locations of water utilities. Mr. Davis provided a summary of the transect of wells between the plumes. Mr. Begley voiced his support for the figure shown on Slide 10. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman mentioned that he will have a question later regarding recharge value used in Zone 16, but that he agrees with the location of Zone 16. Data available later from the newly-installed monitoring well transect will be evaluated once available, but the data will not be available until after the model is updated.
- Mr. Davis asked about the trajectory target locations shown on Slide 4. Mr. Laase presented that there are not trajectory targets located at the northern ends of the plume where the plume location is less certain. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman opined that matching heads is more important than

matching plume trajectories due to the various parameters that can affect plume location. Dr. Bonczek stated that using composite targets (such as plume trajectory) is a good method for calibration from a statistician's point of view compared to using point targets such as water levels with constrained ranges. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman requested that the weight of head targets in the plant area be increased. The group discussed and it was concluded that a uniform weight for head targets across the model domain is more appropriate but that alternate weight would be considered, if necessary for calibration.

- Slide 5: Dr. Ahsanuzzaman requested use of a consistent scale range for the color schemes in the report (Action Item). Members of the MWG agreed that a consistent scale is preferable. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman asked about higher K<sub>h</sub> values at boundaries of the model domain. Dr. Bonczek mentioned that these areas are outside of the areas of interest. Ms. Tripp stated that effort will be made to minimize areas of high K<sub>h</sub> at model boundaries in the final calibrated model.
- Extensive discussion ensued regarding the methodology, assignment, and prediction of recharge across the model domain. Action Item is to reassess recharge at various locations and increase the number of recharge zones using professional judgement. Care will be taken to ensure the model is not overly constrained. MWG consensus is that more water needs to be added to the model domain within the plant area.
- Ms. Layne asked if anyone had issues with Slides 1-11. No one voiced any concerns.
- Discussion occurred regarding the impact of Ohio River stage on groundwater levels. Mr. Garner and Mr. Davis discussed the selection of data sets based on changing Ohio River water levels. Mr. Hampson recommended that because the Ohio River control elevation will be increased soon, groundwater levels should be evaluated for the amount of impact the Ohio River has on them during early 2018 (after this modeling effort).
- Slide 16: Mr. Begley asked what comprises a synoptic event. He indicated that synoptic events should be sitewide, not just at the landfill. A discussion ensued on the five selected calibration datasets (see Slide 17). Evaluation criteria are shown on Slide 19. MWG consensus was to consider any dataset not used for calibration for validation.
- Dr. Bonczek stated that the MWG needs to define what the validation is supposed to achieve and what is our evaluation process. He stated that the objectives are to identify the conditions the model needs to meet and to specify how the model will be assessed regarding how it meets those conditions. Restated, the MWG needs to validate the flow model to accurately predict downgradient impacts from source releases. The MWG then discussed the definition of model validation and stated the objective of validation is to evaluate the robustness of the model and demonstrate a satisfactory range of accuracy consistent with the intended application of the model. Four of the more complete datasets were discussed, and it was decided that Mr. Laase and Ms. Tripp will assess the datasets for validation suitability (Action Item):
  - April 24, 2011 High Precip, High River Stage
  - September 24, 2013 High Precip, Decreasing River Stage
  - September 1, 2015 High Precip, Decreasing water levels
  - o August 23, 2016 High Precip, Variable River Stages

Mr. Laase and Ms. Tripp will also assess the suitability of performing a transient analysis and will present results at next meeting (**Action Item**).

- Metrics for validation were discussed including:
  - Do we mimic the plume?
  - How does gradient and water level match?

The MWG agreed that it is appropriate to compare validation model results to calibration metrics and perform a qualitative analysis. If the validation shows the model is not suitable under some circumstances, this will need to be documented in the report.

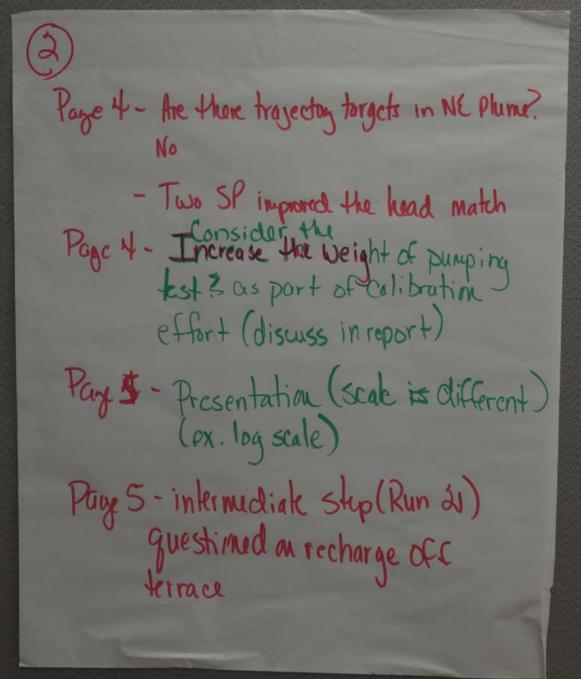
- Discussion then focused on the upcoming schedule. Dr. Ahsanuzzaman voiced concerns regarding having sufficient time for reviews. Mr. Begley stated that with the collaborative process that has occurred the review should go "easier." Mr. Begley also reminded the MWG that November 11 is a holiday and the call scheduled for that day will need to be rescheduled. Dr. Bonczek mentioned that some members of the MWG will be at DOE meetings in Las Vegas the week of November 14, if the call is scheduled for that week then the call will need to occur early in the morning. A call at 10:00 am eastern on November 21 is tentatively planned. Dr. Bonczek mentioned that he does not want to sacrifice report quality due to schedule. As appropriate, the DOE internal team will meet with Ms. Tripp and Ms. Layne to discuss potentially moving the report due date (November 2 or 3).
- A face-to-face meeting is scheduled for December 13 in Paducah, KY. The MWG will consider moving that meeting if necessary at a later time.

Attachments:

- 20161023\_ PGDP MWG Meeting Nashville\_Oct 25.pdf
- Draft Evaluation of Water Level Gauging Events 0922 2016\_Rev1.pdf
- 1025 2016 mtng Tear Sheet Photo.pdf
- 20170103\_Draft Action Item List.pdf

October 25th, 2016 MWG Meeting in Nashville Tear Sheets

10/25/14 FAD GWMWG Nashville, TN comments-red potential new add ! action Page 3 - Bullet 2- Oct 2014 (Single) SP most representative Page 29-high recharge zone east of 400 split in groundwater flow between NW/NE plumes is farther east of 400 then previously modeled. potentially add info on boring info from new transect wells Page 3 - Single SP ~ fised to thoroughy analyze a "run"



3 Sensitivity Analysis on parameters popests (i.e. recharge / boundary) Explain conductivity value in Southern arzone Page 6 - how did we know Calibration was a "good match"? Guantitative explain "god match" in great detail in report. page 8 - hydraulic concluctivity ranges plant (100-1500) Untside (100 - 36,660) Pages 6/7- Run 2/123- are trajectories the same? yes Clarify presentation on trojecturies

Page 10 - Add Zones of recharge for very low recharge (ex. cylinder yards) Page 311-Why did we allow calibrated recharge go up to 32? model Crying For H2O. ( Ue had ogreed to 22/2) Page 10 - Break up zon plant area" and "high recharge" into subzones Summary First adjust hydraulic conductivity, then breakdown recharge zones into more no specific multiple subzmes (main

Page 15 - How does river stage Capprox. I month prior impact?
RGA responds to Othio Giver
Molmstead Don Operational (O First Part of 2018. (Wishlist)
\* Speak to a potential artificial judgment & regarding River stages.
Page 17. 5 data sets Jeb 95, 3rd Qtr 2005, 10/10/11, 7/11/12, 9/29/14

6 Page 18 - River Stage Discussion 2 Pag 23 - Validation discussion the objective statement (wikipedia - substantiation that a (208 model objective)=> PI, "the modeling Is used ... " \* Validate flow model so it occurately depicts downgradient impacts from sources" (Rich) Al \* model must reproduce flow direction (#1) & reasonably maintain top gradients (#2)

Klook at extremes (#3)

Datu Sets: 2011 date, 9/24/13, Lextreme) (high precip but drop high rime, high river stage) Blaz/16 (rep current conditions) 9/1/15 (high precip, drop too level)

A Capture rationale in shown in bullets above in page 14 (presentation) tuble

\* Transient Data Sets will be used for special analysis (next meeting follow-up)

8 metrics OTrojectory targets (minic the plume) 3 Match Hzo levels (similar to calibration) \* Need to explain how the madel can ! be used for, Explain limitations. Focus on data assurptions. Schedule' 11/15/16 - 9:00 - 11:00 CST - Report licid - Finalize Validation Internal Macting - Discuss Due Daks (Rich. Dore, Kelly, Denise) (11/2 or 11/3) Status of report writing

### Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-December 13, 2016

1. Attendees: Rich Bonczek, David Dollins, Martin Clauberg, Julie Corkran, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Brian Begley, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Kelly Layne, Ken Davis, Bruce Sterns, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent.

#### 2. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The MWG agreed that Draft 3 of the modeling report would be submitted to the MWG on December 28, 2016, the MWG would have comments and feedback prepared by January 11, 2017, and the D1 report would be due to DOE from FPDP on January 25, 2017. The next quarterly face-to-face meeting will be held in March 2017 The group will continue to have bi-weekly calls.

#### 3. Discussion of Draft 2 Modeling Report

Comments provided by EPA and KYDEP were discussed during the call. KYDEP provided additional editorial comments after the call. Rich Bonczek emphasized that the model will continue to evolve even after the report is submitted. The intent of the report is to document the status of the model before the contract transition. Julie Corkran noted that the EPA would assume that the version of the model described in the report will be used and would document their outstanding concerns about the model. Kelly Layne asked for clarification regarding when EPA would issue their concerns, and specifically if it would be done as part of the FFA review process. Julie responded that she would need to consider the schedule and other factors before she could answer the question.

The remainder of the minutes is provided in the attached annotated version of comments received from EPA.

#### EPA R4 comments on DOE's draft "D2" GW Model Update Report for the Paducah GDP

#### EPA ID KY8890008982, McCracken County, KY

#### Submitted 12 08 2016 by J Corkran (404-562-8547/corkran.julie@epa.gov)

#### Comments from Eva Davis, ORD/ADA

 The Work Group (WG) has discussed calibrating to as many stress periods as possible, however, now DOE is presenting a model that is calibrated to only 2 stress periods, less than originally committed to. Additional calibration is just left to future modeling efforts (see Kelly's email). I really don't know how 'robust' that makes this model.

**Notes**: It was noted that the model only uses 2 stress periods. Eva Davis asked what the impact is regarding using only 2 stress periods. Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked for an explanation regarding why the model only used 2 versus 5 stress periods.

Denise Tripp said that as modeling progressed it was determined that the two stress period model is robust, with the 2014 stress period representative of the other 3 stress periods. She also noted the need for the 1995 pre-pumping stress period. Including 5 stress periods was taking too long given computing, processing, and result evaluation requirements. Regarding the 2014 dataset being representative of other datasets, Denise stated that the dataset was measured under steady-state conditions and is representative of fall conditions with similar river stage and groundwater levels as other datasets.

Rich explained that five stress periods was too ambitious. He also described that the computational requirements and evaluation of model results are extensive. Rich said datasets not used for calibration (7 in total) should be assessed as part of model validation, unless some of the datasets are "not unique."

Noman stated that the model's strengths and weaknesses need to be documented, including the limitation due to excluding the other three potential calibration datasets. He also noted that the model was calibrated to dry season conditions. Noman asked why the 2014 dataset was used instead of one of the other potential calibration datasets. Denise responded that the 2014 dataset was used as a good representation of a steady-state stress period, and that it was not necessarily better or worse than other potential calibration datasets that could have been used.

2. The modelers were emphatic about wanting to calibrate to steady state conditions, but now it appears that the stress periods they used are not steady state (see Section 3.4). So – how does this affect the calibration? What percentage of the time is the groundwater system assumed to be at steady state versus some transient condition?

**Notes**: Eva asked if the model stress periods represented steady-state or transient conditions. Denise Tripp responded that the September 2014 dataset is representative of steady-state conditions and the February 1995 stress period is not; nevertheless, the February 1995 stress period needed to be included to incorporate all the direction targets into the model calibration because it is the only available prepumping dataset. Eva asked what percentage of the time the system would be in transient conditions. Denise responded that it would mostly be during the wet season. Eva asked for clarification that the wet season might be three or four months out of the year, and Denise agreed that it would be. Noman requested that the limitations should be outlined in the report to specify that the model was not calibrated to high river stage conditions or wet period conditions.

3. Section 1.1 on Objectives states that one of the objectives of the model is to calculate cleanup criteria in decision documents. I have never seen a model like this used to calculate cleanup criteria. DOE's intent behind this language in the model needs to be clarified.

**Notes**: Eva, Noman, and Julie Corkran expressed concern about the language "calculating cleanup criteria in decision documents". Rich Bonczek mentioned that in the Risk Methods Document models (first analytical such as SESOIL then numerical models) are described as being part of the suite to support making cleanup decisions. He noted that the models don't stand alone, but are used as an input in the determination of cleanup criteria. Martin Clauberg noted that the language is correct because the text says that the model "can be relied on to *assist in* . . . calculating cleanup criteria" (emphasis added). Julie Corkran was still not comfortable with the way it was presented. Julie will review Risk Methods Document to see if she is comfortable with the language. The MWG agreed that the text would be softened—"developing" would be used instead of "calculating".

4. Section 6.7 (last paragraph) states that the NE and NW plumes were constant between 1994 and 2005 and the current plume configuration. The Work Group should remember that if you are always sampling the same wells, and they aren't located appropriately, changes in the plume can go undetected. It is difficult to prove that the plume is stable.

**Notes**: Eva stated that she believes the new transect data may change the plume maps. She also stated that there may be a connection between C-400 and the NE Plume. Ken Davis also agreed that the plume map will change. Brian Begley indicated that he would like to see a MW installed north of the current transect.

5. The first round of groundwater data (October 2016) from the new NE Plume transect wells is now available. I would like to understand why DOE anticipated that the TCE levels in these wells would be 600 ug/I – as far as I can tell from trying to place these wells on the plume map, it appears that the concentration in these wells is assumed to be between 5 and 100 ug/I. Two of the wells in the middle RGA exceeded 100 ug/I – MW 525 had a TCE concentration of 403 ug/I, and MW 526 had a concentration of 145 ug/I. This new data I believe will make the biggest changes to the plume map that they/we have seen in some time. The concentration in MW 525 opens up the possibility – or likelihood – of some groundwater flow from the C-400 area to the NE (north) plume, although the model now shows a groundwater divide in this area. The modeling Work Group has continuously said that this new NE Plume transect well data will not be incorporated into this model. Ken Davis commented during one meeting that the NE (south) plume is decreasing, as if the source is depleted, while the NE (north) plume appears to have a continuing source. If this is true, this data

could be showing us that the C-400 area is indeed a continuing source to this plume. It's not clear that the model they have now reproduces that.

**Notes**: Rich stated that the new data need to be included in this or other modeling effort. He would like an estimate for including these data in the current modeling effort. Al Laase stated that these data were not collected as part of a sitewide synoptic water level event and therefore are not useful as a calibration dataset. Kelly mentioned that the next synoptic event will occur in late August or early September, with data likely available in early 2018. Noman asked about the lithology in the transect wells, and he requested that a discussion of the transect wells including what they tell us should be added to the report. Al suggested that the boring logs regarding the transect wells should be sent to Noman instead of including this information in the modeling report. Noman agreed.

#### End of ORD Comments

#### Comments from Noman Ahsanuzzaman, R4 Superfund/SSS

1. Pg-1: Calculation of cleanup criteria are driven by risk assessment, not modeling. Modeling objectives should not include this.

# **Notes**: The MWG agreed that this comment had been adequately addressed during the discussion of ORD/ADA Comment #3 above.

2. Pg-2: Horizontal flow through UCRS could be significant near the creeks, where the groundwater could get discharged. Need to elaborate the discussion on why some section of the creeks are assumed to be recharge zones and the others to be drains. Also, include how discharge from the UCRS could be possible or not.

**Notes**: Denise stated that conceptual model to date has been consistent since 2008. Closer to river is River Package; closer to plant is recharge boundary condition. The basis for these boundary conditions will be added to the report text. Responding to Noman's question, Denise confirmed that drain boundary conditions are not included in the model.

3. Pg-10: Based on the minimum clay/silt of 30-35% in the entire model domain, the maximum recharge allowed within the site is 29 in/yr. Figure 3.8 (text has wrong reference to Figure 3.7) shows only a few green dots representing clay/sit between 40-50% range. That means the maximum recharge should not be more than 22 in/yr. In fact, 22 in/yr is the number the MWG agreed to use. Figure 3.8 does not justify using any higher maximum recharge rate.

**Notes:** Noman asked why recharge was allowed to be increased to greater than 22 in/yr. Denise stated that the calibration process started using the recharge values estimated with the geometric mean UCRS vertical hydraulic conductivity as a constraint, but the model as configured required higher recharge values. So the recharge constraints were increased using the constraints calculated with the median UCRS hydraulic conductivity. The MWG agreed that text will be added describing that recharge could be lower if the model hydraulic conductivity is lower and that model calibrations are non-unique.

4. Pg-11: Ratio of the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity does not show a value of 10, as explained in the text. Closer comparison between the data presented in Table 3.4 and 3.6 shows the

ratio to be 14 and 20 when the arithmetic and geometric means were compared, respectively. Does the ratio match with that found from the treatability study for steam injection?

**Notes**: Denise stated that this discussion is provided in the text to support the assumption of 10:1 vertical anisotropy that was used to calculate maximum recharge in the UCRS. She emphasized that it was an order of magnitude estimate, a commonly used approach used to estimate vertical hydraulic conductivity from horizontal conductivity measurements. She also noted that a 10:1 vertical anisotropy was used for the UCRS in the treatability study for steam injection. The MWG agreed the statement in the text will be softened.

5. Pg-11: Figure 3.11 should be updated by incorporating the recent transect well data. Since the transect wells are located within the high recharge zone (Zone 24) with less than 2ft clay thickness, it is highly critical to include this data in the analysis.

**Notes**: The MWG agreed that this comment had been adequately addressed during the discussion of ORD/ADA Comment #5 above.

6. Pg-15: Although the McNairy formation has 2 to 3 order of lower hydraulic conductivity, it would still be a significant formation for DNAPL source accumulation and plume migration within the McNairy formation. Exclusion of this potential source zone is a major limitation for simulation of solute transport.

**Notes**: The MWG agreed that exclusion of the McNairy formation would be described in the Limitations section of the report.

7. Pg-16: Need to elaborate discussion of the following statement, "A comprehensive analysis of RGA water level data, UCRS lithology and moisture content, and land use (see Section 3.3) indicates areas of increased recharge and a groundwater divide in the Plant Area are associated with roof drains, surface water discharges, and leaks in the TVA supply line (see Figure 3.8)." Is the reference to Figure 3.8 correct?

**Notes**: The MWG agreed to add clarification about how anthropogenic recharge is the reason for the divide. The text will refer the reader to Section 3.3.2. The figure reference will be corrected.

Brian Begley asked where the groundwater divide would be drawn and how it is affected by the leak in the TVA line and surface water discharges. Denise responded that the text would be corrected to reflect that the TVA supply line and surface water discharge are not in the area of the groundwater divide. Brian asked for clarification on the operational time of the sumps. Denise said that the text would be revised to elaborate on the sump operation.

8. Pg-19: How does the extraordinarily high K value (50,000 ft/d) of the Metropolis lake impact the model. Such a high value may result in driving the groundwater in the direction of the lake.

**Notes**: Noman expressed concern that the high K value in Metropolis Lake might have too much effect on the particle flow path directions. Al noted that it is common to model lakes as high conductivity features and that there is uncertainty regarding the correct water level to use. Steve Hampson said that TVA data indicate that lake levels range from 314 to 317 ft. Rich requested that, if possible, lake water elevations should be measured during the next synoptic water event. Al said to also consider obtaining bottom sediment conductance measurements.

9. Pg-21: Is specific yield of 0.01 justified?

**Notes**: The reported 0.01 is not used in the model because the model is steady state. This value will be updated in the transient simulation. The text will be updated.

10. Pg-23: What is the reason for leaving the three water level datasets from calibration? MWG agreed to use at least five stress periods for model calibration.

**Notes**: The MWG agreed that this comment had been adequately addressed during the discussion of ORD/ADA Comment #1 above.

11. Pg-26: Why is the calibrated recharge rate for Zone 24 (i.e., 45 in/yr) greater than 22 in/yr? Recharge rate should be limited to the soil type, not to the potential volume of source water.

**Notes**: Denise noted that this comment was partially addressed in response to Noman's Comment #3 above. Additional discussion will be included in the report.

12. Pg-26: It does not look like the recharge zone for the storm drain (Zone 16) followed the footprint of the HU3 clay unit (see Figure 5.5 and Table 6.2).

**Notes**: Noman believes the drains in Zone 16 do not match with thicker clay. Denise stated the areas of thin clay are configured in the model separately from the potential recharge associated with the leaks in the storm drain piping as had been agreed on by the MWG in the September 25, 2016 MWG Meeting. Ken Davis clarified that the dense storm drain network north of the process buildings is because of a transformer yard. More detail regarding the layout of storm drains will be included in the report.

13. Figure 6.4: Range of color distribution should be limited to 1500 ft/d within the site and to 3600 ft/d outside.

**Notes**: The figure color scheme will be modified if appropriate to improve ability to discern spatial variability.

14. Figure 6.5: Why is the transmissivity so drastically different? Is it resulted from the trajectory targets used along the plume to create a highly conductive channel along that path? Why is the transmissivity so high on the east of the NE plume and near the tips of the two plumes?

**Notes**: Discussion of how the transmissivity contrast is a result of the model calibration and how the model needed to match the plume trajectory. Clarifying language will be added to the report.

15. Figures 6.7 and 6.8: Need to improve the residual values within the property boundary.

**Notes**: Clarifying language will be added to the report explaining why the calibration is sufficient.

16. Figure 6.11: Particle tracking during Stress Period 2 show some deviation from the plume trajectory. Need explanation?

**Notes:** The extraction wells were operation during Stress Period 2, and that is why the particle tracks are different. Explanation will be added regarding particle capture by the NE extractions wells.

#### 17. Modeling assumptions should be outlined in detail.

**Notes:** As discussed during previous comments, additional discussion of modeling assumptions and limitations will be added to the report.

#### 18. No mention of the UCRS considered as recharge zone as a model limitation or assumption.

**Notes:** As discussed during previous comments, additional discussion of modeling assumptions and limitations will be added to the report.

#### End of R4 SFD/SSS Comments

**Overarching Notes:** Next quarterly meeting will be in March 2017. Kelly will send out proposed dates. Report is due December 28 (D3). MWG will have two weeks for review (January 11, 2017). The Draft D1 (D0) report is due to DOE from FPDP on January 25, 2017. KDEP will provide editorial comments after call.

Rich Bonczek noted the intent of the report is to document the status of the model before the contract transition. Julie Corkran noted that the EPA would document outstanding concerns about the model on a to-be-determined schedule (See item #3 above)..

## Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes - January 6, 2017

1. Attendees: Rich Bonczek, Martin Clauberg, Julie Corkran, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Chris Jung, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Kelly Layne, Ken Davis, Tracy Taylor, Bruce Sterns, Steve Hampson, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent, Dave Dollins

#### 2. Call for Issues from Modeling Working Group (MWG) Members

Julie Corkran requested clarification on the schedule and the anticipated version nomenclature. Kelly Layne replied that previous versions of the document had been submitted as a report and not as part of a primary or secondary document. Rich Bonczek responded that the typical nomenclature is D(-1) Rev 3 for the current draft under review, which is typically not provided for regulatory input, D0 for the version to be submitted by Fluor to DOE, D1 for the first draft submitted by DOE to FFA parties, and D2 for the second draft submitted by DOE to FFA parties. The scheduled submittal dates are January 25 for D0, March 1 for D1, and May 1 for D2.

Julie clarified that EPA will not "approve" the document because it is not part of a primary or secondary document. Rich noted that the model is not final and will continue to be updated. Julie asked what the first project would be that the new model would be used on. Rich replied that an assessment of the Northeast extraction wells will likely be performed using the new model with a goal of achieving 95% capture. Julie noted that the model might be used before the modeling report review is complete and that EPA would like to have their outstanding concerns formally documented before the model is used.

#### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The schedule below was reviewed. The schedule for submittal of draft reports was discussed as part of the call for issues. The March 14, 2017 face-to-face meeting was rescheduled for March 21, 2017, and it will potentially be held in Nashville. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss comments on the D1 report and to solicit input regarding future model updates. Chris Young will check with Brian Begley if he will be available on that date. The next biweekly call is scheduled for January 20, 2017.

ID	Start	End	Duration (days)	Deliverable	Notes
1	4/2/2016	8/16/2016	136	Model calibration	End date contingent on 8/16/16 meeting
2	4/29/2016	4/29/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 4/26/16
3	5/13/2016	5/13/2016	1	Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/11/16
4	5/27/2016	5/27/2016	1	Bi-weekly call (cancelled)	NA
5	6/3/2016	6/3/2016	1	Interim Bi-weekly call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 5/31/16
6	6/10/2016	6/10/2016	1	Biweekly call	
7	6/14/2016	6/14/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Preliminary Modeling Results	Face to Face Meeting – Nashville – Invite Sent
8	6/24/2016	6/24/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 6/22/16

9	7/8/2016	7/8/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
10	7/29/2016	7/29/2016	1	Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report Issued to MWG	Report sent 7/29/16
11	7/29/2016	8/24/2016	1	MWG Review of Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Discussed in 8/24/16 meeting in Paducah
12	8/5/2016	8/5/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Agenda and Info Packet Sent 7/6/16
13	8/16/2016	8/16/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	2 hour WebEx
14	8/19/2016	8/19/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	Cancelled
15	8/24/2016	8/24/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	Face-to-face in Paducah
16	8/24/2016	11/28/201 6	96	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft (Primary Components) Modeling Report	Incorporate into Full Report to be issued to the MWG
17	8/31/2016	8/31/2016	1	Meeting with EPA/KY to Discuss Modeling Results	3 hour WebEx
18	9/16/2016	9/16/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	
19	9/30/2016	9/30/2016	1	Bi-weekly Call	3 hour WebEx
20	10/14/201 6	10/14/201 6	1	Bi-weekly Call	
21	10/25/201 6	10/25/201 6	1	Face-to-Face Meeting	Draft final calibration
22	11/7/2016	11/7/2016	1	Calibration Complete	
24	11/11/201 6	11/11/201 6	1	Bi-weekly Call	Rescheduled to 11/10 then cancelled
23	11/28/201 6	11/28/201 6	1	Submit Draft 2 Modeling Report to MWG for review	Full Report, incorporating response to comments re: Primary Components
25	11/28/201 6	12/7/2016	9	MWG Review Draft 2 Modeling Report	1 week, 2 days
26	12/7/2016	12/7/2016	1	MWG Comments Provided on Draft 2 Modeling Report	MWG concurs on final model calibration
27	12/7/2016	12/28/201 6	21	Prepare Draft 3 Modeling Report	Includes model validation
28	12/13/201 6	12/13/201 6	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
29	12/28/201 6	12/28/201 6	1	Draft 3 Modeling Report Issued to MWG (Full Report)	Incorporating response to comments re: Draft 2 Modeling Report
30	12/28/201 6	1/11/2017	14	MWG Review of Draft 3 Modeling Report	2 weeks
31	1/6/2017	1/6/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	

32	1/11/2017	1/25/2017	14	Incorporate MWG comments to Draft 3 Modeling Report (Prepare D1 Report)	2 weeks
33	1/20/2017	1/20/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
34	1/25/2017	2/8/2017	14	DOE review of D1 Modeling Report	2 weeks
35	2/3/2017	2/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
36	2/8/2017	3/1/2017	21	Finalize D1 Modeling Report	3 weeks
37	2/17/2017	2/17/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
38	3/1/2017	3/1/2017	1	Submit D1 Modeling Report to FFA parties	Changes discussed with MWG
39	3/1/2017	3/31/2017	30	FFA parties review D1 Modeling Report	30 days
40	3/3/2017	3/3/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
41	3/14/2017	3/14/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
42	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	Bi-weekly Call	
43	3/31/2017	3/31/2017	1	FFA parties respond to D1 Modeling Report to DOE	
44	3/31/2017	5/1/2017	31	DOE response to FFA Parties' comments on the D1 Modeling Report and Prepare D2 Report	Additional day added to have End Date on Monday
45	4/7/2017	4/7/2017	1	FFA parties meet to discuss D2 Report prior to submittal	Conference Call
46	4/18/2017	4/18/2017	1	Quarterly Meeting	Face-to-Face Meeting
47	5/1/2017	5/1/2017	1	DOE submit D2 Modeling Report to FFA Parties	
48	5/1/2017	5/31/2017	30	FFA parties review and concur on Modeling Report	30 days

Notes:

Durations are in calendar days.

#### 4. Draft Modeling Report Discussion

Kelly Layne asked if everyone had received the complete draft report that Denise Tripp had sent to the MWG as attachments to a chain of twelve emails on December 28, 2016. Nobody on the call voiced that they do not have all the files.

Kelly asked for questions or comments on the report. Ken Davis asked a question regarding Table 6.1: Calibrated Hydraulic Conductivity Statistics. He asked for a distinction between the "Model Domain" and "All Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points" portions of the table. Denise Tripp clarified that the "All Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points" section of the table only refers to the values at pilot points, but the "Model Domain" section of the table includes statistics for all computational cells.

Martin Clauberg asked if comments and responses will be documented in Adobe PDF instead of Word in the future. Kelly replied that the report would be submitted in the standard PDF format when it is transmitted by Fluor for DOE review.

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked if all water level targets are shown in Figure 6.9 of the report. He noted that more monitoring well locations seem to be shown on other figures. Denise Tripp responded that all wells that were used as targets are shown on the figure. Denise clarified that the figure divides the well set between the top, middle, and bottom model rows. She noted that fewer targets were available for stress period 1 and referenced Figure 6.10 to demonstrate that more targets were available for stress period 2.

#### 5. Meeting Minutes

Kelly Layne commented that two outstanding sets of meeting minutes (October 25, 2016 and December 13, 2016) will be sent out to the MWG.

#### **Denise W. Tripp**

From:	Anderson, Andy <andy.anderson@ffspaducah.com></andy.anderson@ffspaducah.com>
Sent:	Thursday, September 08, 2016 8:04 AM
То:	Denise W. Tripp
Subject:	FW: TVA Supply Line

Ms. Tripp,

Following up this morning on the sumps and areas under the process buildings. The basement areas are about the size of the control rooms. The sump pumps operate at approximately 10% of the time. Discharge point is believed to be storm drains but that is not confirmed.

Andy

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From: Anderson, Andy Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2016 5:43 AM To: 'Denise W. Tripp' Subject: RE: TVA Supply Line

Ms. Tripp,

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I will work on the additional information requested for the process buildings drawings to see what is available as well as the frequencies and destination of the sumps.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to ask.

Sincerely,

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From: Denise W. Tripp [mailto:DTripp@Geosyntec.com] Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 5:22 PM To: Anderson, Andy Cc: Ron Kent Subject: RE: TVA Supply Line

#### Hi Andy,

Thank you for your thorough response. The idea that leakage between the plant and the river could be quantified is derived from the characterization that the river intake was approximately 4 to 4.5 MGD and the inflow to the plant was approximately 2.7 MGD. This characterization was made by a member of the group based on discussions during the site tour. Am I correct in the understanding that approximately 2.7 MGD flows to the plant and it is measured at the intake to the water softener? And are you familiar with the reported 4 to 4.5 MGD intake at the river? If so, can you provide additional information regarding the use of this water? Also can you provide additional information regarding the east or west wells mentioned in your email below?

Also, would you please respond to the following post-tour requests for additional information or clarification:

- How much gravel underlies the process buildings? Are design or as-built drawings available?
- For the process buildings, are the basements smaller than the roofs. Can you provide design or as-built drawings or even a schematic to provide a sense of the area associated with the basement and sub-base gravel?
- How often and under what conditions do basement sumps run and where does the water discharge?

Thank you again for your time and insight. Denise

From: Anderson, Andy [mailto:Andy.Anderson@FFSPaducah.Com] Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 8:51 AM To: Denise W. Tripp Cc: Ron Kent; Summers,Ronald; Layne, Kelly Subject: RE: TVA Supply Line

#### Ms. Tripp,

It is always our pleasure to meet and support the groups involved in the efforts here at the Paducah Site. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

The No. 1 raw water line that is the east line was taken out of service temporarily sometime in 2014. We were not able to retain our records from the previous contractor which would allow me to give you a definite date but we have documentation that it was to be placed on permit in November of 2014. The line was not taken out-of-service permanently. It was severed at TVA south of our valve/pump station to allow construction over the line for improvements at the TVA Shawnee site. The line was re-routed around the new construction so that there would not be the liability of a line leak under their improvement project.

The re-routing of the line was necessary for future use during an outage of the No. 2 line. That would be the only reason we would place it back in service.

We are not aware of any noted difference in our pumping station at TVA and our facility. If you are referring to the water diverted from the river, the majority of that is used by TVA. There is large aqueduct from the river to the pump station at TVA Shawnee for our pumps as well as TVA's. The water flows into our east or west wells and then pumped to our facility. The water flow from our pumps are not metered at TVA. We are metering the flow to the softener that is in

service at this time. The flow instrumentation is located just north of the softener in a vault with the signal going to a flow chart/meter located in the C-611-B facility. There is not a way to determine any leakage on the line through metering at this time from the pump inlet to delivery at our site.

I hope this properly addresses your questions. Please feel free to contact with additional questions for clarifications or comments.

Sincerely,

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From: Denise W. Tripp [mailto:DTripp@Geosyntec.com] Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 6:01 AM To: Anderson, Andy Cc: Ron Kent Subject: TVA Supply Line

Hi Andy,

It was a pleasure meeting you last week. Thank you for all the insight you provided during the site tour.

Based on discussions with the group after the tour, my understanding is that the eastern portion of the TVA supply line is no longer in service on the plant area. Can you tell me the approximate date that service to that portion of the line was eliminated and where the point of termination begins? Was it terminated at the plant boundary or closer to the river where the piping bifurcates?

Also, it is my understanding that here is measurable difference between the TVA supply inflow at the river and the inflow at the treatment plant. I understand that the measurement at the river may be an approximate estimate due to limitations of the flow meter. Can you provide me with estimated values of the inflow at the river and the TP as well as the approximate location of the flow meters. I would like to assess the leakage between the two measuring points for possible inclusion in the groundwater model.

Thank you Denise

#### Denise W. Tripp Senior Consultant

Geosyntec Consultants. Inc. 289 Great Road Suite 202 Acton, MA 01720 Phone: 978.206.5713 Fax: 978.263.9594 Mobile: 617.957.7635 www.Geosyntec.com

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engineers | scientists | innovators A-101 This electronic mail message contains information that (a) is or may be LEGALLY PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, PROPRIETARY IN NATURE, OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED BY LAW FROM DISCLOSURE, and (b) is intended only for the use of the Addressee(s) named herein. If you are not the intended recipient, an addressee, or the person responsible for delivering this to an addressee, you are hereby notified that reading, using, copying, or distributing any part of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this electronic mail message in error, please contact us immediately and take the steps necessary to delete the message completely from your computer system.

#### **Denise W. Tripp**

From:	Anderson, Andy <andy.anderson@ffspaducah.com></andy.anderson@ffspaducah.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, December 21, 2016 1:51 PM
То:	Denise W. Tripp
Cc:	Davis, Ken; Layne, Kelly
Subject:	RE: TVA Supply Line

Ms. Tripp,

I have asked others to try to ensure accurate information. I have commented per bullet:

- There is a current study going on using smoke testing to try and determine some of the issues that impact the facility with rain water. I asked an individual that is working on this. He conveyed that Engineering has been doing studies of the process building ground floors and the gravel areas under the concrete. They were looking at equipment that could detect voids in these areas as well as working on roof drain issues. In C-337, silt from the gravel base has been washed up on top of the ground floor. I believe that this would indicate ground water seeping in. They are currently smoke testing to try and locate leak points.
- The pumps in the basement are for the removal of any water that would accumulate in the basement. The source of water could be from what you have stated as well as precipitation infiltrating the ground.
- Yes, see first bullet.
- It is likely the amount of water coming during rain events and the amount of roof drain repairs made around the plant that were all installed about the same time period would support that theory.

I hope this helps. Sorry it took so long to get back with you. Working through emails from being off two weeks.

Have a happy holiday season!

Andy Anderson | FLUOR FEDERAL SERVICES, INC | Utilities Manager - Paducah Deactivation Project - Power & Utilities Operations| andy.anderson@ffspaducah.com | O +1.270.441.6522 | M +1.270.559.3015 | www.ffspaducah.com

From: Denise W. Tripp [mailto:DTripp@Geosyntec.com] Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 7:33 AM To: Anderson, Andy Cc: Davis, Ken; Layne, Kelly Subject: RE: TVA Supply Line

#### Hi Andy,

A little bird told me you are just back from a trip to Europe. Welcome back – hope it was a great trip.

We are finalizing text in the GW Modeling Report that describes our understanding of potential anthropogenic recharge sources in the plant area. We have cited your site knowledge as a source of information and would like to summarize your input in a single email to use as a reference. Would you please confirm or clarify the following statements:

• Water in the basements of the buildings (C-335, C-337, C-331, C-333) observed during precipitation events indicates that the systems are not operating as designed.

- Pumps in basement sumps of the process buildings (C-335, C-337, C331 and C-333) actively pump approximately 10 percent of the time in response to rainfall events. The source of the water is believed to be from leaks in the stormwater piping discharging into the gravel sub-base.
- In buildings C-337 and C-333, flow from the beneath the slab into the building is observed during precipitation events which is believed to be an indication that the roof drains are compromised and likely discharging into the building through the gravel sub-base.
- It is likely that leaks in the roof drain system migrate horizontally through the building gravel sub base before recharging the UCRS.

Also, how many years have you worked at the site? If you don't mind, we would like to cite your years of experience to highlight the depth of your site knowledge.

Thank you Denise

From: Anderson, Andy [mailto:Andy.Anderson@FFSPaducah.Com] Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2016 8:04 AM To: Denise W. Tripp Subject: FW: TVA Supply Line

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# Geosyntec Consultants

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# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-January 20, 2017

1. Attendees: Rich Bonczek, David Dollins, Julie Corkran, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Tracy Taylor, Brian Begley, Chris Jung, Gaye Brewer, Nathan Garner, Martin Clauberg, Bruce Stearns, Kelly Layne, Todd Powers, Craig Jones, Ken Davis, Chad Drummond, Al Laase, Denise Tripp, Ron Kent

#### 2. Introduction

Kelly Layne noted that the purpose of the teleconference was to allow attendees to ask any clarifying questions on comments or the process for completing report preparation. All comments have been received from KDEP and EPA, with the exception of Noman Ahsanuzzaman's final comments on the last sections of report.

#### 3. Remaining Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Schedule/Work Plan

The face-to-face Quarterly Modeling Meeting on March 21, 2017 was rescheduled for March 23, 2017 because of room unavailability on the original date. The objective will be to discuss the modeling report and to plan a path forward. Various participants expressed that they would be available on March 23, 2017, and there were no objections to that date.

#### 4. Report Version Nomenclature

Kelly Layne stated that the Modeling report will be submitted as a D1 Secondary Document. Julie Corkran expressed concern about using this nomenclature. She indicated that the document would be managed differently if it is called a secondary document and that she wants to discuss the nomenclature with the FFA group. Rich Bonczek stated that it does not need to be called a secondary document and could just be called a technical document. He also stated that the Risk Methods Document and the report on the 2008 model are not secondary documents; they are just technical documents. Kelly will verify if other related documents are secondary documents.

#### 5. Discussion of Comments Received on the Modeling Report

#### Slides Referenced in Eva Davis Comment #3

Kelly Layne requested clarification on referenced slides (i.e., Slides 29 to 47 of the February 10-11, 2015 MWG meeting). She asked if the correct slide numbers and dates were referenced. Eva Davis will verify if the correct slide numbers and dates are provided in the comment.

#### Rich Bonczek Comment on Particle Tracking

Rich Bonczek commented that particle tracking presented in the modeling report has been focused on far field plume migration, which he said may be insufficient for evaluation of the model's usefulness for extraction well optimization. He stated that releasing particles at suspected source areas may partially address comment #3 from Eva Davis. Eva concurred. Denise Tripp requested the best source for information regarding source locations. Rich responded that the primary sources of TCE contamination are listed in a 2001/02 document as part of investigations conducted in the late 1990s. Rich would like particles released at each primary source to evaluate model predictions. He stated that this would not be part of the model validation but would be done for the calibrated model. Julie Corkran asked if the revised particle tracking will be done prior to February 2. Kelly Layne will

confer with the modelers and an email will be sent next Tuesday regarding the schedule for performing particle tracking simulations.

EPA and KDEP requested a copy of Rich's comments. Kelly Layne will provide the comments to EPA and KDEP.

#### Discussion of Transect Data

Rich Bonczek requested clarification from Eva on her comment about transect data. Julie responded that she, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, and Eva did not have a chance yet to discuss DOE's initial response to the issue, and they would be prepared to discuss the issue by the February 2 conference call. Eva said that she needed more information to continue the discussion. Rich stated that the first round of TCE and Tc99 data are in line with historical plume maps and that the next plume map may have a minor modification to account for the recent transect data. Ken Davis concurred that the plume map would probably need to be modified. Rich commented that MOA has "trigger" concentrations. He said that he believes that the current information indicates the new locations of NE Plume optimization wells are appropriate. David Dollins agreed. Julie Corkran asked if the second round of transect well data will be released before conference call on February 2. David Dollins replied that the data might not be ready by that date and that the data would be made available as soon as a thorough technical review was finished.

#### Discussion of Model Uses, Objectives, and Uncertainty

Kelly Layne asked for clarification on a comment from Eva Davis that the report text does not provide the user with enough information to judge strengths and weaknesses of the model, as well as appropriate uses. Eva clarified that she is looking for more information regarding model usefulness that would be understood by a non-modeler. Denise Tripp responded that report sections 7 and 8 spell out strengths and weaknesses; she is unsure how the MWG would like to quantify uncertainty. Rich Bonczek indicated that particle tracking runs with multiple particle starting locations would help address this comment.

Comment #1 from Noman Ahsanuzzaman repeats concern about language addressing model objectives. Rich clarified that the model is used as one tool among many during the process of developing criteria (for example, the waste acceptance criteria developed for the waste disposal cell) as documented in the PGDP Risk Methods document. Eva commented that Rich's explanation is adequate but that the report does not currently state that explanation clearly. Rich said the text would be revised again.

#### Discussion of Calibration Datasets

Denise Tripp stated that there is not enough time in the current schedule to add more stress periods to the model calibration. She asked for clarification on EPA comments about the number of stress periods used in the model. Noman Ahsanuzzaman responded that the report should not say that the model is robust without including all available datasets that are suitable for calibration. Rich Bonczek recommended that qualitative words like "robust" be removed from the document and said that the document should focus on describing the work performed.

#### Report Sections Pending Review by Noman Ahsanuzzaman

Noman Ahsanuzzaman stated that he could provide comments by the middle of next week for sections of the report that he has not yet reviewed. Rich Bonczek responded that he could provide his comments by February 17 (preferably by February 3).

# Modeling Working Group Meeting Minutes-March 3, 2017

1. Attendees: Rich Bonczek, David Dollins, Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Eva Davis, Tracy Taylor, Brian Begley, Chris Jung, Nathan Garner, Martin Clauberg, Bruce Stearns, Kelly Layne, Todd Powers, Stephanie Brock, Eva Davis, Chad Drummond, Denise Tripp

#### 2. Introduction

Kelly Layne asked if there were any outstanding issues and none were raised. Kelly provided a status on the modeling report and indicated that the D1 version of the report will be issued from DOE to the FFA managers next week (likely Tuesday or Thursday). Kelly indicated that the D1 report is very similar to previous version reviewed by members of MWG and the report format was updated to align with DOE requirements. DOE had very few comments on the report. FFA comments on the D1 report are due back to DOE on March 31. The D2 Report is scheduled to be transmitted to FFA Managers on May 1. Kelly reminded the MWG members that the Fluor contract ends in July 2017 to be cognizant of this and its importance regarding schedule.

#### 3. Request for Modeling Files

Kelly stated that the groundwater modeling files have been uploaded to FTP and an email will be sent immediately after the call to MWG members with information regarding how to download model files.

#### 4. Quarterly Face- to- face Meeting

The face-to-face Quarterly Modeling Meeting will be held in the TDEC Tower in Nashville on March 23, 2017. Emails have been sent regarding accommodations where a block of rooms have been secured at the government rate is available. Kelly noted that valet parking is \$25/day (only parking option at hotel) and that reservations must be made by March 8. Cancellations are allowed until March 15 without charges. Most of the group plan to stay overnight in hotel on March 22. A call-in number will be provided for remote attendees. The meeting agenda will cover the report and future modeling tasks, data collection requests, potential use of other datasets, and other potential future modeling tasks. The group was asked to send potential agenda items to Kelly Layne by March 15 so that a final agenda could be sent out by March 21. Martin Clauberg requested available information from previous meetings be made available to the MWG. Kelly Layne will make that information available. Denise Tripp pointed out that most of that information is included in an appendix of the D1 Report.

#### 5. Groundwater Vistas Discussion

Noman Ahsanuzzaman asked if DOE will make a Groundwater Vistas license available to EPA. Rich Bonczek responded that he is unsure if DOE can legally do that. Noman Ahsanuzzaman stated that he will see if he can obtain a temporary license; if not, he will contact Jim Rumbaugh to explore options. Fluor will check to see if they can provide a license to EPA. DOE will bring a computer to the Nashville meeting with a licensed version of Groundwater Vistas as well as the model files.

3/23/17 - Modeling Meeting (Narhuille, TN) Attendees: Rich, Dave, Brian Bayley, Chins Jum, Store Haupson, Mortin #, Tracy Taylor #, Stetanic Brock Noman, Ched, Bragan, Craight Brake Storms to Evalt Todd +, Gart Oby: Go over due Goals - what do we want to do going frough

AD iscussed changes made trom Dec (Draft 3) document to doc. Submitted in 3/2017(DI document to be submitted to FFA parties)

(Section 1. 3. 1) adjective Shald be used)

(consider 3 Figure 1.2. () Minning of EGA war riber. 2) Needs to capture more of what we know about the topic (ex. mean sea level de vation) Fallen Thinning depicted accurately? (Fig.2.2) - Figure 4.2 in Companion to Figure 1.2 -Resolution: Figures 4.2 \$ 1.2 add notes to figure file to add Clarification of RGA conceptual model

3 Section 3- LIDAR (spring 2013) disussion Section 3 - Capture effort made to Water level me aswing pornt. (in TOG WWP) Jection 3 - Syrop tic H20 level muasurements Section 3 - Stream into (historical into included) Section 3- New MW addition 3 Section 3- module boundary updated Resolution & Replace w current (denote any modifications) (1) Figure 3.2 (conforming D) model boundary reflects 2016 model boundary

(JULIER 1. J. 1) appointe annace incorrect (5) Figure 3.3 in companism to 3.2. Missing box holes? Resolved. @ Figure 3.4 (In) LEDAL run Com (6) Section 3.2, LIDAR reference - add to intro in Section 3 (D) Table 3.1 - include reference for date. The note includes a reference but It was difficult to discern how table was populated based in referenced dates 1 Table 3.3-slug kst-explain in text the inclusion of wells I how that when Was conducted. (i.e. MW 128-transtimel?) (in Section 3-intro section) ge of data 1.6 24

b) Figure 3.11 - no D to document but general comment regarding GW divide at C.400. ") Add "Andy Anderson" email to report (i.e. w/ meeting notes) also, reference the location of email within report 12) p. SD of pdf - add discussion (in billeted area muybe) regarding the overall material surrounding the area 13) Roof drains (bulletized) - add info to repairs the k the impacts

3

H) Section 3.4. 1st P, 1st Sent & 2nd Sent, add text to add more meaning 15) Section 3.4 - Rive fall of Olaio Linepacts (or took of inpact) to the level - How to Why we chose date sets in relation to This River Water Level 16) Figure 3.13 - (VCrify if more LRGA wells) - does the figure need to be retitled Figure 3.13-include all mws (LEGA) Dave map fine will merch plume map count werd

17) Text Regarding Figure 3.14 (p.41) need clarification additional text 18) p.77 - typo "ug/L) + 2" P.-Specify type of Kriging. E Specify which version of PEST 19) p. 88 - Fig. 67 - Table 4.3 -Zeros w/ Decimal - consistent 20) p.133 - Annual precip in 2016 -Populato? (Conforming A) in 2 and Figures 21) D. 145 - delete "aceurate"

## 22) Figur 6.95- Mw 430 discussed in lext Wy not NW 339 K MW 355?

de.

?)

Late Gaps 1) Syrophic H20 level - Keep Hug ust/Sept event I add one other went to Capture temporal changes (100) (100) 2) Slug Test (hydraulic conductivity)-(1000) (250) 3) Thickness of gravel-gives under buildings gravel-gives (echarge into (250) (1750) 4) Stream gauging - bound recharge (200) (+00) 5) Process H2O Loss (H20 Balance) (800) (200) · timportance \* (\$) =) not values

() MW Network - Educe uncertainty - inside industrial - assume 10 (50) (2500) (25) (2500) 7) Tracer Test - Reduce uncertainty in in Nested Trameet well (150) (500) 8) Terrace - Install MW lecture unartunty in Model Boundary (75) (300) 9) Metropolis Lake H20 Level - Reduce uncertainty (10) 10) New Data Addel fire. Transect, Historical Data Sets for colibration, (1040) (100)

11) Coordinate w/ TVA - Wells (12 new mws 1 4 P23) - pump ratio from Ohio - what are you doing w/ new prop. Schedule - 51 醇 17 - Webex (4 hr) - Meeting Notes - Specifics to Runkings to Determine if another meeting is imp nuded Prior to slig117 - DZ Duc SI31 - Gran Gtr. Melting ~ 6/14/17/9/13/17 - D2 Duc 5/31

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#### **APPENDIX B**

PRESENTATION OF 2012 UPDATE TO THE 2008 MODEL

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## **PGDP Modeling Group Meeting**

29 and 30 January 2014\ Lexington, Kentucky

# Outline

- PGDP model recalibration summary
- Evaluations performed using the recalibrated PGDP model
- Future flow model updates
  - Transport modeling
  - Modeling innovations

### **PGDP Model Recalibration Summary**

- Calibrated 3 model variants
  - NW Plume centroid migrated eastward with time,
     KCREE lithologic pilot point constraints
  - NW Plume centroid remained constant, KCREE lithologic pilot point constraints
  - NW Plume centroid remained constant, didn't use
     KCREE lithologic pilot point constraints
- Model consists of 7 steady-state stress periods and 10 transient stress periods

- Steady-State
  - February 1995
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2005
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2007
  - April 2010
  - October 11, 2010
  - April 2011
  - October 2011
- Transient
  - October 12 21, 2011
- Ohio River stage ranged from 292.5 to 327.2 ft msl

- Outcome
  - Hydraulic conductivity field that is "best" for the 7 steady-state and 10 transient stress periods
  - 7 unique recharge regimes corresponding to the 7 steady-state stress periods
  - The 10 transient stress periods use the same recharge distribution as stress period 5

- Each calibration was accomplished using 11 i7 processors running in parallel
   ~ 10 times decrease in run times
- Used PEST-SVD for additional speed
   ~ 10 times decrease in run time
  - Calibration accomplished in approximately 5 days

     Using a single processor and regular PEST calibration
     would have taken approximately 500 days

### **Stress Period Setup**

Collection Period	Stress Period Number	Stress Period Type	Stress Period Length, days	Cumulative Time, days	Number of Targets	Target Type	Ohio River Stage, ft msl
February 1995	1	Steady-State	1	1	76	Head, Trajectory, Flux	297.4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2005	2	Steady-State	1	2	110	Head, Trajectory, Flux	301.3
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2007	3	Steady-State	1	3	110	Head, Trajectory, Flux	313.0
April 2010	4	Steady-State	1	4	38	Head, Trajectory, Flux	327.2
October 11, 2010	5	Steady-State	1	5	13	Head, Trajectory, Flux	294.8
October 12, 2010	6	Transient	1	6	13	Drawdown, Flux	295.5
October 13, 2010	7	Transient	1	7	13	Drawdown, Flux	295.5
October 14, 2010	8	Transient	1	8	13	Drawdown, Flux	294.9
October 15, 2010	9	Transient	1	9	13	Drawdown, Flux	294.5
October 16, 2010	10	Transient	1	10	13	Drawdown, Flux	294.3
October 17, 2010	11	Transient	1	11	13	Drawdown, Flux	293.8
October 18, 2010	12	Transient	1	12	13	Drawdown, Flux	293.5
October 19, 2010	13	Transient	1	13	13	Drawdown, Flux	293.1
October 20, 2010	14	Transient	1	14	13	Drawdown, Flux	292.8
October 21, 2010	15	Transient	1	15	13	Drawdown, Flux	292.7
April 2011	16	Steady-State	1	16	212	Head, Trajectory, Flux	320.6
October 2011	17	Steady-State	1	17	202	Head, Trajectory, Flux	292.5

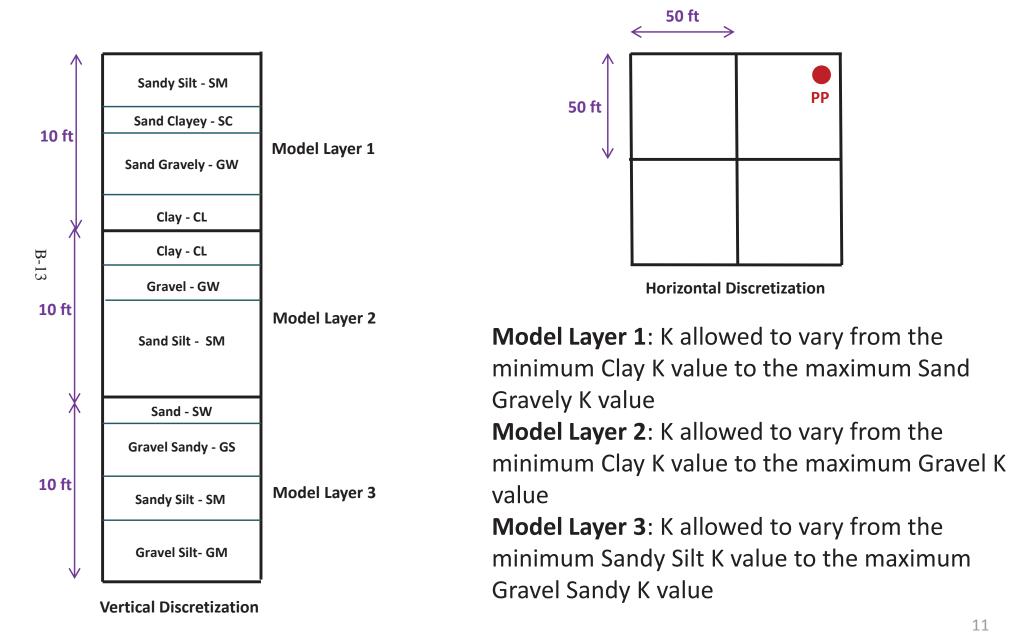
## **Calibrated Parameters**

- Recharge
  - 273 zones, 266 represent anthropogenic recharge and change values (calibrated) every steady-state stress period
- Hydraulic Conductivity
  - 1,394 pilot points representing calibrated hydraulic conductivities at specific locations within the RGA
  - For V1 and V2 models, majority of pilot point values are constrained based on KCREE's lithologic evaluation
  - For V3 assumed pilot points could range between 10 and 5,000 ft/d

## Lithological Evaluation

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004-028	745960	1940499	-6597	-1205	371	95	100	276	271							ne to medium grain	ed Sand	Sand clayey	SC		2 S	3	0
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004-028	745960	1940499	-6597	-1205	371	85	90	286	281				r to subrounded					Gravel	GW		11 G	4	8
004-028	745960	1940499	-6597	-1205	371	80	85	291	286					rse, Gravel is sub				Sand Gravell	•		8 S	3	4
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004-058	746636	1940076	-5813	-1340	374	80	85	205	289					e Sand, Gravel u				Gravel Sandy			4 S 9 G	4	
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04-101	746681	1940177	-5808	-1256	375	69	70	306	305							oft consistency, wet		Sand	SW		10 S	3	
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004-101	746681	1940177	-5808	-1256	375	59	60	316	315				a super a state of state of the second state of the	6/6), loose consi				Sand silty	SM		4 S	3	
004-102	746633	1940077	-5816	-1367	375	89	90	286	285					and a second		chert, yellowish bro	wn (10 YR 5/8)				8 S	3	
04-102	746633	1940077	-5816	-1367	375	84	85	291	290					yellowish brow		a second s		Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-102	746633	1940077	-5816	-1367	375	79	80	296	295						the first of the second second second	neter, rounded, che	t	Sand	SW		10 S	3	
004-102	746633	1940077	-5816	-1367	375	74	75	301	300					yellowish brow				Sand	SW		10 S	3	
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04-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	99	100	276	275						a many distantia where is a strategy would	ge (10 YR 6/6), loose,	wet	Sand clayey	SC		2 S	3	1
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004-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	84	85	291	290	291 Grav	elly Sand, a	s above,	Smaller size, ge	tting Sandier, m	oderate yellow	ish brown (10 YR 5/4	I)	Sand Gravell	y SG		8 S	3	1
04-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	79	80	296	295	296 Grav	elly Sand, v	ery coars	e-granules-Gra	vel, poorly sorte	d, moderate br	own (5 YR 4/9), loos	e, wet	Sand Gravell	y SG		8 S	3	
04-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	74	75	301	300	301 Grav	elly Sand, a	s above,	with larger size					Sand Gravell	y SG		8 S	3	
04-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	69	70	306	305	306 Grav	elly Sand, co	oarse-vei	ry coarse-granu	les with Gravel c	hert, poorly so	rted, moderate yello	wish brown (1	0 Sand Gravell	y SG		8 S	3	
04-103	746562	1939887	-5810	-1570	375	64	65	311	310	311 Sand	d (silt 5%) m	edium-co	oarse-very coars	se grained with s	ome Gravel, m	oderately sorted, m	oderate yellow	i Sand silty	SW		10 S	3	
04-104	746505	1939727	-5804	-1740	375	94	95	281	280	280 Grav	rel (80%), up	to 2 inch	n diameter, sub	angular to angula	ar, chert, fine S	and (20%), yellowish	brown (10 YR	5 Grave <mark>l</mark> Sandy	GS		9 G	4	
04-104	746505	1939727	-5804	-1740	375	89	90	286	285	285 Sand	d as above b	ut with 1	5% coarse Sand	and 5% Gravel (s	ubangular, che	erty)		Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-104		1939727	-5804	-1740	375	84	85	291	290		d, as above							Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-104		1939727	-5804	-1740	375	79	80	296	295				a support the second seco	owish brown (10	and the second sec			Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-104	746505	1939727	-5804	-1740	375	74	75	301	300		and the second se			and the set of the	and the second se	e-medium, yellowis	sh brown (10 YF	and the second sec			9 G	4	
04-104	746505	1939727	-5804	-1740	375	69	70	306	305				and the second se	consistency, we				Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-105	746047	1940481	-6510	-1211	372	99	100	273	272			And the Party state of the local state of the		brown (5 YR 6/4),				Sand	SW		10 S	3	
04-105	746047	1940481 t Mstr 20	-6510	-1211 80-85 28	372 5-90 290-95	94 5 295-3	95	278	277	277 Silty 15 315-20		Gravel, fir	ne grained light	brown (5 YR 5/6	, loose, wet			Sand silty	SM		4 S	3	

### **Constraining Lithological Pilot Points**



# Pumping Test Pilot Points

- Assign the pumping test derived  $K_x$  value as the initial PP  $K_x$  value
- Minimum and maximum allowable K<sub>x</sub> value
- are assigned values equal to +/- 10% of the calibrated value

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# Model Configuration

- Essentially the same as previous model:
  - Only RGA simulated
  - Three layers (each ~10 ft thick)
  - Uniform 50 ft x 50 ft grid cells
- Some changes:
  - Ohio River only in model layer 1
  - Revised bottom and top RGA elevations based on KCREE data
  - Assumed 10 ft minimum RGA thickness

### Configuration - Layer 1 Head Targets



Water-Level Elevation Target

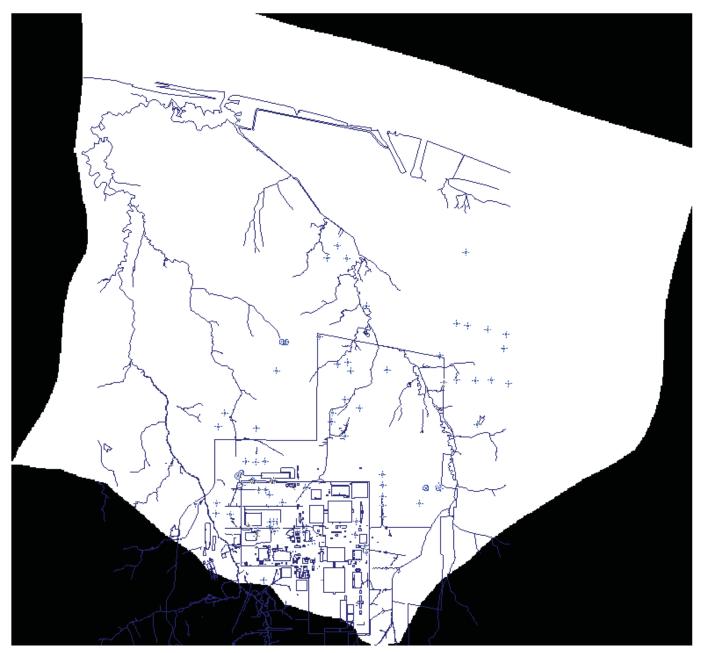
### **Configuration - Layer 2 Head Targets**



Water-Level Elevation Target

÷.

### Configuration - Layer 3 Head Targets



Water-Level Elevation Target

÷.

### Configuration – V1 Trajectory Targets

Targets in all three model layers

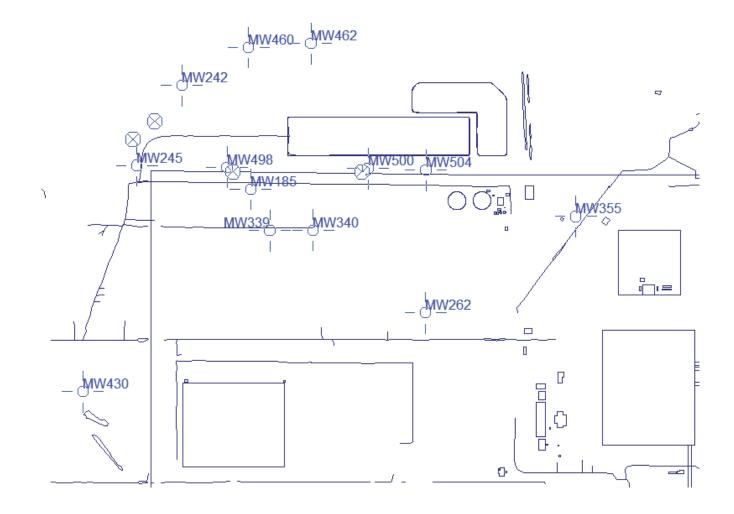
1995



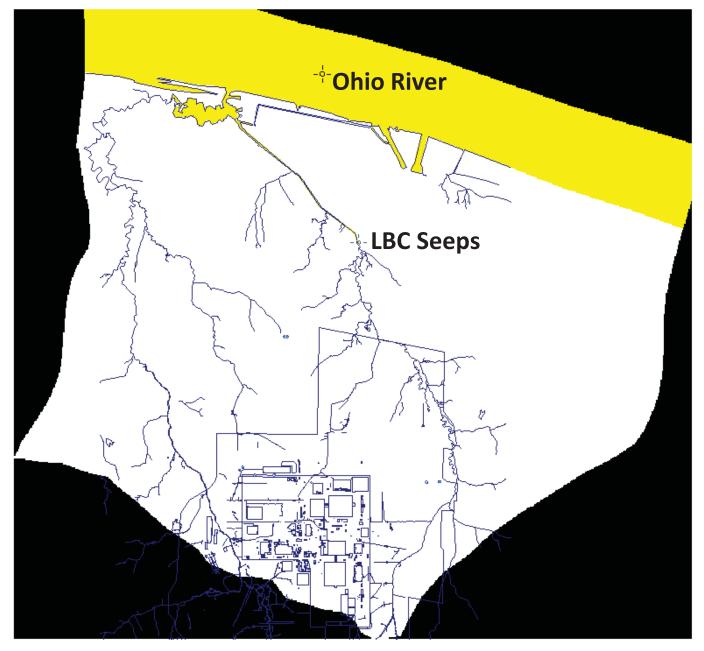
2010

Trajectory Target

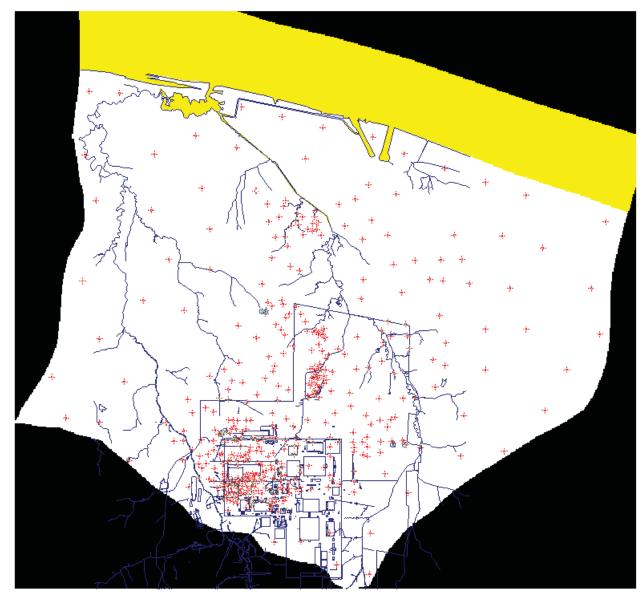
## **Configuration - Drawdown Targets**



## **Configuration - Flux Targets**



#### Configuration - Layer 1 Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points

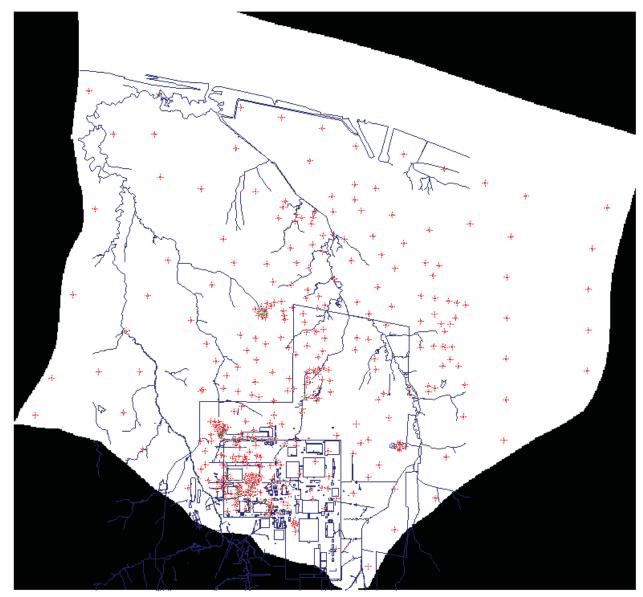


A pilot point is a location within the model where hydraulic conductivity is estimated.

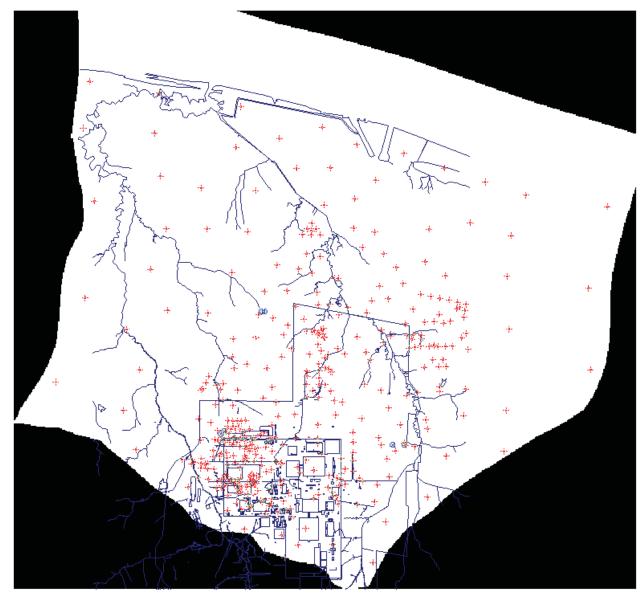
The estimated pilot point hydraulic values are kriged to generate a continuous hydraulic conductivity field.

Pilot points can be constrained using minimum and maximum allowable values.

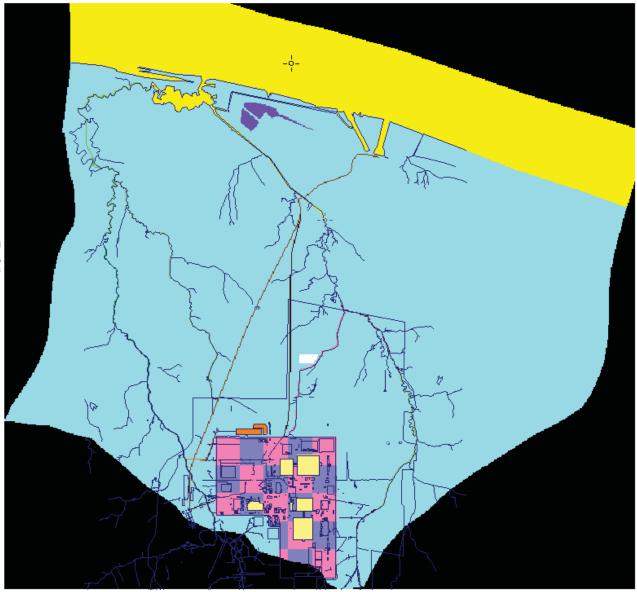
#### Configuration - Layer 2 Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points

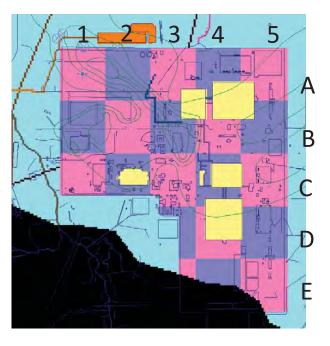


#### Configuration - Layer 3 Hydraulic Conductivity Pilot Points



## **Configuration - Recharge**





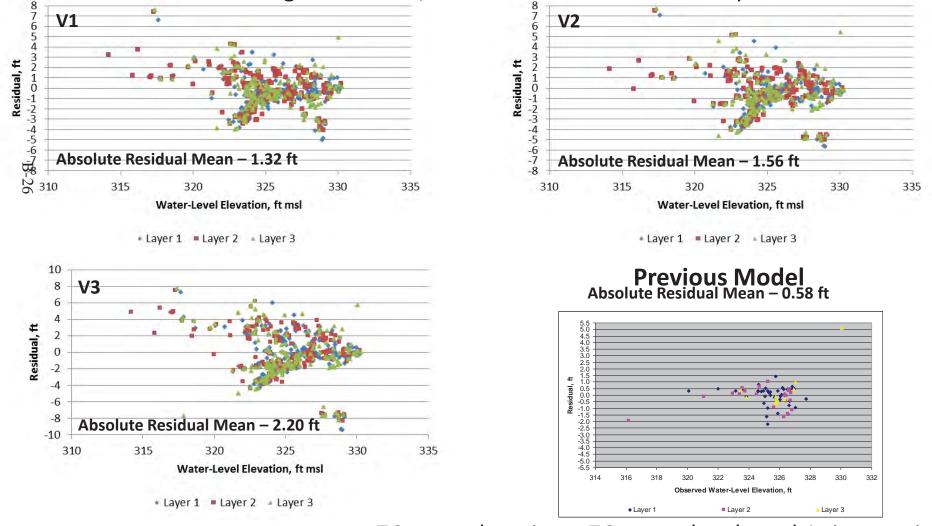
Originally planned to use recharge pilot points but discovered that the code doesn't support different recharge pilot points for each stress period

Switched to lots of small zones but discovered the code is limited to 300 parameter zones

## Calibration Results – Water Levels

#### **Revised Models**

233 target locations, 725 water-levels and 7 time periods

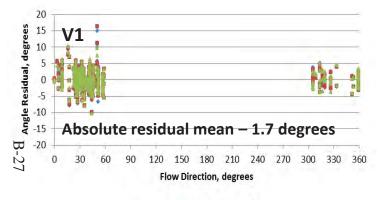


76 target locations, 76 water-levels and 1 time period 24

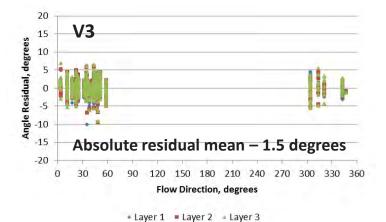
# Calibration Results – Trajectory

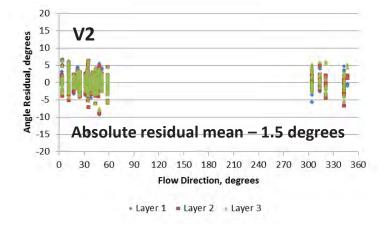
#### **Revised Model**

V1 - 1,785 trajectory target locations, V2 and V3 - 1953 trajectory target locations



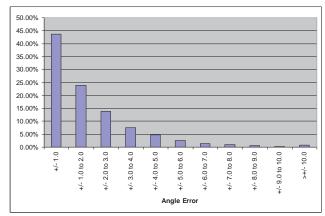
Layer 1 = Layer 2 = Layer 3



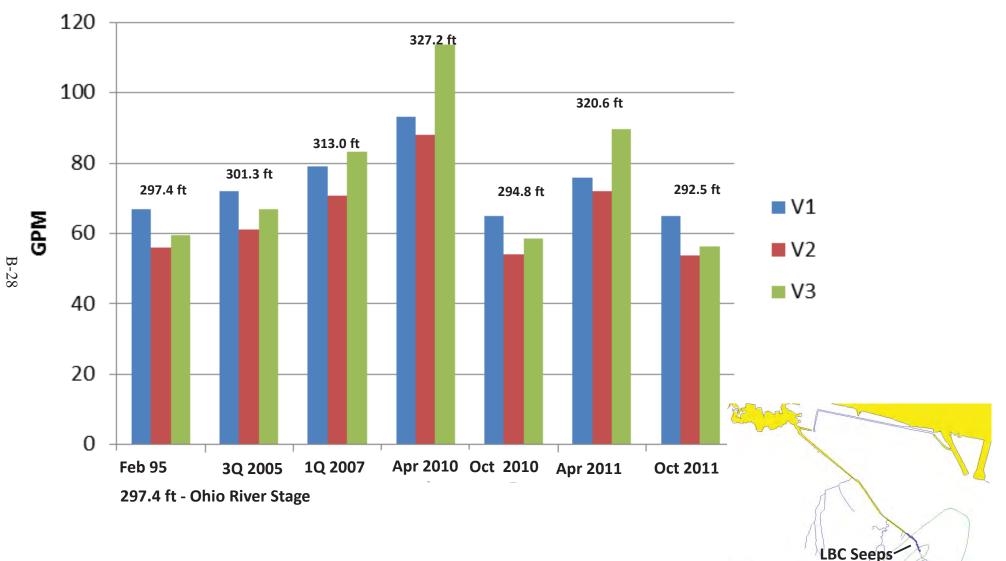


#### **Previous Model**

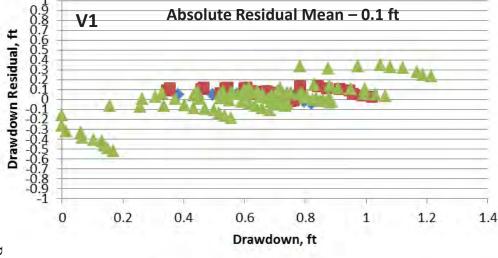
1,704 angle target locations (three-point) Absolute residual mean – 1.8 degrees



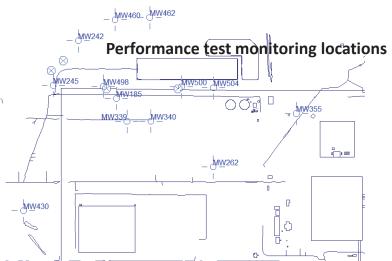
### Calibration Results – LBC Seeps Flux

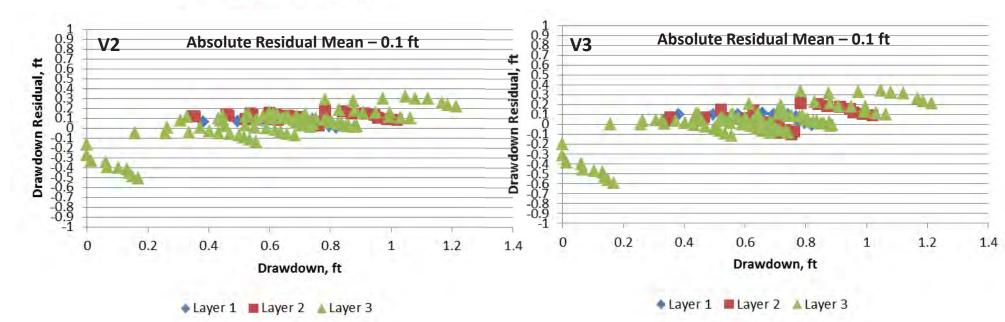


### Calibration Results – Drawdown



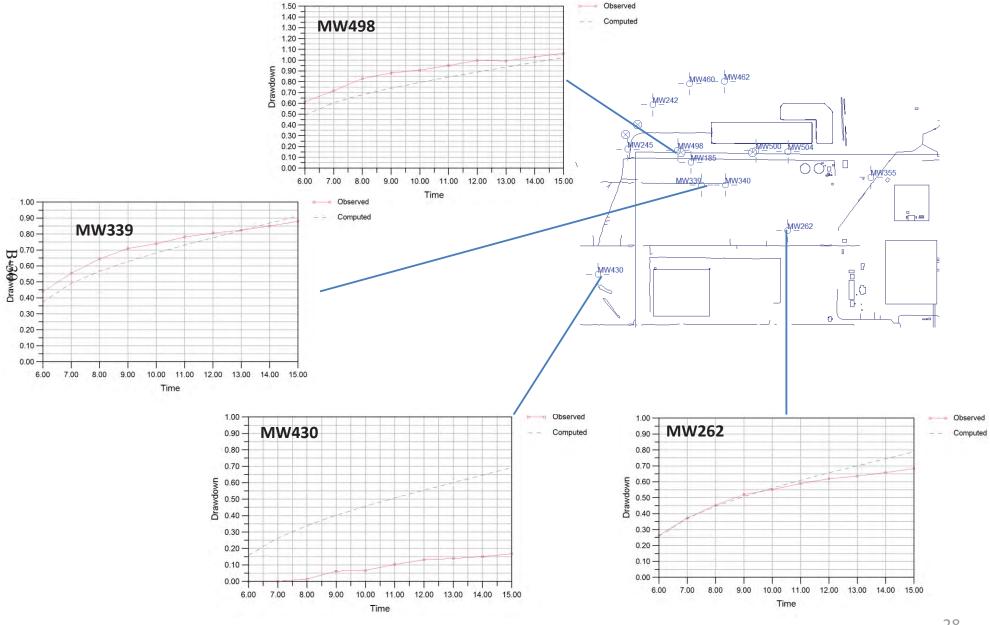
Layer 1 Layer 2 Layer 3





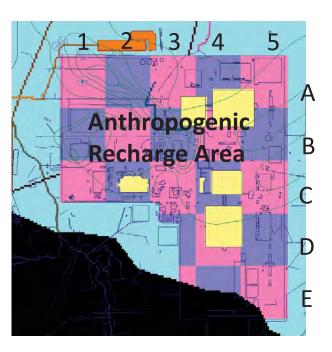
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### **Calibration Results – Drawdown**

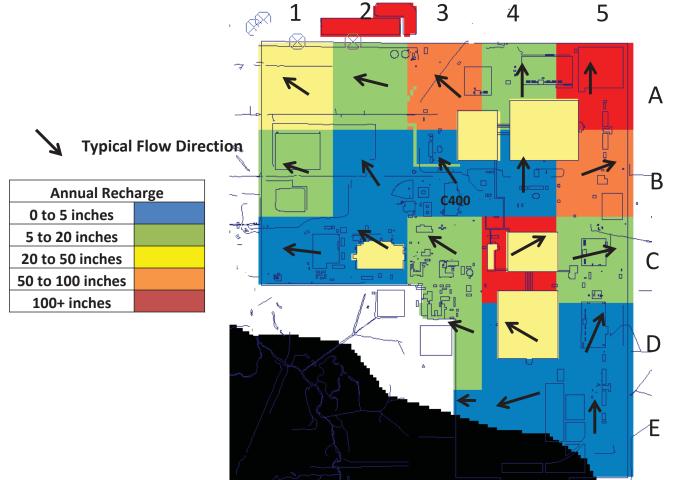


# Model Predicted Anthropogenic Recharge

Date	Anthrop	pogenic Rechar	ge, gpm
Date	V1	V2	V3
Feb 1995	884	1,152	1,442
3Q 2005	1,204	1,337	1,525
1Q 2007	931	1,042	1,048
April 2010	1,065	678	978
Oct 2010	977	1,317	1,725
April 2011	831	599	491
Oct 2011	1,148	1,420	1,758
Mean	1,006	1,078	1,281
Median	977	1,152	1,442



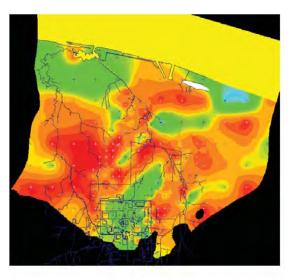
#### Calibration Results - Anthropogenic Recharge



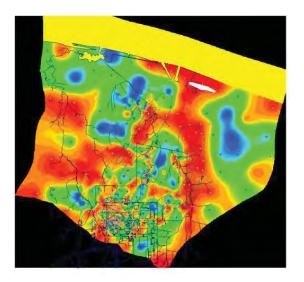
	A	1	Α	2	A	3	A	4	A	۸5	E	31	В	2	В	3	В	4	E	35	0	1	0	2	(	3	(	24	0	.5	D	3	D	4	D	)5	E	3	E	4	E	5
	D°	In/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	ln/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	D°	In/yr	• D°	ln/yr
Feb-95 *	326	25.6	319	4.3	334	71.4	37	17.2	53	65.1	320	9.4	307	0.0	323	0.0	39	0.0	49	41.5	302	0.2	304	2.8	309	6.4	35	114.8	50	12.4	301	55.5	353	1.7	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.2	-	0.1
Feb-95	313	46.4	312	1.2	328	70.1	3	4.1	1	114.8	294	6.3	321	0.0	322	0.0	350	0.0	56	114.8	286	0.1	297	1.6	307	3.0	39	114.8	63	3.6	283	3.0	10	0.8	14	0.0	271	0.0	279	0.1	337	0.0
3rd Q 2005	318	12.5	307	6.6	329	78.4	8	11.5	11	114.8	300	20.9	331	0.0	322	0.0	18	0.0	59	104.3	285	0.2	300	3.6	315	13.8	40	114.8	59	13.7	276	13.8	355	1.1	37	0.0	272	0.0	184	0.5	46	0.0
1st Q 2007	316	25.2	306	3.9	326	50.9	5	33.1	7	114.8	298	9.8	326	0.0	320	0.0	352	0.0	56	100.3	285	0.1	296	4.0	302	18.2	37	114.8	55	21.6	271	18.2	339	1.8	22	0.0	274	0.0	271	0.1	337	0.1
Apr-10	315	68.0	311	6.3	325	91.5	15	24.7	4	91.4	288	27.4	318	0.0	321	0.0	5	0.0	54	92.1	279	0.4	296	4.6	314	8.1	40	114.8	54	14.0	276	8.1	12	1.8	15	0.0	270	0.0	276	0.4	341	0.1
Oct-10	311	12.1	302	11.8	325	98.7	23	24.8	14	81.9	295	14.0	313	0.0	318	0.0	18	0.0	57	114.8	284	0.3	297	4.2	306	6.5	41	114.8	59	16.7	280	6.5	350	1.5	25	0.0	274	0.0	263	0.2	349	0.1
Apr-11	341	28.6	315	3.0	323	34.9	346	8.4	357	84.2	303	3.8	334	0.0	321	0.0	336	0.0	53	94.4	286	0.2	298	0.8	307	5.4	32	114.8	58	5.0	277	5.4	357	0.8	26	0.0	270	0.0	244	0.1	357	0.0
Oct-11	336	37.0	312	7.1	320	114.8	17	29.2	15	114.8	302	12.3	329	0.0	323	0.0	27	0.0	58	68.9	287	0.3	300	5.2	324	13.3	42	114.8	53	20.4	283	13.3	9	1.8	25	0.0	270	0.0	161	0.5	8 ]	01
* Previous M	odel																																				-					70-

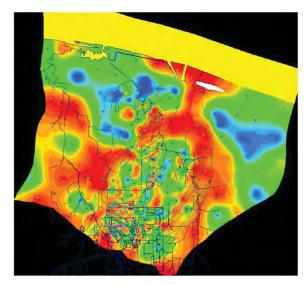
B-32

#### Calibration Results – Layer 1 Hydraulic Conductivity

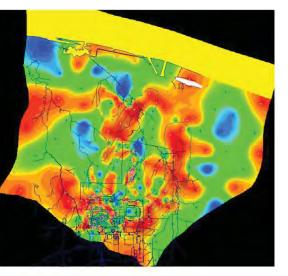


**Previous** 



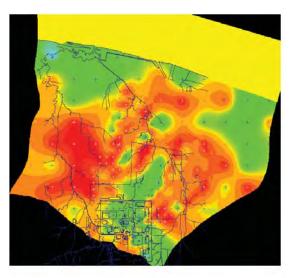


V1

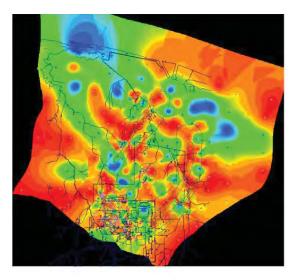


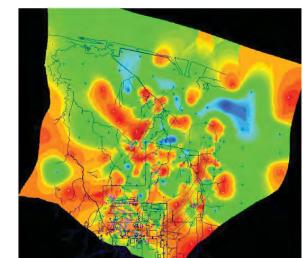
Hydrau	ulic (	Conductivity, ft/d
		Value
24		5 0000+004
23		5000
5 <u>3</u>		4000
21		3ŎŎŎ
20		2000
19		ĪŎŎŎ
18		900.0
17		800.0
16		700.0
15		600.0
14		500.0
13		400.0
12		300.0
11		200.0
10		100.0
9		90.00
8		80.00
[		70.00
6		60.00
5		50.00
Zone 24 2222109876543210987654321		5.000e+004 5000 4000 3000 2000 1000 900.0 800.0 700.0 600.0 500.0 400.0 300.0 200.0 100.0 90.00 80.00 70.00 60.00 50.00 40.00 30.00 20.00 1
3		30.00
4		20.00
		10.00

#### Calibration Results – Layer 2 Hydraulic Conductivity

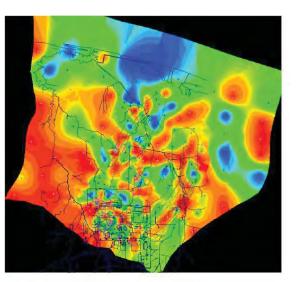


**Previous** 

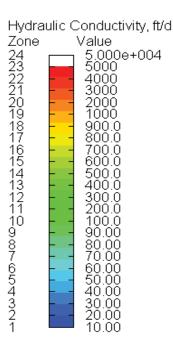




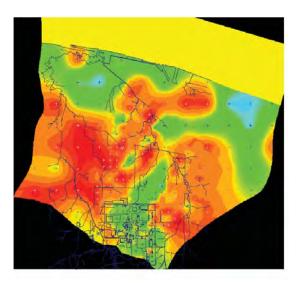
V1



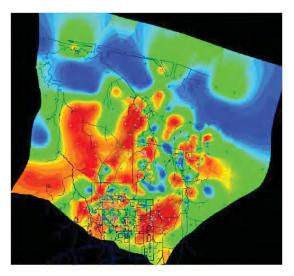
**V3** 

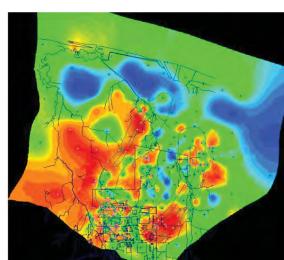


#### Calibration Results – Layer 3 Hydraulic Conductivity

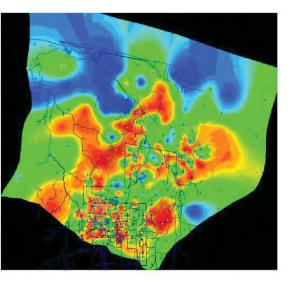


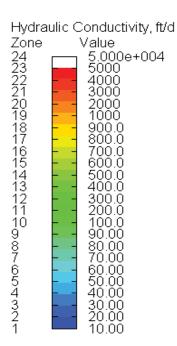
**Previous** 



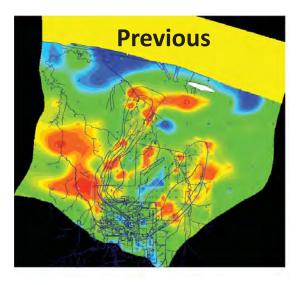


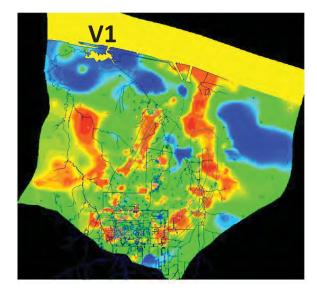
V1

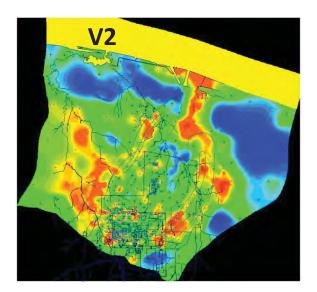


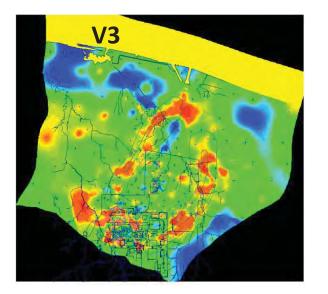


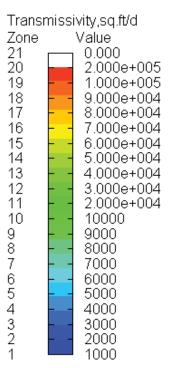
#### Previous Model Calibration Results – Transmissivity











# Calibration Results – Hydraulic Conductivity Summary Statistics

#### V1 Model

Percentile	Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Combined
1	25	39	13	17
5	44	77	21	36
10	78	115	33	63
15	120	148	49	94
20	165	185	69	121
25	223	229	90	154
30	297	282	107	197
35	375	338	125	255
40	456	404	151	323
45	537	471	191	395
50	642	546	253	476
55	815	633	327	559
60	1,006	746	407	683
65	1,259	893	507	861
70	1,584	1,046	632	1,071
75	1,986	1,242	879	1,352
80	2,473	1,496	1,257	1,717
85	3,138	1,819	1,743	2,197
90	4,001	2,275	2,423	2,844
95	5,054	3,009	3,225	3,928
99	6,563	4,368	4,805	5,723
100	7,725	7,649	5,968	7,725
Mean	1,366	911	746	1,008

#### V2 Model

1         18         21           5         42         44           10         79         79           15         122         134           20         169         197           25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615           45         643         786           50         839         989           55         1,060         1,212           60         1,321         1,488	Ayer 3         Combined           10         12           14         23           20         41           28         64
5         42         44           10         79         79           15         122         134           20         169         197           25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615           45         643         786           50         839         989           55         1,060         1,212           60         1,321         1,488	14         23           20         41           28         64
10         79         79           15         122         134           20         169         197           25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615           45         643         786           50         839         989           55         1,060         1,212           60         1,321         1,488	20         41           28         64
15         122         134           20         169         197           25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615           45         643         786           50         839         989           55         1,060         1,212           60         1,321         1,488	28 64
20         169         197           25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615           45         643         786           50         839         989           55         1,060         1,212           60         1,321         1,488	
25         226         276           30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615         5           45         643         786         5           50         839         989         5           55         1,060         1,212         5           60         1,321         1,488         3	
30         300         371           35         383         483           40         490         615         5           45         643         786         5           50         839         989         5           55         1,060         1,212         5           60         1,321         1,488         3	39 92
35         383         483           40         490         615         1           45         643         786         1           50         839         989         1           55         1,060         1,212         1           60         1,321         1,488         1	52 132
40         490         615         1           45         643         786         1           50         839         989         1           55         1,060         1,212         1           60         1,321         1,488         1	67 183
45         643         786	84 251
50         839         989         2           55         1,060         1,212         2           60         1,321         1,488         3	106 340
55         1,060         1,212         2           60         1,321         1,488         3	140 446
60 1,321 1,488	188 584
, , ,	259 771
	359 1,002
65 1,643 1,796	494 1,287
70 1,988 2,089 0	677 1,642
75 2,399 2,416 9	939 2,035
80 2,914 2,725 1	.,370 2,477
85 3,570 3,129 1	,989 2,999
90 4,251 3,731 2	2,870 3,744
95 5,049 4,442 4	4,586 4,586
99 7,130 5,107 5	
100 8,494 18,374 9	5,248 5,886
Mean 1,551 1,482 8	6,248 5,886 9,294 18,374

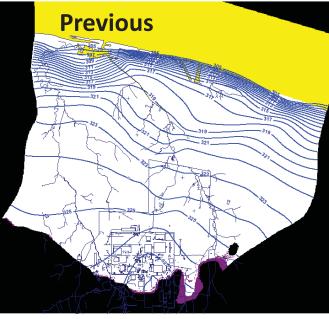
#### V3 Model

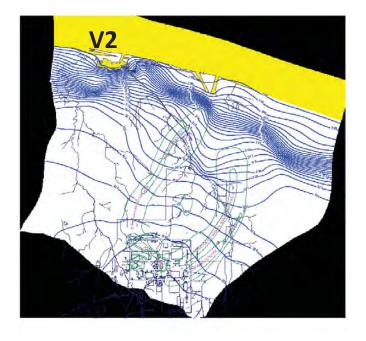
Percentile	Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Combined					
1	19	11	10	12					
5	42	26	18	23					
10	73	48	24	38					
15	116	80	32	58					
20	164	126	42	89					
25	220	171	57	128					
30	280	233	78	172					
35	356	313	105	226					
40	448	388	139	289					
45	548	467	179	365					
50	649	553	225	454					
55	784	686	278	555					
60	949	844	349	687					
65	1,126	1,034	441	857					
70	1,342	1,305	569	1,070					
75	1,606	1,670	748	1,343					
80	1,908	2,110	1,011	1,710					
85	2,336	2,729	1,405	2,168					
90	2,959	3,380	2,012	2,876					
95	3,803	4,095	2,995	3,788					
99	5,218	4,941	4,633	4,928					
100	12,803	11,868	7,463	12,803					
Mean	1,122	1,146	653	973					

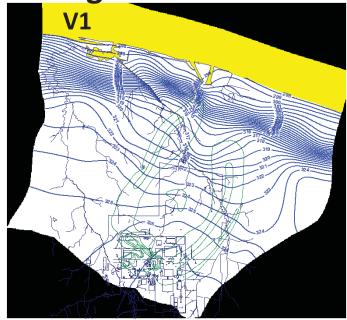
#### **Previous Model**

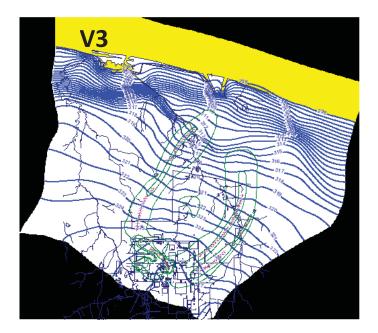
Hydraulic Conductivity, ft/d	All Layers	Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3
Average	1906	1947	1874	1899
Median	1497	1531	1379	1535
Standard Deviation	1582	1576	1583	1590
Maximum	5000	5000	5000	5000
Minimum	50	50	50	50
Range	4950	4950	4950	4950

### Calibration Results – Potentiometric Surface February 1995, Ohio River Stage – 297.4 ft msl

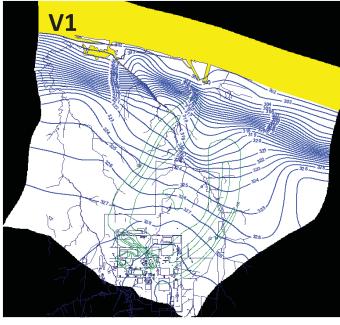


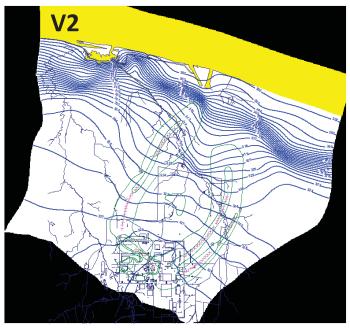


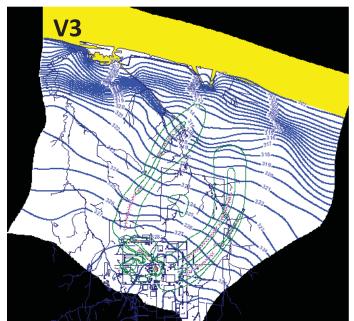




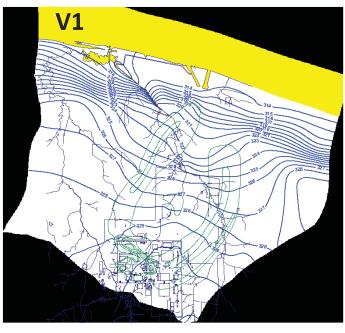
#### Calibration Results – Potentiometric Surface 3Q 2005, Ohio River Stage – 301.3 ft msl

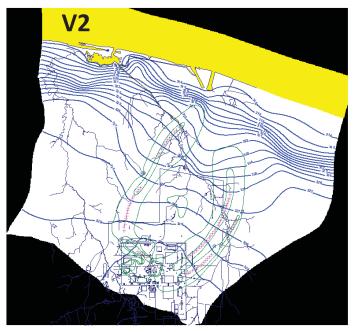


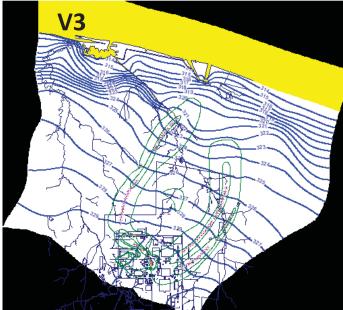




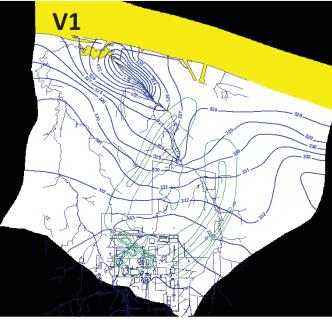
#### Calibration Results – Potentiometric Surface 1Q 2007, Ohio River Stage – 313.0 ft msl

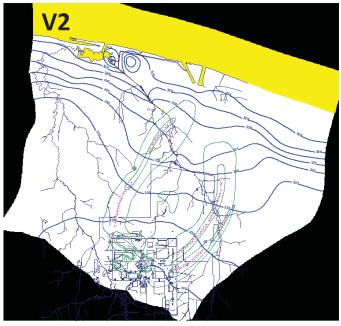


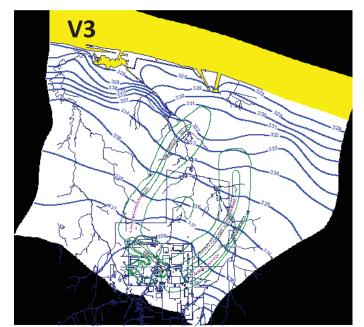


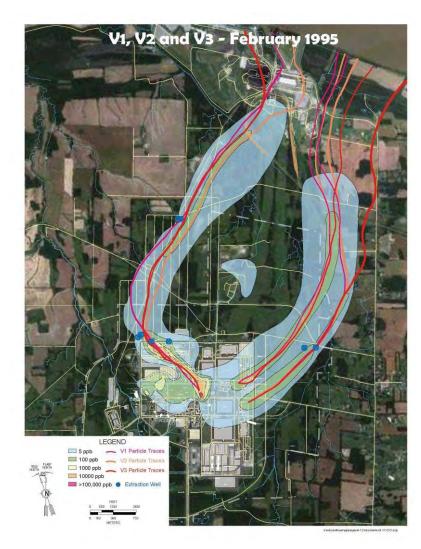


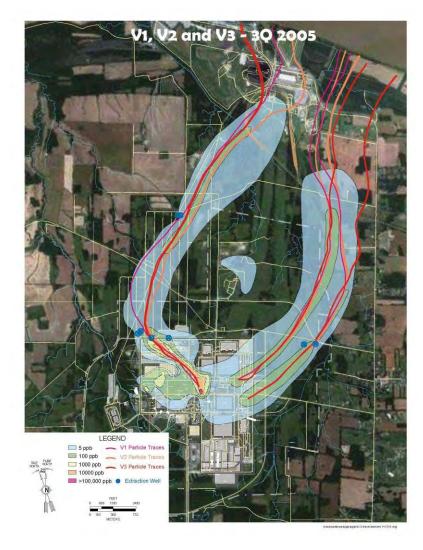
#### Calibration Results – Potentiometric Surface April 2010, Ohio River Stage – 327.2 ft msl

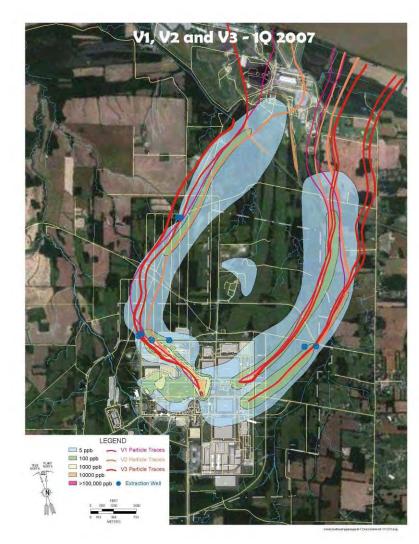


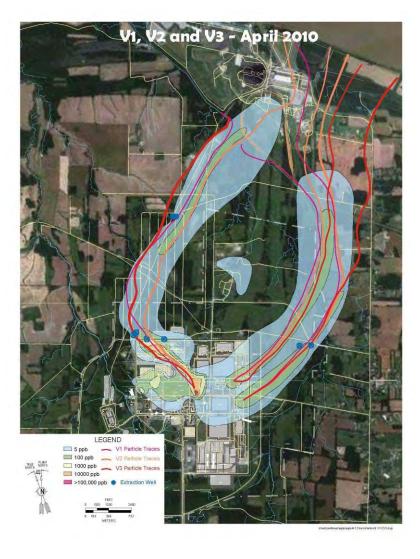


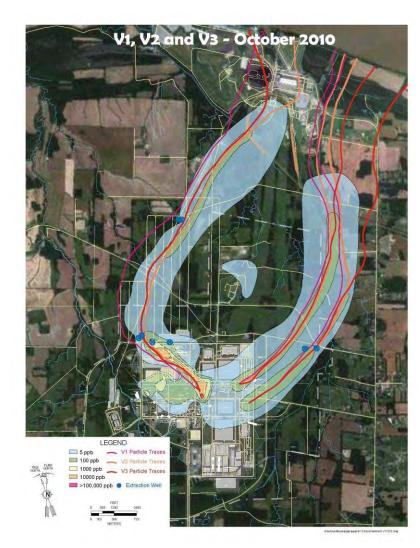


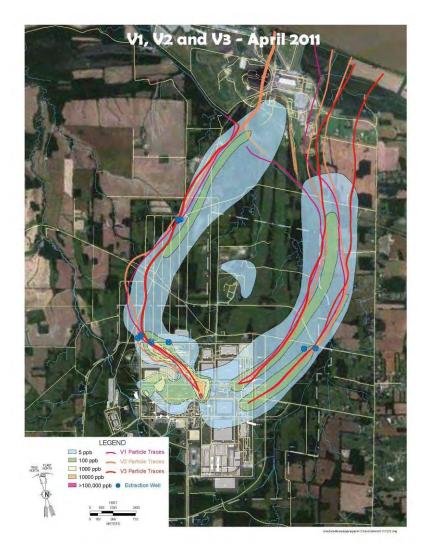


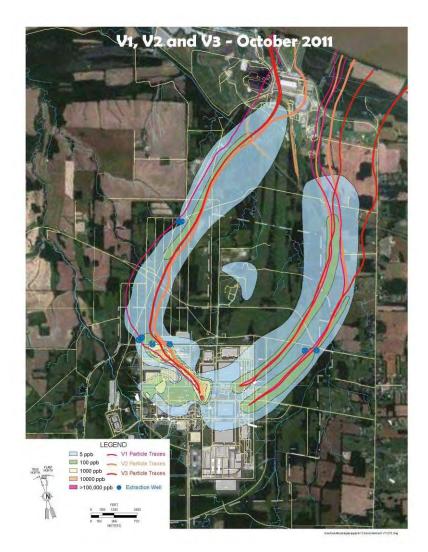


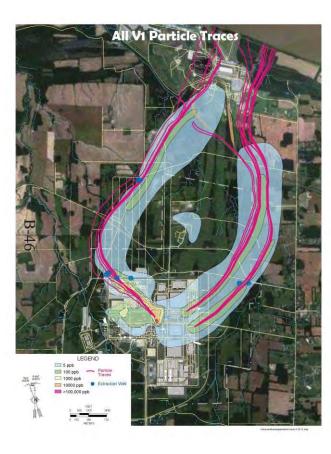


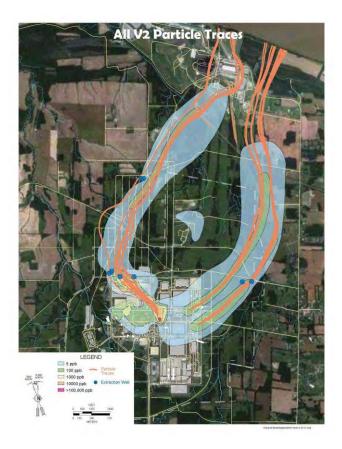


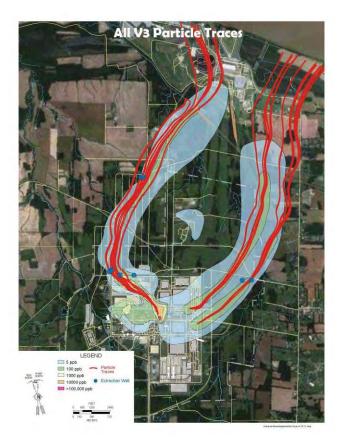












# Summary

- All three models reasonably represent the PGDP groundwater flow system
- Model variants 2 and 3 better match the NW
- Plume trajectory than model variant 1
  - Model variants 1 and 2 better match NE Plume trajectory than model variant 3
  - Based on the above two bullets, model variant
     2 is the "best"

# Summary

- Models predict anthropogenic recharge varies between 491 and 1,758 gpm
- Variability in anthropogenic recharge doesn't
- significantly effect groundwater flow directions at the PGDP
- To reduce head residuals will require finer discretization of recharge

### Evaluations Performed Using the Updated PGDP Model

# Evaluations Performed Using the Updated PGDP Model

- Evaluate the performance of the new NW Plume extraction wells under variable anthropogenic recharge conditions
- Design and evaluate the new Northwest Plume extraction system
- Understanding TCE presence and concentrations downgradient of extraction wells 232 and 233
- Miscellaneous not presented

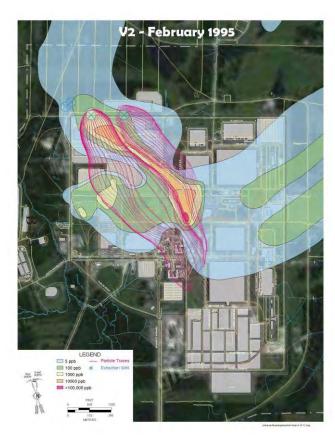
B-5(

- Simulate expected drawdown for new NE Plume extraction well system to help determine which wells to monitor for drawdown
- Backwards particle tracking from monitoring wells to determine upgradient area monitored

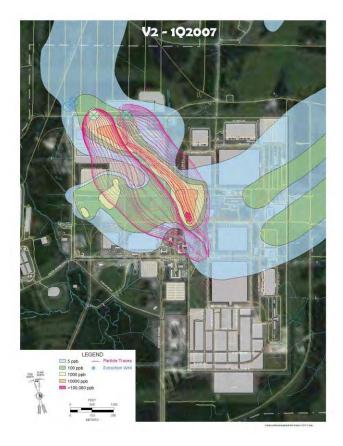
### Evaluation of NW Plume Extraction System Using Updated Model

# Evaluation of NW Plume Extraction System Using Updated Model

- Performed evaluation to characterize performance of the system under updated
- model recharge and hydraulic conductivity regimes
- Are system adjustments required?

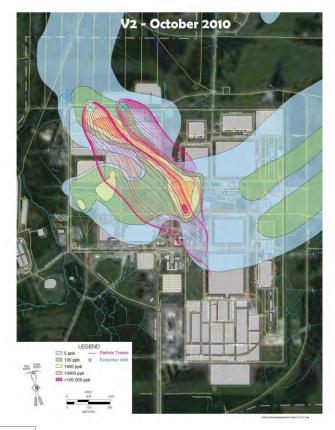




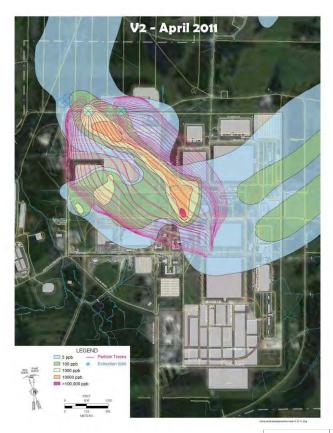


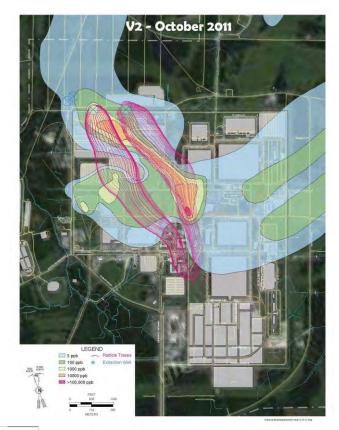
Date	Anthrop	ogenic Rechar	ge, gpm
Date	V1	V2	V3
Feb 1995	884	1,152	1,442
3Q 2005	1,204	1,337	1,525
1Q 2007	931	1,042	1,048
April 2010	1,065	678	978
Oct 2010	977	1,317	1,725
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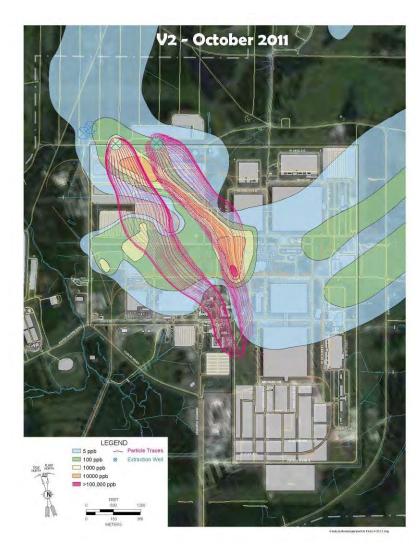


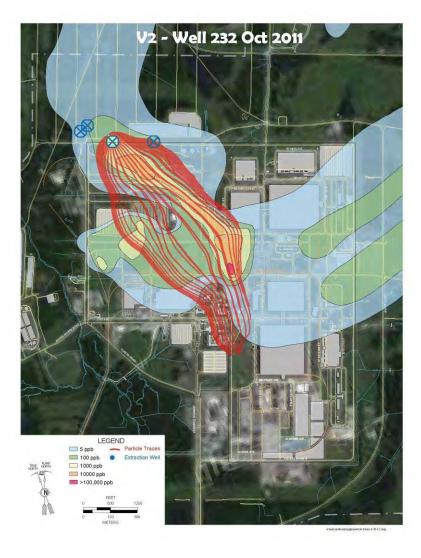
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Mean	1,006	1,078	1,281					
Median	977	1,152	1,442					

# New NW Plume Extraction Well Capture Zone Evaluation Summary

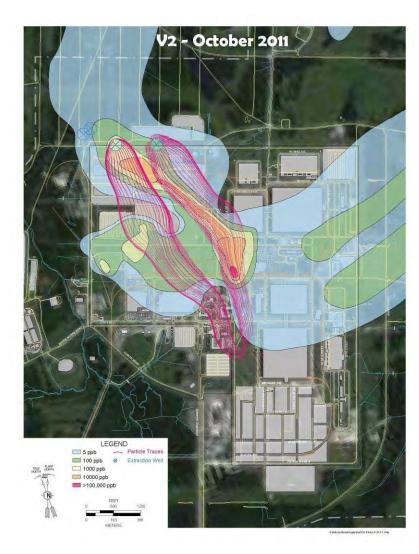
- Capture zone width and orientation is a function of the volume and location of anthropogenic recharge
- Each of the 7 modeled periods represents a snap shot in time of anthropogenic recharge conditions
- Reality is anthropogenic recharge is constantly changing between these realizations and possibly beyond the simulated values
  - There is no way to know which of the anthropogenic recharge scenarios is dominant
  - The challenge is to design a robust extraction system that accounts for anthropogenic recharge variability

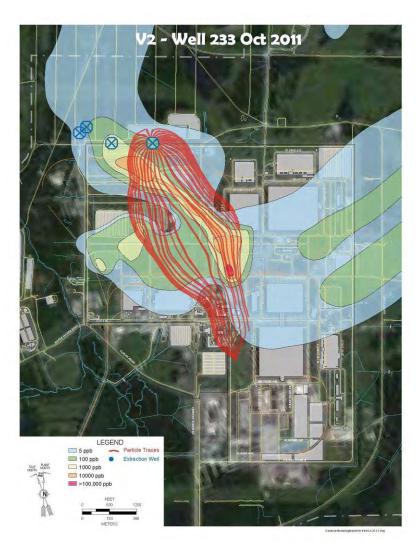
### EW 232 Capture at 220 gpm





### EW 233 Capture at 220 gpm





- Operate individually either EW232 or EW233 at 220 gpm (current treatment capacity)
- Individual capture zones envelope C400, the primary source of NW Plume dissolved contamination

B-59

• NE Plume designs will assume either EW232 or EW233 will be operational, but not both

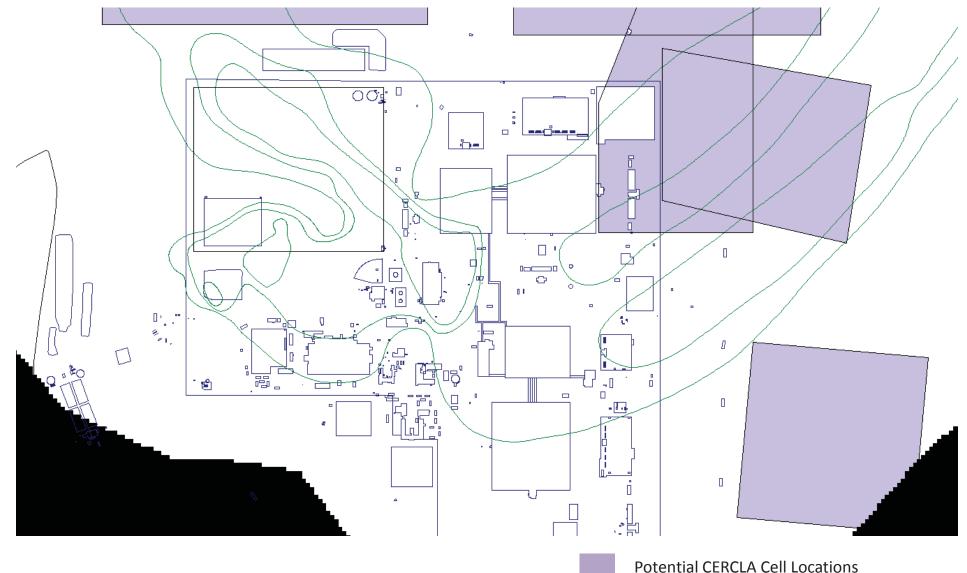
### Design and Evaluation of NE Plume Extraction System

# NE Plume Extraction System Design Constraints

- Minimize trajectory impacts at C400
- Complement NW Extraction Well capture zones
- Avoid potential CERCLA Cell locations
- Manage anthropogenic recharge variability
   Design for both anthropogenic and no anthropogenic anthropogenic and no anthropogenic anthropogenic and no anthropogenic an
  - Design for both anthropogenic and no anthropogenic recharge conditions to the extent possible (PGDP vs Post-PGDP)

**NOTE:** There is uncertainty associated with Post-PGDP conditions

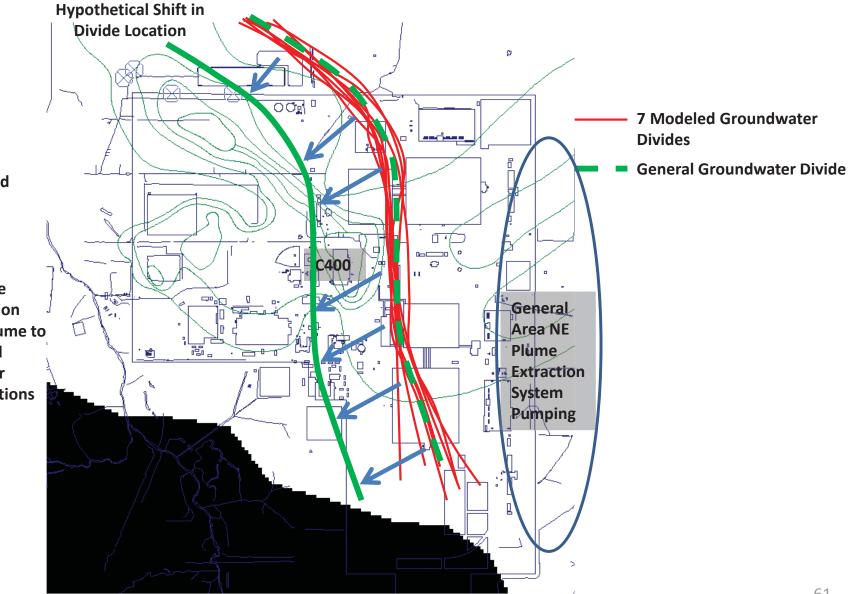
### Potential CERCLA Cell Locations



B-62

60

### Maintain NW Plume Trajectory



Do not want to shift the divide location westward in response to pumping 63

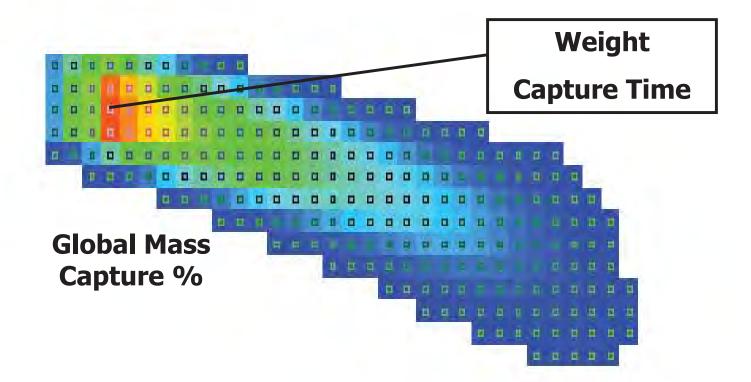
Doing so will cause higher concentration portions of the plume to flow eastward and contaminate lower concentration portions of the RGA

# Design and Evaluation of NE Plume Extraction System

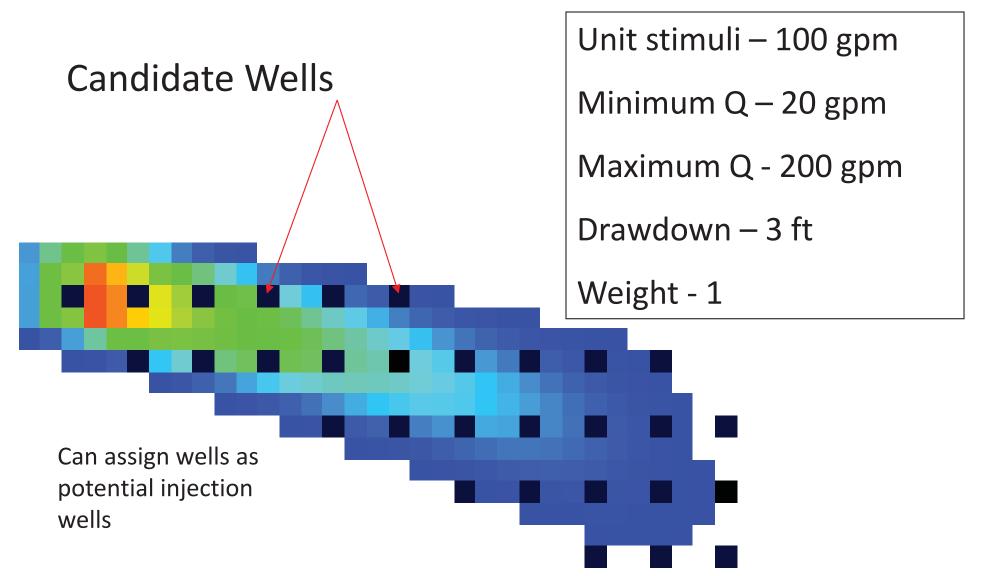
- Use Version 2 Calibrated Model, October 2011 Recharge Regime for Design and Evaluation
- October 2011 Represents Maximum
- Anthropogenic Recharge
  - Use Brute Force Particle Tracking Optimization Algorithm, Same as was Used for NW Plume Extraction System Design

# Code: Brute Force

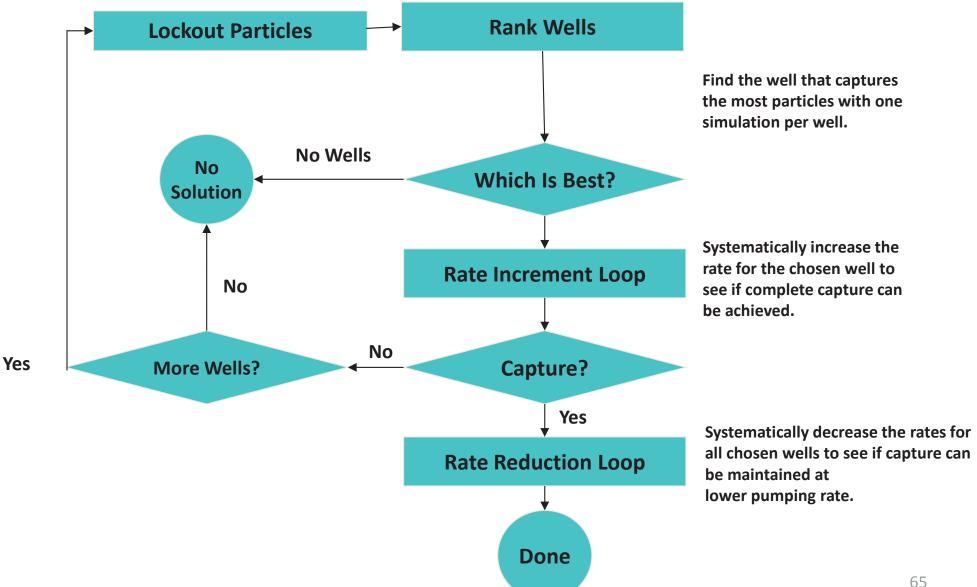
- Developed by Laase and Rumbaugh
- Sequential MODFLOW and MODPATH runs
- Uses particles as surrogates for contamination
- Constraint is global mass capture percentage



# Code: Brute Force



# **Brute Force Algorithm**

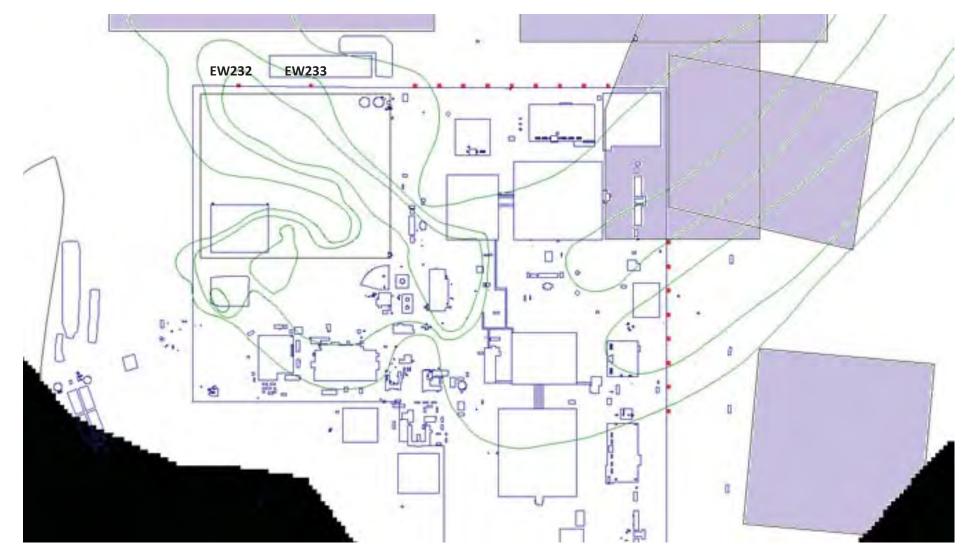


# Design and Evaluation of NE Plume Extraction System

- After Developing a NE Plume Well Field Configuration and Pumping Schedule Using Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge Conditions, Evaluate the Design using Minimum and Average Anthropogenic Recharge Regimes and Post-PGDP Recharge Regimes
- NOTE: Dozens of Extraction Well Configurations
   Were Evaluated, Only a Few Relevant Designs Will Be Presented

# NE Extraction Wells Along Fence Line

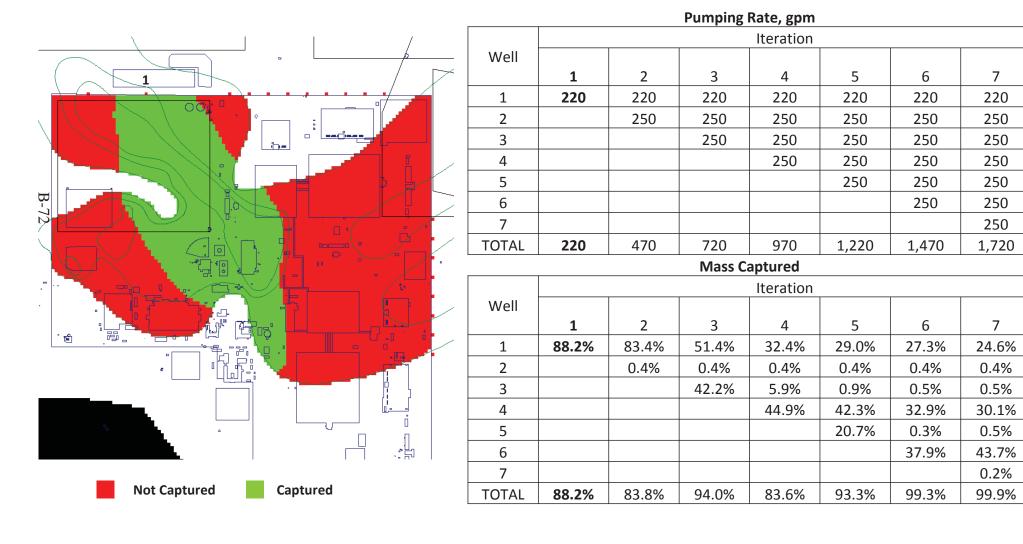
# **Candidate Well Locations**

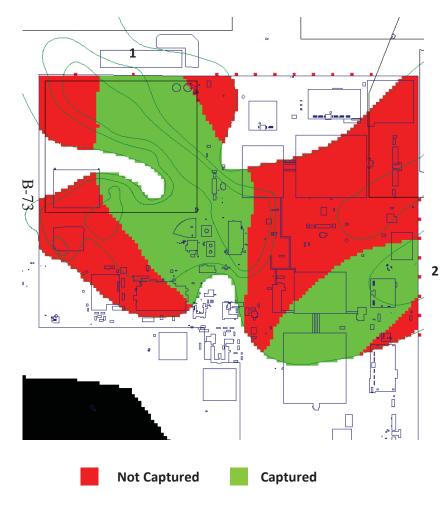


## Particles Representing Dissolved Mass



B-71





Pumping Rate, gpm										
	Iteration									
Well	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220			
2		250	250	250	250	250	250			
3			250	250	250	250	250			
4				250	250	250	250			
5					250	250	250			
6						250	250			
7							250			
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720			
			Mace C	anturad						

Dumming Data ann

#### Mass Captured

	Iteration									
Well										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%			
2		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%			
3			42.2%	5.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%			
4				44.9%	42.3%	32.9%	30.1%			
5					20.7%	0.3%	0.5%			
6						37.9%	43.7%			
7							0.2%			
TOTAL	88.2%	83.8%	94.0%	83.6%	93.3%	99.3%	99.9%			

3 4

5

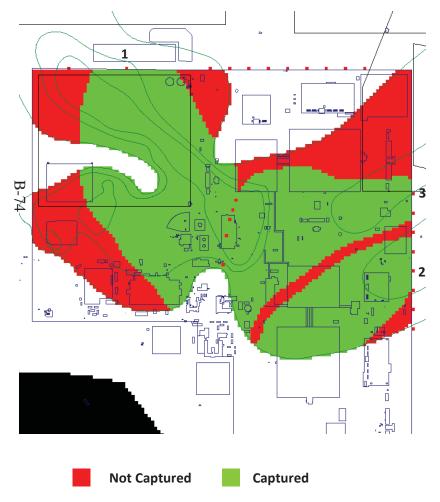
6

7

TOTAL

88.2%

83.8%



Pumping Rate, gpm											
		Iteration									
Well											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220				
2		250	250	250	250	250	250				
3			250	250	250	250	250				
4				250	250	250	250				
5					250	250	250				
6						250	250				
7							250				
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720				
			Mass Ca	aptured							
				Iteration							
Well											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%				
2		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%				
3			42.2%	5.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%				

Violated Design Tenant: Maintain NW Plume Trajectory

44.9%

83.6%

42.3%

20.7%

93.3%

32.9%

0.3%

37.9%

99.3%

94.0%

30.1%

0.5%

43.7%

0.2%

99.9%

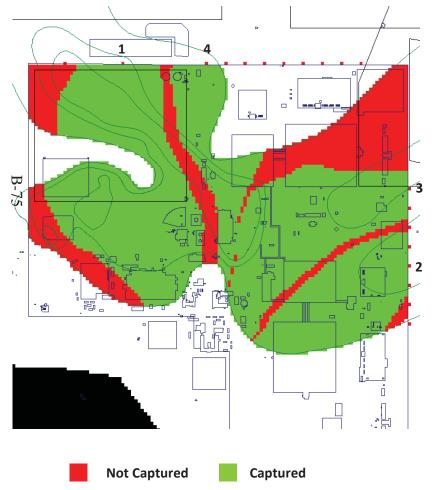
2

3

4

5 6 7

TOTAL



Pumping Rate, gpm										
	Iteration									
Well										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220			
2		250	250	250	250	250	250			
3			250	250	250	250	250			
4				250	250	250	250			
5					250	250	250			
6						250	250			
7							250			
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720			
			Mass Ca	aptured						
				Iteration						
Well										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%			

0.4%

0.4%

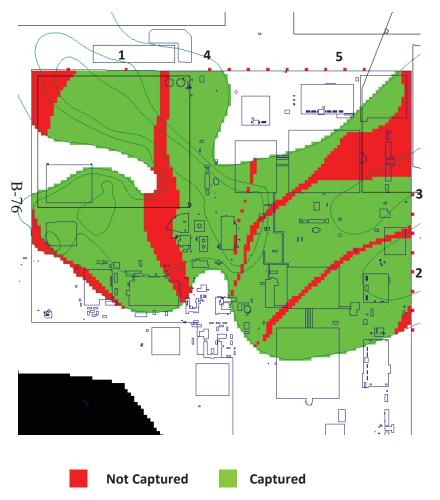
42.2%         5.9%         0.9%         0.5%         0.5%           44.9%         42.3%         32.9%         30.1	
<b>44.9%</b> 42.3% 32.9% 30.1	1%
20.7% 0.3% 0.5%	\$%
37.9% 43.7	7%
0.2	2%
88.2% 83.8% 94.0% <b>83.6%</b> 93.3% 99.3% 99.9	9%

0.4%

0.4%

0.4%

0.4%



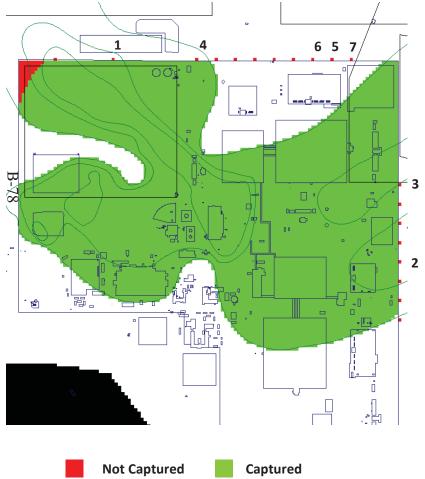
			Pumping	Rate, gpm			
				Iteration			
Well							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220
2		250	250	250	250	250	250
3			250	250	250	250	250
4				250	250	250	250
5					250	250	250
6						250	250
7							250
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720
			Mass Ca	aptured			
				Iteration			
Well							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

	L L	Z	5	4	5	0	/
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%
2		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
3			42.2%	5.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%
4				44.9%	42.3%	32.9%	30.1%
5					20.7%	0.3%	0.5%
6						37.9%	43.7%
7							0.2%
TOTAL	88.2%	83.8%	94.0%	83.6%	93.3%	99.3%	99.9%



Pumping Rate, gpm										
	Iteration									
Well	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220			
2		250	250	250	250	250	250			
3			250	250	250	250	250			
4				250	250	250	250			
5					250	250	250			
6						250	250			
7							250			
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720			
			Mass Ca	aptured						

	Iteration									
Well										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%			
2		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%			
3			42.2%	5.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%			
4				44.9%	42.3%	32.9%	30.1%			
5					20.7%	0.3%	0.5%			
6						37.9%	43.7%			
7							0.2%			
TOTAL	88.2%	83.8%	94.0%	83.6%	93.3%	99.3%	99.9%			



			Pumping	Rate, gpm					
	Iteration								
Well									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1	220	220	220	220	220	220	220		
2		250	250	250	250	250	250		
3			250	250	250	250	250		
4				250	250	250	250		
5					250	250	250		
6						250	250		
7							250		
TOTAL	220	470	720	970	1,220	1,470	1,720		
I		•	Mace C	anturad		•	1		

Mass (	Captured
--------	----------

	Iteration									
Well	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
1	88.2%	83.4%	51.4%	32.4%	29.0%	27.3%	24.6%			
2		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%			
3			42.2%	5.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%			
4				44.9%	42.3%	32.9%	30.1%			
5					20.7%	0.3%	0.5%			
6						37.9%	43.7%			
7							0.2%			
TOTAL	88.2%	83.8%	94.0%	83.6%	93.3%	99.3%	99.9%			

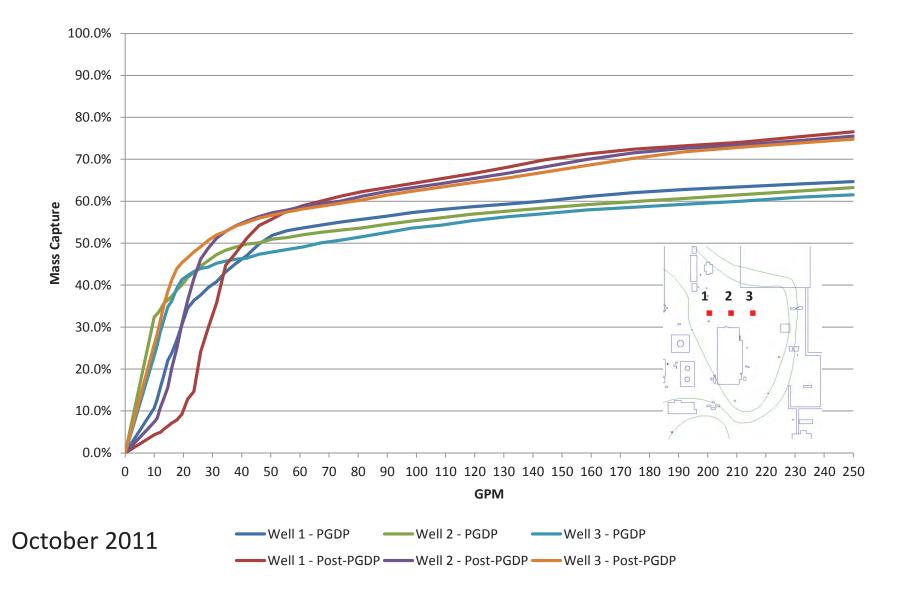
# Summary NE Extraction Wells Along Fence Line

- Issues:
  - Change NW Plume Trajectory
  - Lots of Wells
  - High Extraction Rates
- Challenges:
  - How to keep from spreading dissolved contamination?

# C400 Extraction Well Coupled with NE Extraction Wells Along Fence Line

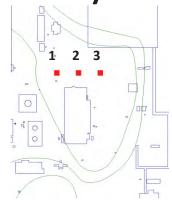
- Is an Extraction Well Located at C400 Capable of "Pinning" Contamination at That Location?
- In Other Words, Will Use of a C400 Extraction Well Halt Unintended Spreading of Dissolved Contamination?
- How Much Should the Extraction Well be Pumped And Where Should It be Located?

# C400 Mass Capture Performance



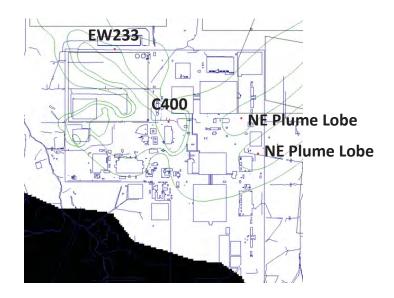
80

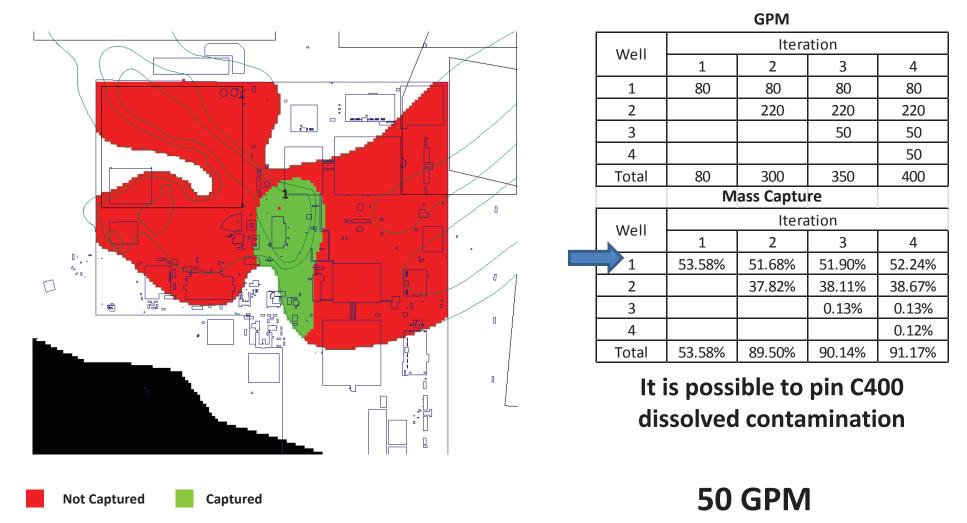
- After 60 gpm There isn't Much Difference in Mass Capture Performance Between the Three C400 Extraction Well Locations
- Evaluate Designs Which Have the C400
   Extraction Well Operating at 80 gpm Because
   That is the Existing Treatment Capability



# PGDP Four Extraction Wells EW233, C400 and 2 NE Extraction Wells at NE Plume Lobes

- Locate NE Plume Extraction Wells Immediately Down Gradient of the Higher Concentration Lobes
- Evaluate Mass Capture Performance for 50, 100, 150, 200 and 250 gpm/Well Rates





October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge



Well		Itera	ation		
vven	1	2	3	4	
1	80	80	80	80	
2		220	220	220	
3			50	50	
4				50	
Total	80	300	350	400	
	Mass Capture				
Well		Iteration			
vven	1	2	3	4	
1	53.58%	51.68%	51.90%	52.24%	
2		37.82%	38.11%	38.67%	
3			0.13%	0.13%	
4				0.12%	
Total	53.58%	89.50%	90.14%	91.17%	

GPM

Not Captured

Captured

October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

**50 GPM** 

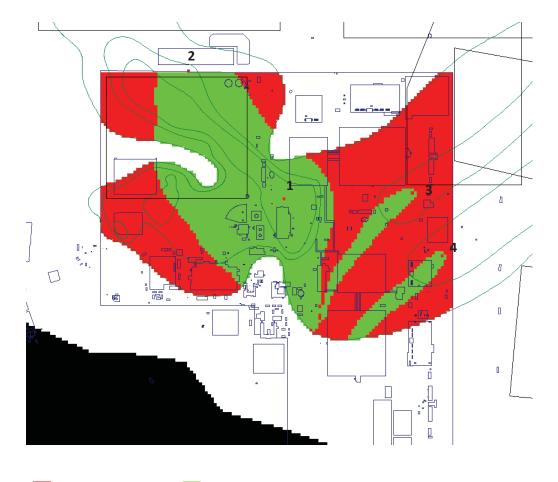


|--|

Well	Iteration				
wen	1	2	3	4	
1	80	80	80	80	
2		220	220	220	
3			50	50	
4				50	
Total	80	300	350	400	
	Mass Capture				
Well	Iteration				
wen	1	2	3	4	
1	53.58%	51.68%	51.90%	52.24%	
2		37.82%	38.11%	38.67%	
3			0.13%	0.13%	
4				0.12%	
Total	53.58%	89.50%	90.14%	91.17%	

**50 GPM** 

October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge



**GPM** 

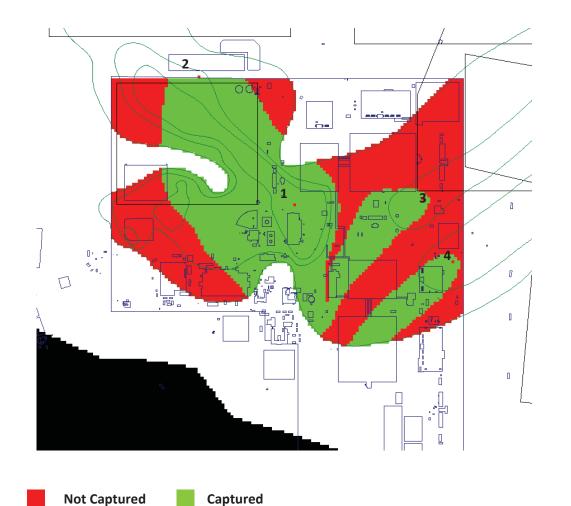
Well		Itera	ation		
wen	1	2	3	4	
1	80	80	80	80	
2		220	220	220	
3			50	50	
4				50	
Total	80	300	350	400	
	Mass Capture				
Well	Iteration				
Well	1	2	3	4	
1	53.58%	51.68%	51.90%	52.24%	
2		37.82%	38.11%	38.67%	
3			0.13%	0.13%	
4				0.12%	
Total	53.58%	89.50%	90.14%	91.17%	

Not Captured

Captured

October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

**50 GPM** 



GPIVI						
Iteration						
1	2	3	4			
80	80	80	80			
	220	220	220			
		100	100			
			100			
80	300	400	500			
Mass Capture						
Iteration						
1	2	3	4			
53.58%	51.68%	52.17%	53.18%			
	37.82%	38.80%	38.65%			
		0.23%	0.25%			
			0.22%			
53.58%	89.50%	91.20%	92.30%			
	80 80 M 1 53.58%	Itera       1     2       80     80       220     220       80     300       80     300       Mass Captur       1     2       53.58%     51.68%       37.82%	Iteration       1     2     3       80     80     80       220     220       220     220       100     100       80     300     400       80     300     400       80     300     400       80     300     500       80     300     400       80     300     500       80     300     400       80     300     500       80     300     500       80     300     500       80     300     500       80     300     400       80     300     500       80     300     400       80     300     500       80     300     500       90     300     500       90     37.82%     38.80%       90     90.23%     90.23%			

CDM



**100 GPM** 



GPIVI						
Well	Iteration					
Wen	1	2	3	4		
1	80	80	80	80		
2		220	220	220		
3			150	150		
4				150		
Total	80	300	450	600		
	Mass Capture					
Well	Iteration					
Well	1	2	3	4		
1	53.58%	51.68%	52.83%	54.34%		
2		37.82%	38.30%	38.67%		
3			0.31%	0.31%		
4				0.33%		
Total	53.58%	89.50%	91.44%	93.65%		

CDM

**150 GPM** 

October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

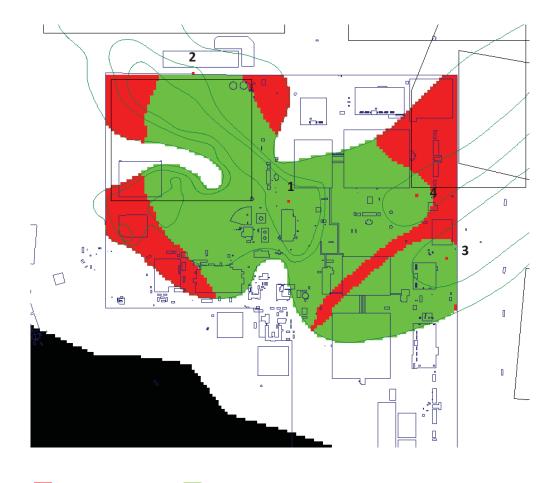


GPIM					
Well	Iteration				
wen	1	2	3	4	
1	80	80	80	80	
2		220	220	220	
3			200	200	
4				200	
Total	80	300	500	700	
Mass Capture					
Well	Iteration				
WEII	1	2	3	4	
1	53.58%	51.68%	53.29%	55.91%	
2		37.82%	38.51%	38.18%	
3			0.36%	0.37%	
4				0.52%	
Total	53.58%	89.50%	92.16%	94.98%	

GPM

200 GPM

October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge



October 2011 – Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

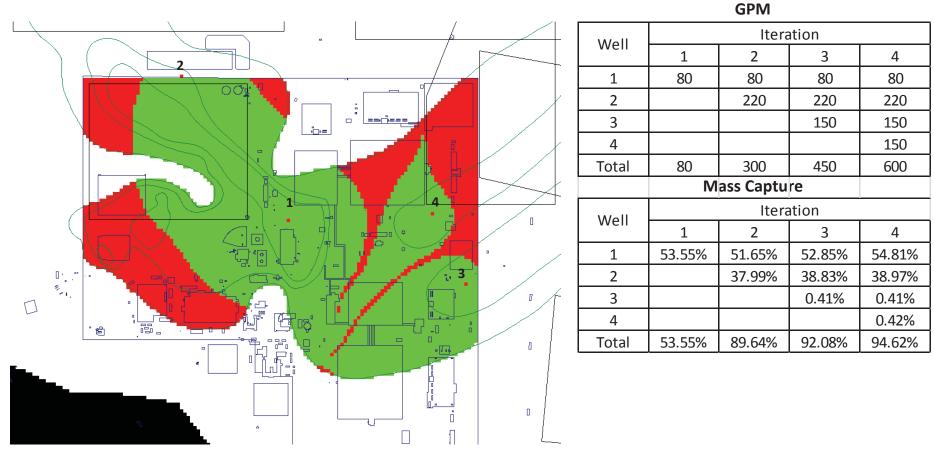
GPIM
------

Well		Iteration				
wen	1	2	3	4		
1	80	80	80	80		
2		220	220	220		
3			250	250		
4				250		
Total	80	300	550	800		
	Mass Capture					
Well	Iteration					
wen	1	2	3	4		
1	53.58%	51.68%	53.77%	57.34%		
2		37.82%	38.48%	37.35%		
3			0.40%	0.40%		
4				1.09%		
Total	53.58%	89.50%	92.65%	96.18%		

**Not Captured** 

**250 GPM** 

Captured

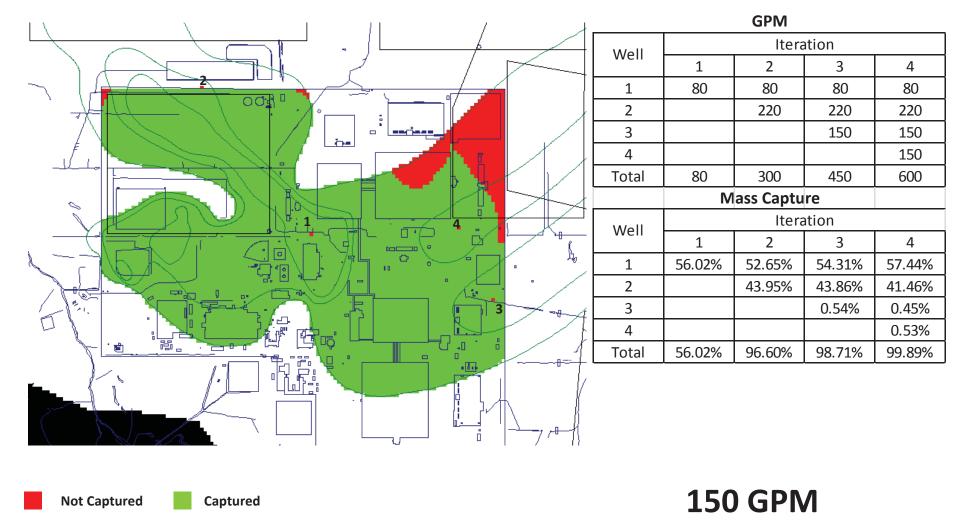


1Q 2007 – Average Anthropogenic Recharge

Captured

**150 GPM** 

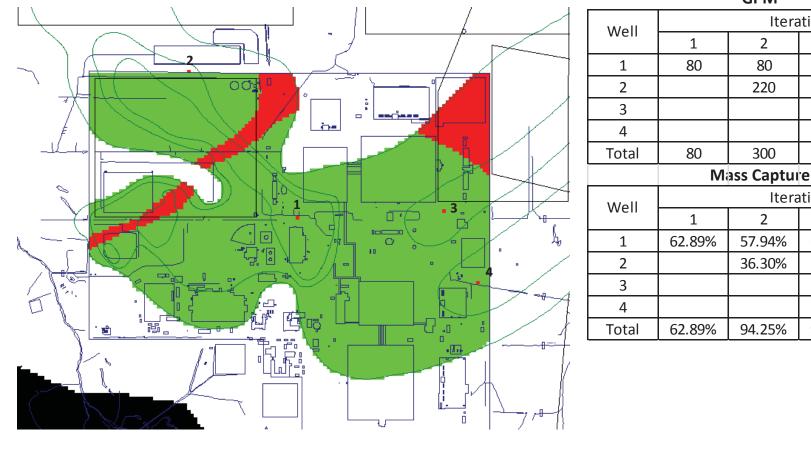
**Not Captured** 



April 2012 – Minimum Anthropogenic Recharge Conditions

B-95

93



2

80

220

300

2

Iteration

Iteration

3

80

220

150

450

3

60.59%

31.68%

0.84%

93.11%

4

80

220

150

150

600

4

62.02%

27.07%

7.03%

0.42%

96.54%

#### **150 GPM**

October 2012 – No Anthropogenic Recharge

Captured

Not Captured

94

# Performance Comparison Tables

50				No
GPM/Lobe	April 2011	1Q 2007	Oct 2011	Anthropogenic
Well				Rechage
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
80	56.02%	53.50%	53.58%	62.89%
300	96.60%	89.47%	89.50%	94.25%
350	97.61%	90.38%	91.40%	93.85%
400	98.41%	90.92%	91.17%	93.44%
100				No
GPM/Lobe	April 2011	1Q 2007	Oct 2011	Anthropogenic
Well				Recharge
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
80	56.02%	53.50%	53.58%	62.89%
300	96.60%	89.47%	89.50%	94.25%
400	98.30%	91.07%	91.25%	93.42%
500	99.59%	92.96%	92.30%	93.08%
150				No
GPM/Lobe	April 2011	1Q 2007	Oct 2011	Anthropogenic
Well				Recharge
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
80	56.02%	53.50%	53.58%	62.89%
300	96.60%	89.47%	89.50%	94.25%
450	98.71%	92.08%	91.44%	93.11%
600	99.89%	94.62%	93.65%	96.54%

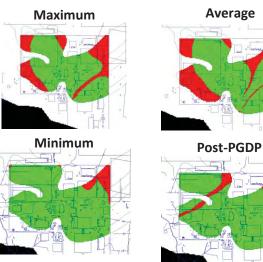
200				No
GPM/Lobe	April 2011	1Q 2007	Oct 2011	Anthropogenic
Well				Recharge
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
80	56.02%	53.50%	53.58%	62.89%
300	96.60%	89.47%	89.50%	94.25%
500	99.49%	92.82%	92.16%	93.82%
700	99.98%	96.06%	94.98%	
250				No
GPM/Lobe	April 2011	1Q 2007	Oct 2011	Anthropogenic
Well				Recharge
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
80	56.02%	53.50%	53.58%	62.89%
300	96.60%	89.47%	89.50%	94.25%
550	99.79%	93.58%	92.65%	95.38%
800	99.99%	96.70%	96.18%	

# Satisfying Design Constraints

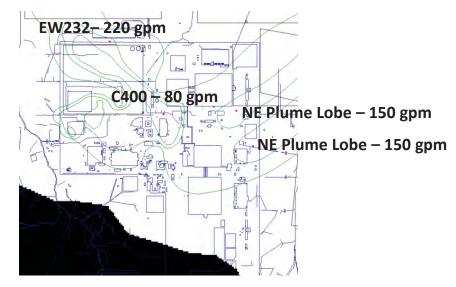
- Minimize trajectory impacts at C400 (YES)
- Complement NW Extraction Well capture zones (YES)
- Avoid potential CERCLA Cell locations (YES)
- Manage anthropogenic recharge variability (YES)
- Design for both anthropogenic and no anthropogenic recharge conditions to the extent possible (PGDP vs Post-PGDP) (YES)

# **Extraction System Design**

- EW 232 Pumping at 220 gpm
- C400 Extraction Well Pumping at 80 gpm
- Two NE Plume Higher Concentration Lobe Wells Pumping at 150 gpm/well
- Cumulative Extraction Rate is 600 gpm
- B-99 System performance monitoring, both water-levels and concentrations





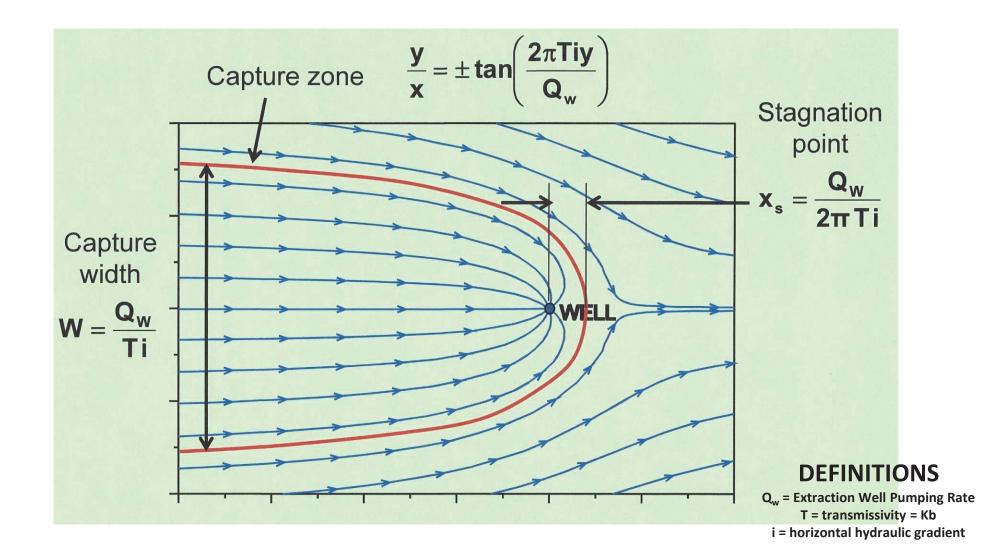


# System Performance Monitoring

- Water-levels versus water quality samples
  - Groundwater levels respond as a function of storage (1e-4 to 1e-6) while dissolved contamination responds as a function of porosity (1e-1)
  - Thus, while groundwater levels respond to pumping in days, plume responses will potentially take thousands of days to observe

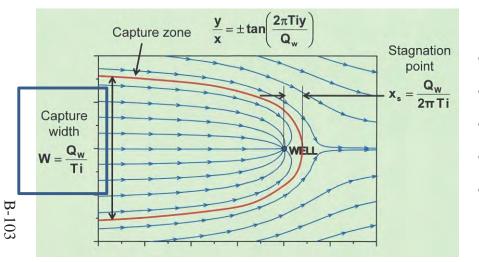
# Understanding TCE presence and concentrations fluctuations downgradient of Extraction Wells 232 and 233

#### **Capture Zone Equations**



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# Capture Zone Width



- T = transmissivity
- T = Kb
- K = hydraulic conductivity
- b = aquifer thickness

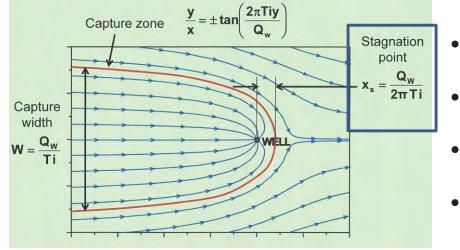
#### **Capture Zone Relationships**

- As Q increase W increases
- As T increase W decreases
- As T decreases W increases
- As i increases W decreases
- As i decreases W increases

#### **Horizontal Hydraulic Gradient**

- i within the PGDP is a function of anthropogenic recharge volumes and locations
- Anthropogenic recharge is spatially and temporally variable
- It follows that capture zones (orientation, width and stagnation point) will also be temporally variable

# **Capture Zone Stagnation Point**



- T = transmissivity
- T = Kb
- K = hydraulic conductivity
- b = aquifer thickness

#### Stagnation point represents the down gradient extent of capture

#### **Capture Zone Relationships**

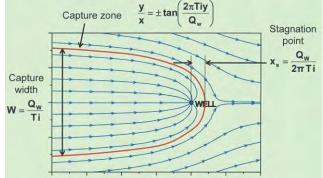
- As Q increase the distance from the extraction well to X<sub>s</sub> increases
- As T increase the distance from the extraction well to X<sub>s</sub> decreases
- As T decreases the distance from the extraction well to X<sub>s</sub> increases
- As i increases the distance from the extraction well to X<sub>s</sub> decreases
- As i decreases the distance from the extraction well to X<sub>s</sub> increases

#### Horizontal Hydraulic Gradient

- i within the PGDP is a function of anthropogenic recharge volumes and locations
- Anthropogenic recharge is spatially and temporally variable
- It follows that capture zones (orientation, width and stagnation point ) will also be temporally variable

# Capture Zone Width and Stagnation Point Relationship

- As capture zone width increases the stagnation point moves away from the extraction well
- As capture zone width decreases the stagnation point moves closer to the extraction well  $\underbrace{y_{\pm \pm \tan}(\frac{2\pi Tiy}{Q_{w}})}_{x \pm \pm \tan(\frac{2\pi Tiy}{Q_{w}})}$



# Model Predicted Anthropogenic Recharge Rates

Date	Anthropogenic Recharge, gpm	
February 1995	1,152	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2005	1,337	
1st Quarter 2007	1,042	
April 2010	678	
October 2010	1,317	
April 2011	599	
October 2011	1,420	
Mean	1,078	
Median	1,152	

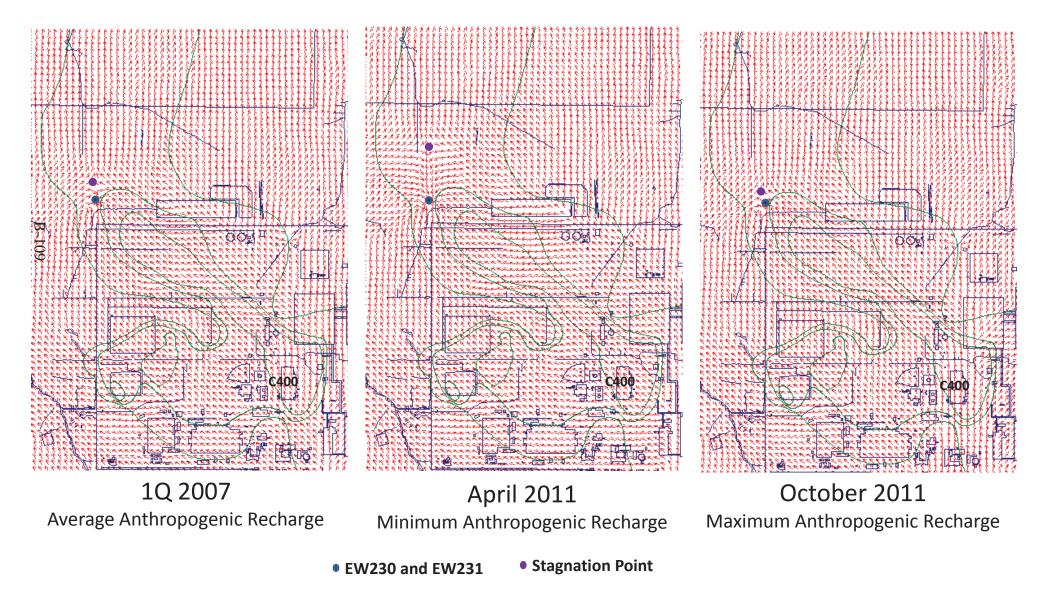
- Anthropogenic recharge occurs in the plant area
- Anthropogenic recharge sources include
  - Leaking underground water supply and fire protection lines
  - Leakage from cooling towers
  - Parking lot run off
  - Building roof run off
  - Infiltration from drainage ditches
  - Leakage from lagoons
- Anthropogenic recharge is both spatially and temporally variable
- There is no way of determining "typical" anthropogenic recharge rates
- Anthropogenic recharge likely has not been constant over time

# Simulated Extraction Well Discharge Rates

- EW230 63 gpm, EW231 53 gpm
- EW 232 110 gpm, EW 233 110 gpm
- EW232 220 gpm

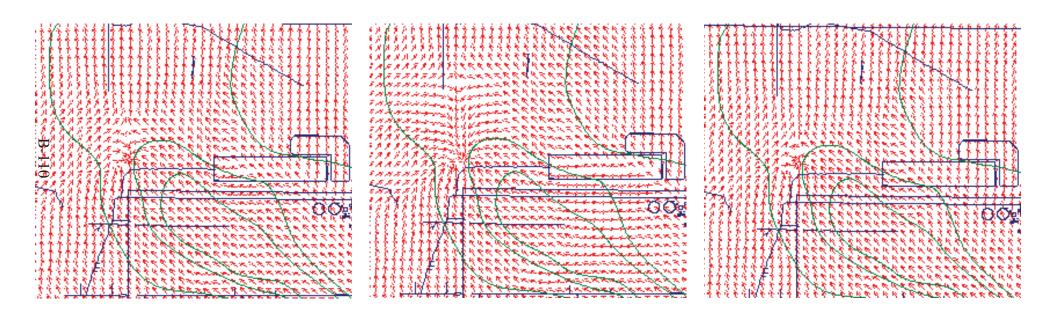
### **Vector Analysis**

# EW230 and EW231 Vector Plots



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### EW230 and EW231 Vector Plots



1Q 2007 Average Anthropogenic Recharge

April 2011 Minimum Anthropogenic Recharge October 2011 Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

NOTE: Extraction well locations and stagnation points are not shown to provide a better view of flow vectors

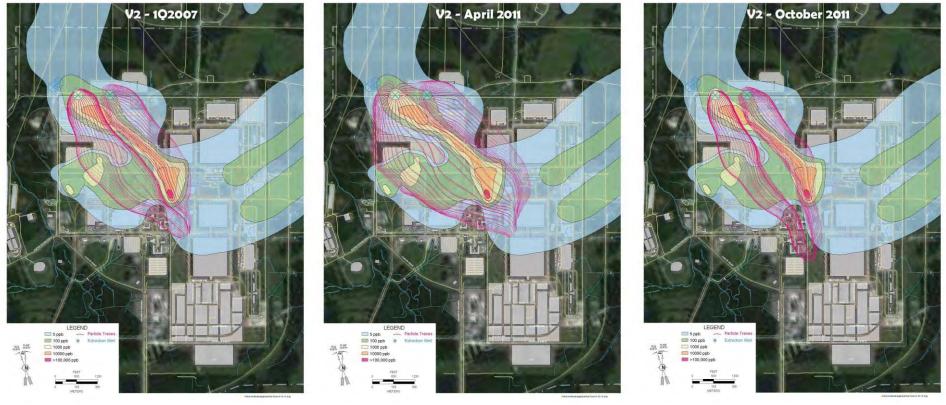
# EW230 and EW231 Vector Plot Summary

- Extraction wells EW230 and EW231 are not located along the axis of the Northwest Plume as a result the capture zone is not centered over the plume
- Following vectors origination at C400 shows that with the exception of low anthropogenic recharge conditions (April 2011) groundwater contamination bypasses the extraction wells

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 Based on stagnation point locations, the EW230 and EW231 capture zone is largest during low anthropogenic recharge conditions and smallest during high anthropogenic recharge conditions

# EW232 and EW233 Backwards Particle Trace Capture Zones

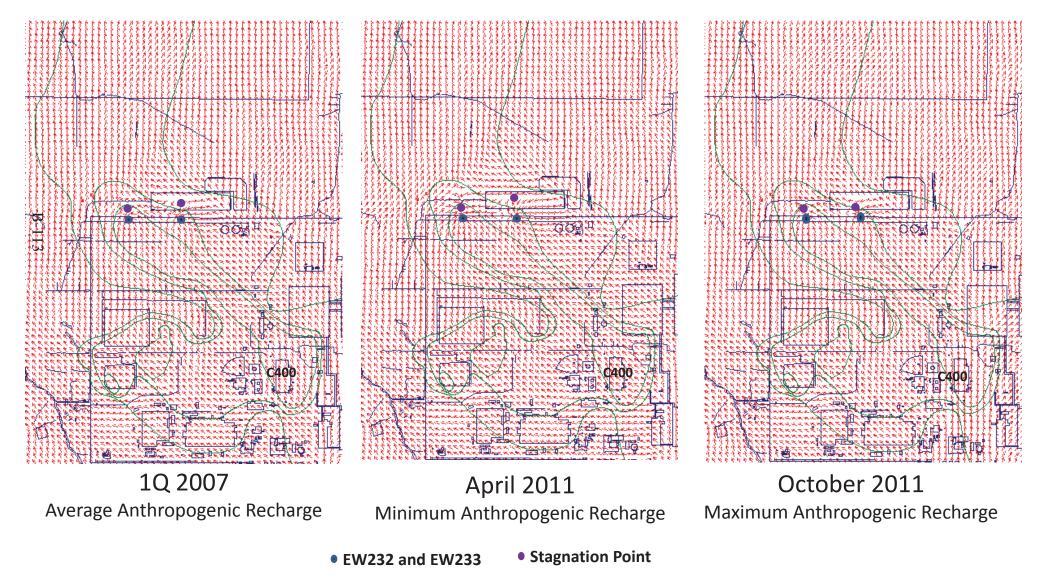


1Q 2007 "Average" Anthropogenic Recharge

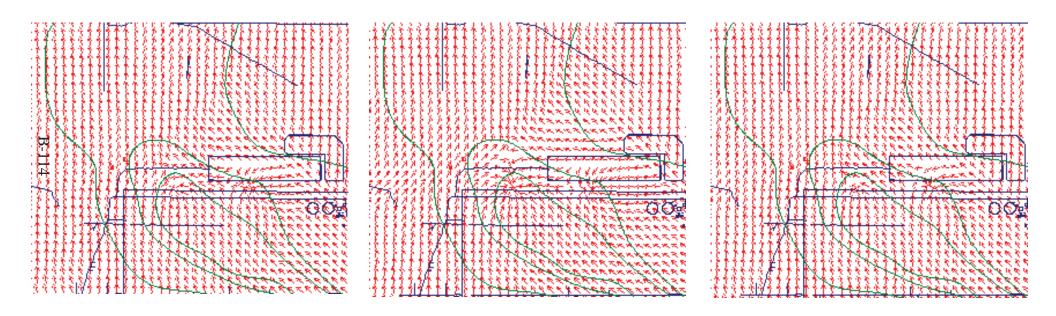
April 2011 Minimum Anthropogenic Recharge

October 2011 Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

# EW232 and EW233 Vector Plots







1Q 2007 Average Anthropogenic Recharge

April 2011 Minimum Anthropogenic Recharge

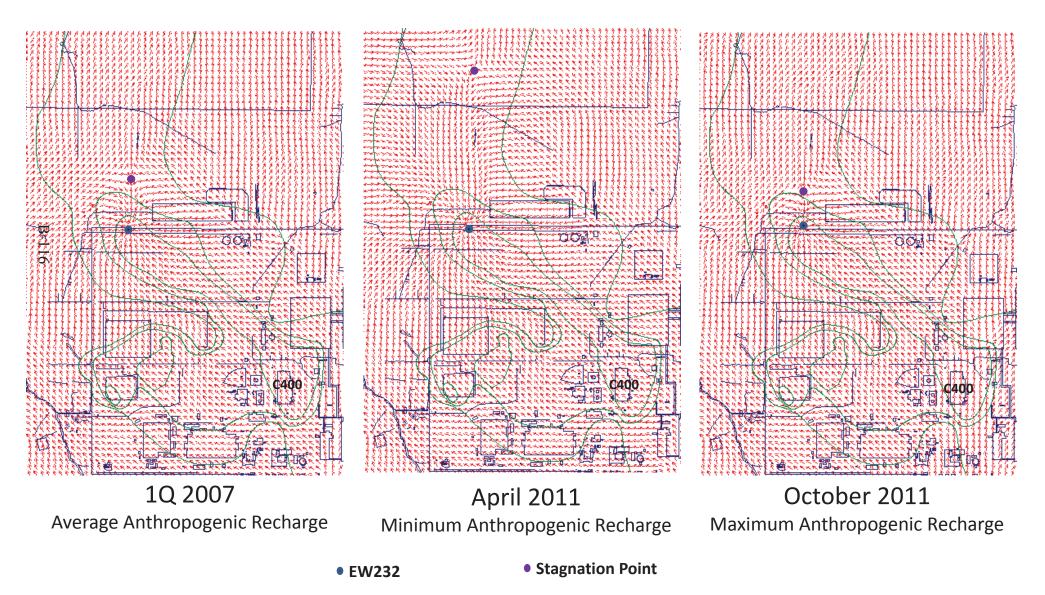
October 2011 Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

NOTE: Extraction well locations and stagnation points are not shown to provide a better view of flow vectors

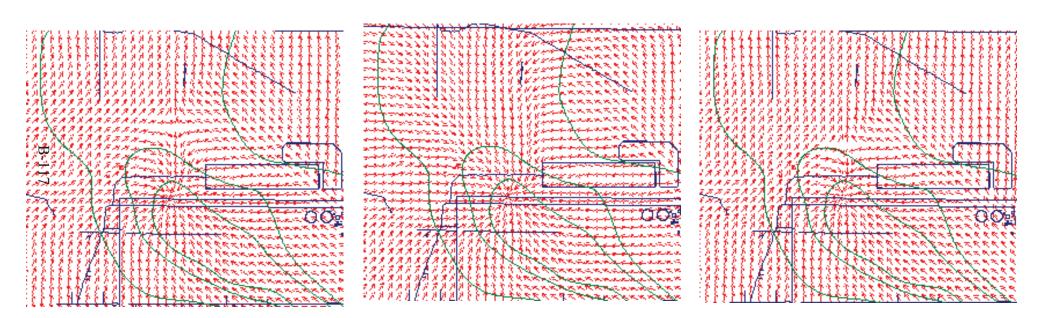
# EW232 and EW233 Vector Plot Summary

- Following vectors origination at C400 shows that some groundwater contamination passes between the two extraction wells during average and high anthropogenic recharge conditions
- Following vectors origination at C400 shows that groundwater contamination is captured by the two extraction wells during low anthropogenic recharge conditions
- Reverse particle tracking capture zones supports the above two bullets
  - Based on stagnation point locations, the EW232 and EW233 capture zones are largest during low anthropogenic recharge conditions and smallest during high anthropogenic recharge conditions

### **EW232 Vector Plots**



### EW232 Vector Plots



1Q 2007 Average Anthropogenic Recharge

April 2011 Minimum Anthropogenic Recharge

e Maximum Anthropogenic Recharge

NOTE: Extraction well locations and stagnation points are not shown to provide a better view of flow vectors

# EW232 Vector Plot Summary

- Following vectors origination at C400 shows groundwater contamination is captured by the EW232 for all ranges of anthropogenic recharge conditions
  - Based on stagnation point locations, the EW232 capture zone is largest during low anthropogenic recharge conditions and smallest during high anthropogenic recharge conditions

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# **Overall Vector Plot Summary**

- Variability in TCE concentrations downgradient of the extraction wells is likely due to contamination escaping between EW232 and EW233 as a result of anthropogenic recharge variability
- Plume capture can be achieved for the range of anthropogenic recharge conditions simulated by operating EW232 at 220 gpm
  - COMMENT anthropogenic recharge conditions have changed as a result of PGDP shutdown and the changing conditions could potentially change plume trajectory and extraction well performance

### Future Flow Model Updates

# **Discussion Items**

- What will the model be used for?
  - Evaluating the performance of active groundwater remedies
  - Supporting remedial design efforts
  - Predicting future contaminant concentrations
    Other?
- Should the model domain be expanded horizontally and vertically?
  - Should the Terrace be included in the model?
  - Should the UCRS be included in the model?
  - Should the McNairy be included in the model?

# **Discussion Items**

- How will PGDP decommissioning impact the groundwater flow regime?
  - What data can be used to evaluate the impact?
  - Required temporal scale of the data?
- What "decommissioning" model input parameters will need to be configured and calibrated?
  - Recharge
  - Others?
- When should recalibration be performed?
- If so, how should the flow model be recalibrated?
  - Adopt the K field and just recalibrate present day recharge?
  - Add the decommissioning scenario(s) to the end of the current 17 stress period calibration configuration and recalibrate recharge and K?

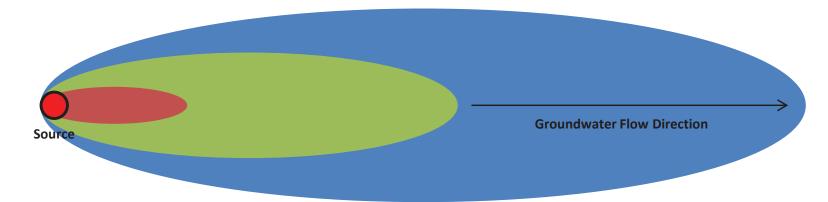
# **Discussion Items**

- How and/or do we include TVA data into the updated model?
  - TVA model is a TMR model
  - Paste calibrated parameter values into model?
  - Recalibrate using the TMR model configuration and calibrated values as constraints?
- When is enough, enough?
  - Will additional detail result in additional prediction accuracy?
- What degree of uncertainty evaluation is appropriate?
  - Full fledge stochastic analysis?
  - Prediction sensitivity analysis?

### **Transport Modeling**

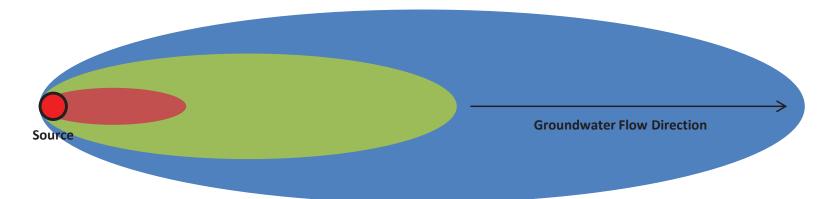
### Factors Influencing Plume Migration

- Parameters
  - Source Locations and Concentrations
  - Distribution Coefficient  $K_d$
  - Effective Porosity n<sub>e</sub>
  - Dispersivity  $-\alpha$
  - Diffusion D
  - Biological Half-Life  $H_L$
  - Initial dissolved/sorbed contaminant distribution



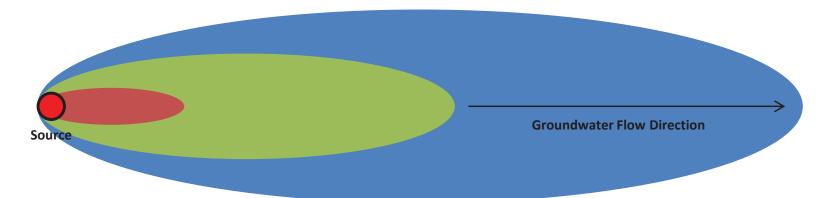
#### • Source : Feeds the plume

- Where is the source located?
- What is the source strength?
- Does the strength vary temporally?
- How long will the source be active?



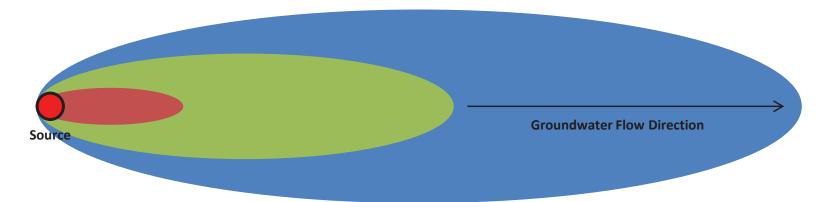
#### • $K_d$ : Ratio of contamination attached to soil/dissolved in water

- K<sub>d</sub> slows plume migration
- Retardation Factor =  $v_{gw}/v_c = 1 + (\rho_b \times K_d/n_e)$
- RGA TCE retardation factor is 1.1
- For every 1 ft groundwater migrates, TCE will migrate 0.91 ft in the same time period
- Linear K<sub>d</sub>: attachment detachment rate from soil is same
- Non-Linear K<sub>d</sub>: attachment rate is faster than detachment rate (tailing effects)

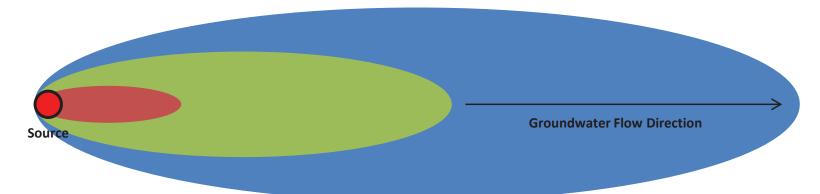


• Effective porosity – Controls groundwater migration rate

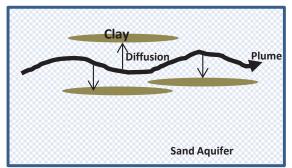
- Effective porosity  $(n_e)$  is the portion of the aquifer that transmits water
- Porosity (n) is the volume of voids/volume of aquifer
- n<sub>e</sub> is equal to or less than n
- Groundwater velocity =  $v_{gw}$  = K × dh/dl ÷  $n_e$
- As n<sub>e</sub> decreases, v<sub>gw</sub> increases

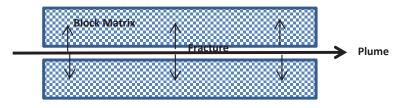


- Dispersivity : Spreads out the plume
  - Dispersivity (α) results because of differing groundwater flow rates and flow paths
  - Dispersivity occurs along the axis of the plume (longitudinal  $\alpha_L$ ), horizontally perpendicular to the axis of the plume (transverse -  $\alpha_T$ ) and vertically perpendicular to the axis of the plume (vertical -  $\alpha_V$ )
  - In general  $\alpha_L > \alpha_T > \alpha_V$
  - In modeling the application of  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  has changed over time

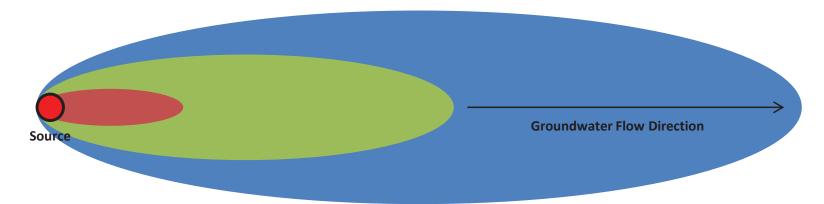


• Diffusion : Concentration gradient driven contaminant migration

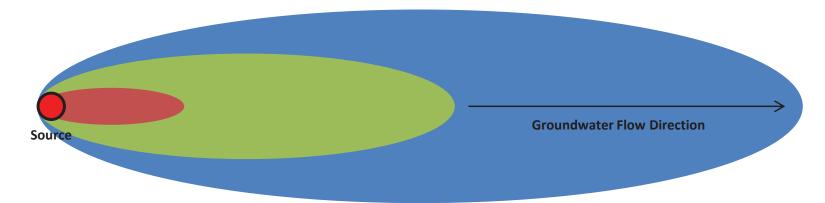




- Slow process relative to advective transport
- Post remediation: Can result in chronic low level concentrations (tailing effect)
- Usually do not include in porous media simulations



- Biodegradation : Removes contaminant mass
  - Only process that removes contaminant mass
  - Can transform one contaminant to another contaminant ( $\tau ce \rightarrow bce \rightarrow vc$ )
  - Characterized by half-life, the time required to reduce the original mass in half
  - RGA TCE half-life is 3,650 days (10 years)



- Initial Concentration Distribution:
  - Typically the current plume concentration and geometry
  - Migrate the initial plume forward to predict future concentrations
  - Initial concentration distribution doesn't always represent reality

# **Transport Modeling**

- Calibration
  - Two schools of thought:
    - Inverse modeling try and match todays plume from source activation to present, thus insuring representative transport parameters (temporal source strength and duration, K<sub>d</sub> and half-life)
    - Forward modeling initiate transport simulation using the current observed initial concentrations
- Log transform concentration targets or not?
  - Yes, typically get better matches with the lower concentration targets
  - No, typically get better matches with the higher concentration targets
- Will never obtain as good a match to concentration targets as to head targets

# **Transport Modeling**

- Other calibration targets
  - Plume mass and concentration statistics

Data from a Chemical Manufacturing Facility in Australia

Model Layer	January 2005 EDC Plume Mass, Kg	September 2013 EDC Plume Mass, Kg	Difference, Kg
1	46,466	107	46,359
2	112,817	12,430	100,387
3	559,784	46,001	513,783
4	645,527	174,391	471,136
TOTAL	1,364,594	232,930	1,131,664

#### EDC plume mass comparison

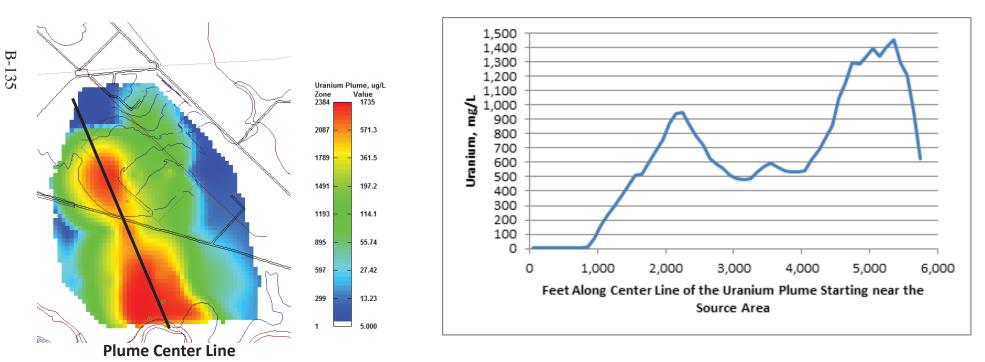
#### **EDC plume concentration statistics**

Deveentile	January 2005	September 2013
Percentile	EDC Concentration, mg/L	EDC Concentration, mg/L
1	0.06	0.001
5	0.5	0.003
10	1	0.007
25	6	0.1
50	20	2
75	90	20
90	300	60
95	600	100
99	1,000	500
Average	107	28
Maximum	6,000	5,000

# **Transport Modeling**

Other calibration targets

 Plume center line concentrations



### **Riverton, Wyoming**

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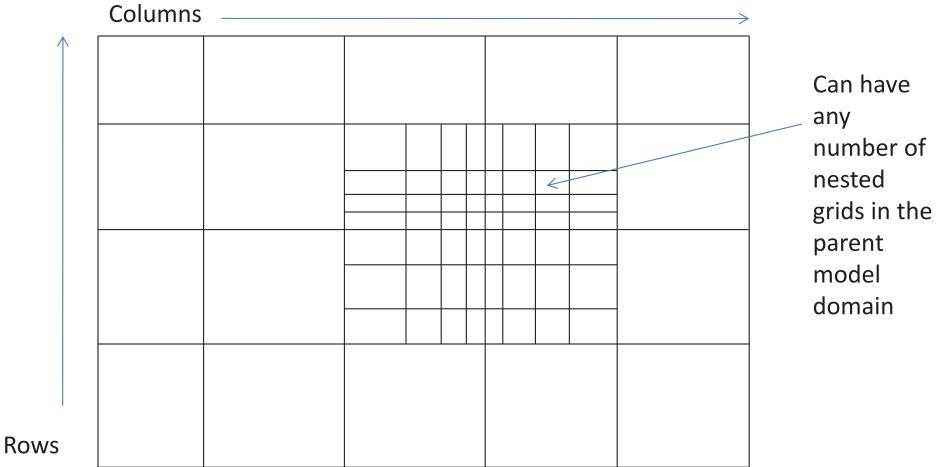
# **Transport Modeling**

- MT3D source representation
  - Don't simulate free phase, rather a concentration
    - Constant concentration RGA
    - Recharge concentration UCRS
- Major PGDP Sources

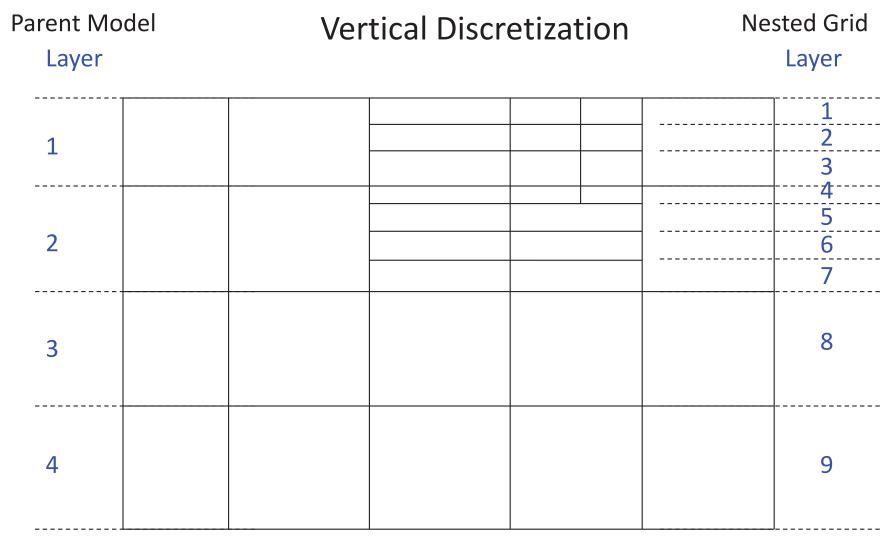
### **Modeling Innovations**

- USG unstructured grids
- Overcomes finite-difference grid limitations
- Includes MODFLOW processes and packages with finite-element flexibility
- Developed by Sorab Panday, author of MODFLOW-Surfact
  - Public domain code maintained by the USGS
  - Supports all MODFLOW-Surfact features
  - Supports all MODFLOW packages including NWT, Conduit Domain Flow (CDF)

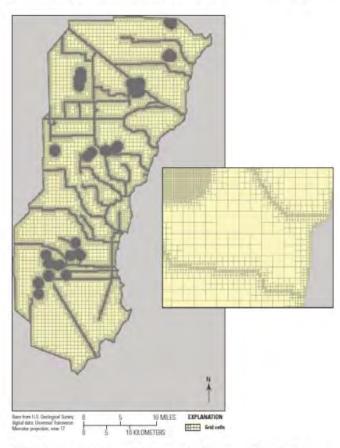
### Horizontal Discretization



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52 MODFLOW–USG Version 1: An Unstructured Grid Version of MODFLOW for Simulating Groundwater Flow



• Example MODFLOW-USG grid

Figure 37. Quadtree grid for the Biscayne aquifer example problem. The grid is based on an 800-meter (m) structured grid. Within 1,000 m of a municipal well and along canals and the coastline, cells are refined down 4 levels to a cell size of 50 m. The quadtree grid was then smoothed so that every cell is connected to no more then two cells in any direction.

# Status of MODFLOW-USG

- Still being developed (mostly done) in parallel with the USGS
- Flow model active
- Transport is active
  - Particle tracking is not currently available, expected in the next couple of months
  - Supported by commercial modeling per- and post-processors

# Connected Linear Network (CLN) Boundary

- Swiss Army Knife of boundary conditions
- Needed in MODFLOW-USG because grid dimensions potentially can change between simulations (turn on or off grid refinement areas)
- Couple CLN with other boundary conditions
- For example, a CLN could be oriented vertically to represent a well with a well cell placed at an elevation representing the pump elevation
- A conductance term is applied to the CLN to represent well efficiency
- An interesting feature is the CLN cell allows flow up and down the well bore depending on the rate of pumping
- In the absence of pumping contamination can enter the well scread and flow up or down the well bore before exiting

# Connected Linear Network (CLN) Boundary

- CLNs can have 2D architecture
- For example, CLNs could be configured to represent the bathymetry of tidal creeks
- A conductance term represents the connection of the creek with aquifer
  - A single constant head cell with temporal elevations corresponding to tide elevations would flood and drain the creek as a function of the creek bottom elevation

# Connected Linear Network (CLN) Boundary

 CLNs can be used to represent fractures and/or faults

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- 3D configurations can be used to represent karst features or basalt tubes
- In concept there isn't much that can't be done with CLNs
- Reality it is a complex boundary condition to code and is currently implemented in a rudimentary form but expect great things

### Modflow-USG Reference

Prepared in collaboration with AMEC

roundwater Resources Program

MODFLOW–USG Version 1: An Unstructured Grid Version of MODFLOW for Simulating Groundwater Flow and Tightly Coupled Processes Using a Control Volume Finite-Difference Formulation

Chapter 45 of Section A, Groundwater Book 6, Modeling Techniques

Techniques and Methods 6-A45

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey **APPENDIX C** 

CALIBRATION TARGET DATA

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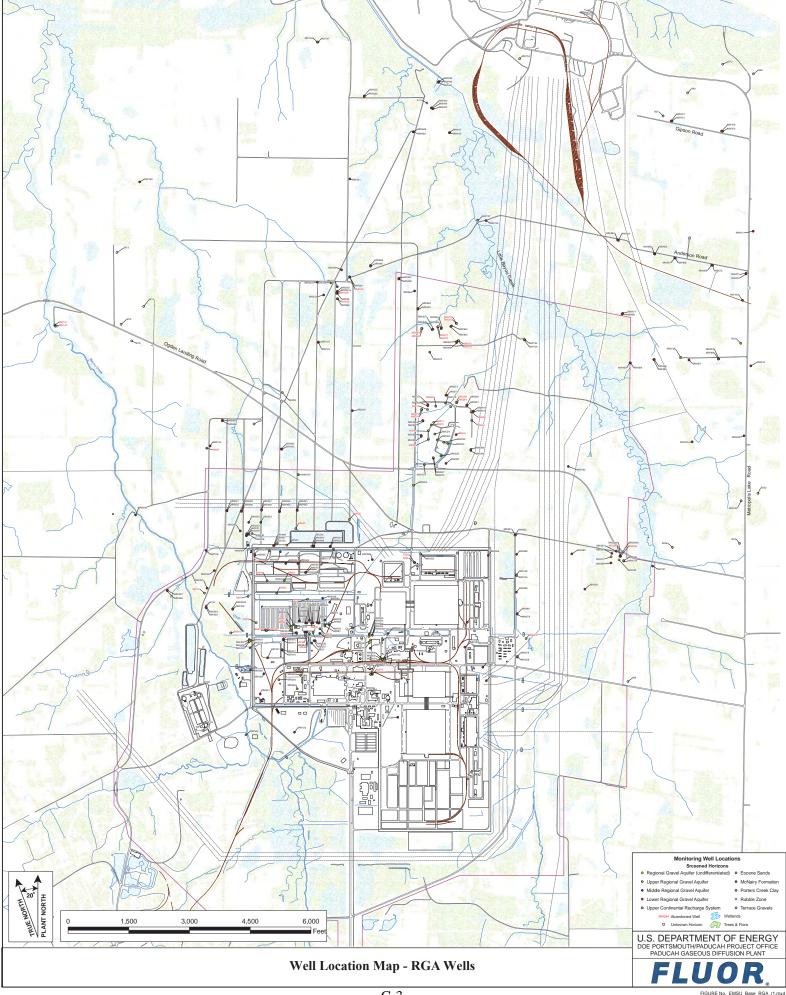


FIGURE No. EMSU\_Base\_RGA\_r1.mxd DATE 05-04-2010

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW123	1	1	323.9	323.9	-0.01
MW126	1	1	325.3	325.2	0.07
MW137	1	1	321.1	320.7	0.36
MW142 (L2toL1)	1	1	325.3	324.9	0.38
MW147	1	1	320.1	317.9	2.21
MW150 (L2toL1)	1	1	324.7	324.6	0.08
MW156	1	1	326.6	326.6	0.05
MW159	1	1	326.5	326.1	0.38
MW165	1	1	326.3	326.2	0.12
MW168	1	1	326.4	326.3	0.02
MW173	1	1	326.3	326.0	0.28
MW178	1	1	326.7	326.5	0.18
MW181	1	1	325.0	325.1	-0.11
MW185	1	1	326.2	325.9	0.31
MW193	1	1	325.1	325.0	0.15
MW194_(L2toL1)	1	1	325.4	325.8	-0.40
MW197	1	1	325.1	325.3	-0.23
MW199_(L2toL1)	1	1	323.8	323.4	0.35
MW205	1	1	325.2	326.3	-1.18
MW206	1	1	325.9	326.5	-0.62
MW222	1	1	324.6	324.9	-0.36
MW223	1	1	324.6	325.0	-0.37
MW224	1	1	325.7	324.9	0.80
MW327 (L3toL1)	1	1	326.6	326.4	0.24
MW329	1	1	326.1	326.2	-0.04
MW63	1	1	325.9	325.8	0.08
MW66	1	1	325.0	325.8	-0.86
MW71	1	1	325.2	326.6	-1.35
PZ107	1	1	327.7	326.6	1.10
MW106	1	2	325.4	325.7	-0.31
MW139	1	2	323.6	323.6	-0.06
MW142	1	2	325.3	324.9	0.38
MW145	1	2	325.7	325.8	-0.17
MW150	1	2	324.7	324.6	0.08
MW152	1	2	316.2	316.5	-0.29
MW161	1	2	326.7	326.2	0.44
MW169	1	2	325.2	326.2	-0.96
MW175	1	2	326.7	326.5	0.21
MW179	1	2	324.7	324.8	-0.17
MW188	1	2	326.7	326.3	0.40
MW191	1	2	325.2	325.2	0.05
MW194	1	2	325.4	325.8	-0.40
MW199	1	2	323.8	323.4	0.35
MW200	1	2	324.5	324.6	-0.07

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW201	1	2	322.0	321.7	0.30
MW202	1	2	323.4	323.1	0.28
MW225	1	2	324.8	325.0	-0.20
MW227	1	2	327.0	326.3	0.67
MW325	1	2	325.6	326.4	-0.75
MW328	1	2	326.1	326.2	-0.16
MW330	1	2	326.9	326.4	0.51
MW67	1	2	326.8	326.1	0.69
MW79	1	2	326.4	326.3	0.16
MW84	1	2	326.3	326.2	0.18
MW87	1	2	326.3	326.2	0.13
MW90	1	2	326.0	326.2	-0.21
MW93	1	2	326.3	326.2	0.10
MW98	1	2	323.0	322.5	0.46
MW99	1	2	323.1	323.0	0.14
PZ109	1	2	326.6	326.6	-0.06
PZ110	1	2	326.5	326.6	-0.08
PZ117	1	2	327.0	326.6	0.41
PZ118	1	2	326.3	326.6	-0.31
W108	1	2	326.8	326.6	0.20
MW125	1	3	323.8	323.9	-0.03
MW132	1	3	323.5	323.6	-0.16
MW142_(L2toL3)	1	3	325.3	324.9	0.38
MW144	1	3	325.7	325.9	-0.11
MW148	1	3	323.6	324.2	-0.61
MW150_(L2toL3)	1	3	324.7	324.6	0.08
MW152_(L2toL3)	1	3	316.2	316.5	-0.29
MW158	1	3	327.0	326.1	0.91
MW163	1	3	326.4	326.3	0.03
MW191_(L2toL3)	1	3	325.2	325.2	0.05
MW194_(L2toL3)	1	3	325.4	325.8	-0.40
MW199_(L2toL3)	1	3	323.8	323.4	0.35
MW226	1	3	326.9	326.3	0.63
MW326	1	3	326.8	326.5	0.28
MW327	1	3	326.6	326.4	0.24
MW86	1	3	325.9	326.2	-0.32
MW89	1	3	325.8	326.2	-0.45
MW92	1	3	325.8	326.2	-0.45
MW95	1	3	325.7	326.2	-0.51
PZ110_(L2toL3)	1	3	326.5	326.6	-0.08
MW103_(L3toL1)	2	1	325.9	325.8	0.16
MW123	2	1	323.2	323.4	-0.13
MW126	2	1	323.4	324.0	-0.53
MW137	2	1	320.3	320.5	-0.14

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW147	2	1	318.6	317.9	0.78
MW150_(L2toL1)	2	1	323.8	323.8	-0.06
MW156	2	1	325.8	325.7	0.04
MW165	2	1	325.3	325.3	0.03
MW168	2	1	325.1	325.4	-0.25
MW173	2	1	324.7	324.7	0.00
MW178	2	1	325.5	325.6	-0.02
MW185	2	1	324.3	324.5	-0.18
MW193	2	1	324.3	324.1	0.25
MW194_(L2toL1)	2	1	324.9	324.9	0.02
MW197	2	1	324.0	324.4	-0.38
MW199_(L2toL1)	2	1	322.6	323.2	-0.62
MW205	2	1	325.1	325.3	-0.27
MW220	2	1	324.7	324.3	0.46
MW222	2	1	324.4	324.2	0.22
MW224	2	1	324.5	324.2	0.28
MW245	2	1	324.4	324.6	-0.19
MW293A	2	1	323.5	324.0	-0.49
MW327_(L3toL1)	2	1	325.9	325.4	0.44
MW329	2	1	325.8	325.1	0.68
MW354	2	1	325.7	325.0	0.72
MW357	2	1	323.0	322.8	0.15
MW360	2	1	322.8	322.8	0.06
MW366	2	1	323.0	323.2	-0.20
MW369	2	1	324.3	324.1	0.21
MW372	2	1	324.3	324.0	0.24
MW411	2	1	321.3	321.8	-0.53
MW416	2	1	325.3	325.2	0.03
MW426	2	1	325.6	325.0	0.60
MW429A	2	1	325.7	324.9	0.71
MW433	2	1	318.5	318.8	-0.34
MW439	2	1	316.5	317.0	-0.47
MW445	2	1	317.4	317.7	-0.25
MW448	2	1	318.5	318.4	0.11
MW451	2	1	324.2	324.2	-0.02
MW453	2	1	324.1	324.2	-0.14
MW457	2	1	324.4	324.5	-0.11
MW459	2	1	324.6	324.5	0.09
MW463	2	1	317.9	318.4	-0.58
MW478	2	1	325.5	325.2	0.32
MW479	2	1	325.1	325.0	0.09
MW481	2	1	324.7	324.6	0.17
MW483	2	1	323.6	323.5	0.09
MW489	2	1	322.1	322.2	-0.15

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW497	2	1	324.2	324.1	0.12
MW501	2	1	324.4	324.6	-0.19
MW504	2	1	324.9	324.7	0.20
MW505	2	1	325.8	325.7	0.09
MW63	2	1	324.4	324.6	-0.26
MW66	2	1	324.3	324.5	-0.24
MW71	2	1	325.9	325.7	0.14
PZ349	2	1	325.0	324.8	0.21
MW103 (L3toL2)	2	2	325.9	325.8	0.16
MW106	2	2	324.6	324.7	-0.15
MW139	2	2	322.9	323.0	-0.20
MW145	2	2	325.0	324.9	0.11
MW146 (L3toL2)	2	2	318.6	317.9	0.76
MW150	2	2	323.8	323.8	-0.06
MW169	2	2	324.8	325.1	-0.27
MW175	2	2	325.9	325.6	0.26
MW188	2	2	325.9	325.3	0.54
MW194	2	2	324.9	324.9	0.02
MW199	2	2	322.6	323.2	-0.62
MW200	2	2	324.0	324.0	0.03
MW201	2	2	320.9	321.4	-0.55
MW203	2	2	325.8	325.8	0.05
MW221	2	2	324.4	324.2	0.17
MW225	2	2	324.6	324.3	0.33
MW233	2	2	322.7	322.8	-0.12
MW236	2	2	322.6	322.4	0.24
MW238	2	2	322.7	322.6	0.06
MW242	2	2	324.4	324.5	-0.18
MW243	2	2	324.4	324.6	-0.18
MW248	2	2	324.3	324.6	-0.26
MW249	2	2	324.3	324.6	-0.28
MW250	2	2	324.4	324.6	-0.18
MW257	2	2	324.7	324.7	-0.06
MW288	2	2	323.7	324.0	-0.38
MW291	2	2	323.5	324.0	-0.50
MW325	2	2	325.9	325.5	0.39
MW328	2	2	325.8	325.2	0.63
MW330	2	2	325.9	325.4	0.46
MW333	2	2	325.6	325.2	0.45
MW337	2	2	325.4	325.1	0.37
MW338	2	2	325.4	325.1	0.30
MW361	2	2	322.8	322.8	0.04
MW363	2	2	322.8	322.7	0.08
MW380	2	2	322.7	322.7	-0.07

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW384	2	2	323.8	324.2	-0.40
MW387	2	2	324.4	324.2	0.22
MW391	2	2	324.3	324.0	0.24
MW394	2	2	324.6	324.2	0.38
MW409	2	2	323.6	323.7	-0.17
MW414	2	2	325.4	325.1	0.25
MW418	2	2	324.2	324.1	0.16
MW420	2	2	325.5	325.3	0.22
MW421	2	2	325.4	325.5	-0.07
MW422	2	2	325.4	325.5	-0.06
MW423	2	2	325.4	325.5	-0.11
MW424	2	2	325.5	325.5	-0.02
MW425	2	2	325.5	325.5	0.00
MW426 (L1toL2)	2	2	325.6	325.0	0.60
MW440	2	2	316.5	317.0	-0.52
MW442	2	2	317.5	317.6	-0.17
MW443	2	2	317.4	317.7	-0.27
MW455	2	2	324.6	324.6	-0.01
MW461	2	2	324.5	324.5	-0.04
MW464	2	2	318.3	318.5	-0.21
MW465	2	2	319.8	319.7	0.13
MW466	2	2	319.7	319.6	0.10
MW471	2	2	322.8	322.9	-0.10
MW473	2	2	317.2	316.3	0.90
MW488	2	2	323.5	323.4	0.09
MW490	2	2	322.2	322.2	-0.10
MW491	2	2	322.6	322.2	0.45
MW493	2	2	322.3	322.3	0.00
MW499	2	2	324.3	324.1	0.18
MW506	2	2	325.8	325.7	0.08
MW67	2	2	325.2	325.0	0.13
MW72	2	2	325.1	325.1	-0.03
MW76	2	2	325.4	325.3	0.01
MW77	2	2	325.7	325.3	0.39
MW79	2	2	325.0	325.3	-0.25
MW80	2	2	325.0	325.3	-0.24
MW81	2	2	325.0	325.3	-0.25
MW84	2	2	325.3	325.1	0.19
MW87	2	2	325.1	325.1	-0.04
MW90A	2	2	325.0	325.2	-0.20
MW93	2	2	325.6	325.2	0.34
MW98	2	2	322.6	322.1	0.40
MW99	2	2	322.6	322.5	0.11
PZ109	2	2	325.9	325.8	0.12

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
PZ110	2	2	325.9	325.8	0.11
W108	2	2	325.9	325.8	0.13
MW100	2	3	322.9	323.0	-0.12
MW103	2	3	325.9	325.8	0.16
MW124	2	3	323.6	324.0	-0.35
MW125	2	3	323.3	323.4	-0.10
MW132	2	3	322.9	323.0	-0.17
MW134	2	3	324.2	324.4	-0.15
MW135	2	3	320.2	320.2	0.06
MW144	2	3	325.0	324.9	0.06
MW146	2	3	318.6	317.9	0.76
MW150_(L2toL3)	2	3	323.8	323.8	-0.06
MW155	2	3	325.7	325.7	-0.01
MW163	2	3	325.5	325.4	0.09
MW194_(L2toL3)	2	3	324.9	324.9	0.02
MW199_(L2toL3)	2	3	322.6	323.2	-0.62
MW226	2	3	325.7	325.4	0.30
MW255	2	3	325.5	325.4	0.09
MW256	2	3	325.5	325.4	0.11
MW260	2	3	325.4	325.2	0.20
MW261	2	3	324.6	324.7	-0.10
MW262	2	3	324.9	325.1	-0.18
MW284	2	3	323.5	324.0	-0.59
MW294A	2	3	323.5	324.0	-0.45
MW326	2	3	325.9	325.6	0.33
MW327	2	3	325.9	325.4	0.44
MW340	2	3	324.4	324.6	-0.13
MW341	2	3	325.6	325.5	0.08
MW342	2	3	325.6	325.6	0.03
MW343	2	3	325.4	325.5	-0.06
MW353	2	3	325.1	324.5	0.65
MW355	2	3	325.3	325.2	0.09
MW358	2	3	322.9	322.8	0.06
MW364	2	3	322.7	322.7	0.01
MW367	2	3	323.0	323.2	-0.21
MW370	2	3	324.3	324.1	0.21
MW373	2	3	324.3	324.0	0.23
MW385	2	3	324.4	324.2	0.15
MW388	2	3	324.4	324.2	0.23
MW392	2	3	324.3	324.0	0.21
MW395	2	3	324.6	324.2	0.45
MW397	2	3	324.6	324.3	0.33
MW415	2	3	325.1	325.1	0.00
MW417	2	3	325.1	325.2	-0.11

Well Name	Stress Period	Layer	Observed	Computed	Residual
MW419	2	3	324.2	324.0	0.12
MW427	2	3	325.6	325.0	0.58
MW428	2	3	325.7	325.0	0.67
MW430	2	3	325.7	325.0	0.74
MW431	2	3	325.6	324.9	0.69
MW432	2	3	325.3	324.8	0.49
MW435	2	3	318.5	318.8	-0.34
MW441	2	3	316.4	317.1	-0.66
MW444	2	3	317.4	317.6	-0.27
MW447	2	3	317.5	317.7	-0.15
MW450	2	3	318.7	318.4	0.27
MW452	2	3	324.2	324.2	-0.02
MW454	2	3	324.1	324.2	-0.12
MW456	2	3	324.4	324.6	-0.18
MW458	2	3	324.4	324.5	-0.11
MW460	2	3	324.2	324.5	-0.29
MW462	2	3	324.5	324.5	-0.05
MW472	2	3	322.8	322.9	-0.10
MW474	2	3	317.3	316.2	1.07
MW476	2	3	317.4	316.8	0.63
MW477	2	3	322.5	322.4	0.09
MW480	2	3	325.1	325.0	0.10
MW482	2	3	324.7	324.6	0.15
MW484	2	3	323.5	323.6	-0.06
MW487	2	3	323.5	323.5	-0.03
MW494	2	3	322.2	322.3	-0.10
MW495	2	3	325.0	325.0	0.03
MW496	2	3	324.9	324.7	0.13
MW498	2	3	324.2	324.4	-0.21
MW500	2	3	324.2	324.2	-0.02
MW502	2	3	324.4	324.6	-0.18
MW503	2	3	324.7	324.7	0.04
MW507	2	3	325.8	325.7	0.10
MW65	2	3	324.0	324.6	-0.65
MW78	2	3	325.0	325.3	-0.30
MW86	2	3	325.3	325.1	0.14
MW89	2	3	325.1	325.2	-0.08
MW92	2	3	325.1	325.2	-0.07
MW95A	2	3	325.5	325.2	0.31
PZ110_(L2toL3)	2	3	325.9	325.8	0.11

### **APPENDIX D**

### REGULATORY COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TO THE 2016 UPDATE OF THE PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT SITEWIDE GROUNDWATER FLOW MODEL, DOE/LX/07-2415&D1

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#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

May 12, 2017

Ms. Tracey Duncan Federal Facility Agreement Manager United States Department of Energy Portsmouth/Paducah Project Site Office 5501 Hobbs Road Kevil, KY 42053

RE: EPA Comments: 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plan Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model, Paducah, Kentucky, (DOE/LX/07-2415&D1), transmittal dated April 3, 2017 (PPPO-02-4106868-17).

**References:** 

- EPA R4 Comments on DOE's draft "D2" GW Model Update Report for the Paducah GDP (submitted December 8, 2016).
- EPA R4 Comments on DOE's draft "D3" GW Model Update Report for the Paducah GDP (submitted January 14, 2017).

#### Dear Ms. Duncan,

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 has reviewed the Department of Energy's (DOE) 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plan Sitewide Groundwater Flow (DOE/LX/07-2415&D1) for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) in McCracken County, Kentucky. In a series of work group meetings and comments letters in 2016 and 2017, the EPA representatives to the modeling work group have provided expert technical feedback on DOE's effort to update the 2012 version of the model. The EPA's representatives to the Groundwater Modeling Work Group are Eva Davis, Ph.D., of the Office of Research and Development (Ada, Oklahoma) and Noman Ahsanuzzaman, Ph.D., P.E., of the Scientific Support Section, Superfund Resource and Scientific Integrity Branch (Region 4). Despite efforts within the work group setting, many of the EPA's key concerns remain unresolved in the April 2017 D1 version of the report: those concerns are resubmitted to the DOE as an enclosure to this letter. In addition to key concerns, additional specific comments on the modeling conditions are provided. Based on our review, the EPA is not able to concur on use of the 2016 Groundwater Flow Model Update (as presented in the April 2017 D1 report) to support project-specific cleanup activities under the PGDP Federal Facility Agreement (FFA). EPA supports moving forward expeditiously to address the recommendations and potential data collection needs developed by the work group (Section 8.2) in support of model revision.

As noted by DOE in the transmittal letter (PPPO-02-4106868-17), the 2016 Groundwater Model Update is not identified as a primary or secondary document under the PGDP FFA. Therefore, 2016 Update report is not subject to EPA approval or to the comment resolution and dispute resolution processes in the FFA at this time. Further, it is EPA's understanding that, due to time and funding limitations, DOE does not intend to address other than editorial comments (such as major concerns that would necessitate additional model calibration runs) between the D1 and D2 versions. Therefore, EPA requests that a complete copy of this comment letter be included as an Appendix in the D2 version of the report. Ms. Tracey Duncan May 12, 2017 Page 2

If you have any questions about the enclosed comments, or wish to schedule a call to discuss the enclosed comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 562-8547 or via electronic mail at corkran.juli@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Colyran

Jule L. Corkran, Ph.D. Federal Facility Agreement Manager Superfund Division

Enclosure

Electronic copy:

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Ms. Tracey Duncan May 12, 2017 Page 3

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#### United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 4 Comments on:

#### 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model DOE/LX/07-2415&D1, April 2017

#### for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky U.S. EPA ID KY8890008982

Comments from Noman Ahsanuzzaman, PhD, PE, Groundwater Hydrologist, Scientific Support Section, Superfund Resource & Scientific Integrity Branch, EPA Region 4

#### Major concerns on the current version of the model

- 1. The major concerns of the model are (i) extremely high hydraulic conductivity values in the plant area along with (ii) the extensive use of the trajectory targets during the model calibration. As a result, the model calibrated excessively high transmissivity zones along the path of the plumes, essentially creating conduits along those directions. Because of these excessively high transmissivity zones, the extraction wells are capturing not only the particles from the C-400 Building but also the particles from all the source locations within the plant area. In reality, this is extremely unlikely, especially when it is known that drawdowns at the extraction wells are minimal even at high pumping rate. A third major concern is that the model calibration only used two (2) stress periods, even though the MWG agreed to use at least five (5) stress periods representing both high and low river stages. EPA has emphasized these concerns in previous comments on earlier drafts of the report and in multiple modeling work group meetings (see Attachments 1 and 2 to this Enclosure). These concerns are detailed in the comments below.
- 2. A major limitation of this model is that the calibration result showed excessively high value of hydraulic conductivity (K) and recharge rate (RR). Since K and RR are directly proportional, a higher RR value would calibrate to a higher K value. EPA asserts that an acceptable calibration could be achieved at lower recharge rates and lower hydraulic conductivity values. The model calibrated both K and RR at or above the estimated range inside the plant boundary. K values inside the plant boundary were calibrated as high as 1000 ft/day or greater, while the RR value was as high as 45 in/year. Although the calibrated K value was within the range the Modeling Work Group (MWG) agreed on, the pump test data inside the plant boundary and downgradient from the C-400 building showed a maximum K value of 175 ft/day (see MW79 and PW1 in Figure 5.2). Please note that all the other data points from the pump test, shown in Figure 5.2, is either outside the plant area or upgradient to the C-400 Building. In addition, the model calibrated from the C-400 steam treatability study (2016) for steam injection showed hydraulic conductivity between 100 and 300 ft/day. It was EPA's understanding that the pump test data, as well as the treatability study data, would have greater influence inside the plant area. However, it is evident from the calibrated model that the transmissivity is at the maximum range almost entirely inside the plant area (see Figure 6.5).

EPA asserts that the automated model calibration tool (i.e., PEST) favored higher K value to accommodate higher recharge rate. Although the initial K value during the automated calibration process was 300 ft/day, the initial RR values for the most dominant recharge zones (i.e., Zones 16, 18 and 24) were at their highest values. Therefore, as soon as the automated calibration began, the model automatically recognized that the K value had to go up to accommodate the highest recharge values. If the recharge rates were restricted to a lower range along with an initial K value of 100 ft/day, the

calibrated model could show a lower combination of K and RR values. During the initial MWG meetings, it was agreed that a calibration for low infiltration rate would also be conducted following the calibration for agreed on RR value of 22 in/yr. It is disappointing that the final modeling process only covered the higher end of the expected range for K and even exceeded the range for approved maximum recharge rate.

- 3. A major limitation of the model is the excessive use of the trajectory targets during model calibration. These targets were used to drive the groundwater flow from the C-400 Building by forcefully changing the direction of flow towards the direction of the plumes. This approach is no different than the 2008 model where a flow conduit was setup along the same path of these trajectory targets by assigning higher hydraulic conductivity values along that path. Because of these trajectory targets, the current model calibrated a channel of higher transmissivity values, effectively conduits, from the C-400 Building along the two plumes (Figure 6.5). Since there are no data available to validate this extremely high contrast in transmissivity values (as shown in Figure 6.5), it is recommended that DOE address this data gap by conducting aquifer pumping tests along the path of the plumes. Also, model output for flux through cross-sections across the two plumes at the plant boundary could be verified against the measured flux from the NW and NE plume extraction wells.
- 4. The implications of Comments 2 and 3 are evident from Figure 6.35 (attached), where it shows that the extraction wells are capturing particles from all the source locations within the plant area. Since the higher transmissivity channels have been created along the flow path towards the extraction wells, all the particles are ending up in the extraction wells. If this has been true, any release of contaminants anywhere within the plant boundary would most likely be captured by these extraction wells. EPA is not aware of any validation data available to support his modeling result. This is a significant line of evidence for why it is not reasonable to accept the results from the current version of the model for use in CERCLA cleanup activities under the PGDP FFA.
- 5. Calibration with stress periods at high river stage are necessary for model robustness. The river stage stays at higher elevations about half of the year. Therefore, it is necessary to calibrate the model for the high river stage as well (i.e., the wet season). Transient river stage does not necessarily mean that groundwater is not at steady-state. As stated in the report, transient river condition might influent the groundwater near the river. Since one of the objectives of the model is to estimate the capture zones around the extraction well networks (see Section 1.1 on page 1), sudden variability of the river stage should not significantly influence groundwater near the extraction wells. The model calibration only used two (2) stress periods, even though the MWG agreed to use at least five (5) stress periods representing both high and low river stages.

#### Specific comments on the modeling conditions

6. Constant or general head boundary condition should be used for the Metropolis Lake instead of assigning an extraordinarily high K value (50,000 ft/d) for the model cells. Such a high K value is driving the groundwater in the direction of the lake, as it is observed in the particle tracking results. Using a head boundary would have much less influence on groundwater moving in the direction of the lake.

- 7. Based on the minimum clay/silt of 30-35% in the entire model domain, it was assumed in the model that the maximum recharge within the site is 29 in/yr. However, the Modeling Work Group (MWG) agreed to allow a maximum of 22 in/yr recharge based on 40% clay/silt and 60% sand/gravel. It is evident from Figure 3.8 that only a small fraction of the plant area is below the 40% clay/sit threshold. The vast majority of the plant area has clay/silt at 50% or greater. That means based on the harmonic mean, a maximum recharge rate of 18 in/yr would be allowable. The MWG never agreed to use the median hydraulic conductivity in addition to the harmonic mean value for recharge estimation. Therefore, EPA recommends that model calibration should limit the recharge rated to a maximum of 22 in/yr.
- 8. It does not appear that the recharge zone for the storm drains (Zone 16) followed the footprint of the HU3 clay unit (see Figures 3.11 and 5.5). In fact, the storm drains are the highest contributor to mass flux of all the anthropogenic recharge boundaries (see Table 6.3). The area covered by these drains should not extend beyond the footprint of the HU3 unit.
- 9. Although the McNairy formation has 2 to 3 orders of lower hydraulic conductivity, it would still be a significant formation for DNAPL source accumulation and plume migration within the McNairy formation. Back diffusion of solvents from the McNairy formation to the Regional Gravel Aquifer (RGA) could be significant as well. Therefore, the exclusion of this potential secondary source zone would be a major limitation if the current version of the groundwater flow model is used simulation is used for solute transport modeling.
- 10. The model allowed excessively high recharge rate for the roof drains (e.g., 30 in/yr). To assume this high recharge into groundwater underneath the large buildings is unrealistic. There should be at least some loss from runoff. EPA understands that these buildings have a thick (ca. 10 ft) gravel underneath the foundation and were flooded occasionally in the past. But just because these buildings have standing water, it does not mean that the recharge rate would be higher than the maximum allowable rate limited by the underlying formation. The soil underneath the gravel would limit the recharge, unless the gravel layer cuts into the RGA. Therefore, lithologic limits (which is ≤ 22 in/yr) should apply to these buildings as well.
- 11. The ratio of the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity does not show a value of 10, as explained in the text. Closer comparison of the data presented in the report shows that the ratio to be between 14 and 20, when the arithmetic and geometric means are compared, respectively. In addition, the model for the C-400 treatability study for steam injection also calibrated the ratio to be in the range of 20 to 30. A higher ratio of the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity would lower the maximum recharge rate allowed in the model as well. Therefore, EPA recommends that DOE update the model calibration with a higher ratio of horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity.
- 12. Calibration statistics presented in Table 3.6 should also show the Scaled Root Mean Squared (RMS) Error inside the plant boundary, since this is the most important area of interest for model calibration. The observed head range inside the plant area would be much smaller than that shown in the table; hence, the Scaled RMS Error could rise. Note that the Scaled RMS Error of greater than 10% would indicate that the calibration of the flow model is not acceptable according to the industry standard.
- 13. The residual values in Figures 6.9 and 6.10 show a number of calibration targets with high residual values inside the plant area. Some of the targets with higher residual errors are located near the southern boundary. Also, west of the C-400 building shows higher residual errors in all three layers Changing the boundary values and/or types might help improve the calibration near the southern boundary.

14. Since the new transect wells are located within the high recharge zone (Zone 24) inside the plant area, it is critical to include the water elevation data from these transect wells in future model calibrations. These transect wells could be used to validate the high recharge rates in Zone 24.

#### Attachment

 Figure 6.35 from the 2016 Update of the Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model, April 2017 (DOE/LX/07-2415&D1)

End of Region 4 Superfund Scientific Support Section Comments

Comments from Eva Davis, Ph.D., EPA Office of Research and Development, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Ada, Oklahoma

#### Major concerns on the current version of the model

 In comments previously offered to the MWG, this reviewer asked how 'robust' the model is, especially given the fact that it was only calibrated to two (2) stress periods. The MWG held discussions during conference calls about the need to calibrate the model to as many stress periods as possible for which DOE had data; however, this was not done. The report alternately describes the model as an 'accurate' representation of groundwater flow within the PGDP Basin under steadystate conditions (Sections 6.9 and 8.1) and 'reasonably' reproducing observed flow directions (Sections 7.1, 8.1). The report text really does not tell the future user of the model much in terms of what would be appropriate uses for the model and what kind of margin of error should be allowed in the results, which are the key questions that the FFA Parties will need to address going forward.

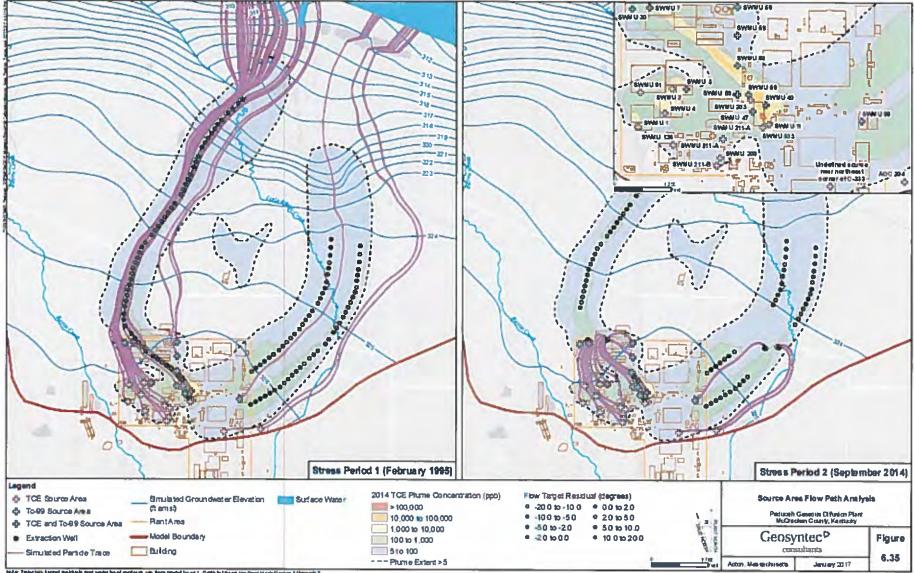
Sections 7.2 and 8.1 state, "Regarding use of the groundwater model for specific project needs, limits on the application of the model for site or project-specific requirements and determinations of the appropriate use of the model should be made by appropriate project personnel on a case-by-case basis." There does not appear to be adequate information in the report to allow others outside of the MWG to make a determination of the appropriateness of the model for a given proposed use.

2. The second to the last bullet of Section 7.2 states, "The steady state model is calibrated to periods of relatively low river stage and provides a reasonable representation of transient conditions but is a less valid representation of site conditions during periods of high precipitation rates when higher and more variable Ohio River stages are observed." The last bullet of Section 8.2 states, "The groundwater system in the PGDP Basin is in a transient state for much of the year except in dry periods typically experienced in the fall."

The MWG had a brief discussion of how much of the time the system was at steady state during the Dec 13, 2016, call. Based on evaluation of the river stage graphs (Figures 3.16 to 3.25), this reviewer estimated that the system was at steady state at about the river stage DOE used for calibration (295 feet) on average approximately 3 months of the year (based on the data presented). From the sensitivity analysis that DOE presented (Figures 6.16 to 6.33), it appears that the plume trajectory is most sensitive to river stage (Figure 6.32), especially under non-pumping conditions – in fact, as far as the particles in the plant area are concerned, river stage appears to have the largest effect on their trajectory. River stage is highly variable – more so in the early part of the year, it appears. Therefore, it is not clear how 'robust' the model is with respect to the conditions of most of the years and the text

in Section 7.2 and 8.2 does not appear to be supported. The fact that large changes in recharge in the plant area (Figures 6.22 to 6.29) do not appear to affect the trajectory of particles in the source area is troubling. Higher groundwater contaminant concentrations than expected (based on previous plume maps) have been detected in first round of transect well sampling (October 2016). Slides 29 to 47 of the February 10 & 11, 2015 work group meeting show a highly complex flow pattern in the RGA in the plant – this is not surprising, due to the anthropogenic recharge in the plant area. Obviously, too, the slides show some variation over time. Yet the sensitivity analysis for the current model shows that differences in recharge rates don't have an effect on particle trajectory in the plant area. The MWG should consider whether this is a case of particles not being released in in the right place to show the variation in flow directions.

#### End of ORD Comments



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### Response to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comments Submitted May 12, 2017, 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model, Paducah, Kentucky, DOE/LX/07-2415&D19 Dated April 3, 2017

**General Response**: As requested in the April 3, 2017 EPA transmittal letter, a complete copy of the comment letter will be included as Appendix D in the D2 version of the report.

#### Major Concerns on the Current Version of the Model

#### Comments from Noman Ahsanuzzaman, PhD, PE

**Comment 1:** The major concerns of the model are (i) extremely high hydraulic conductivity values in the plant area along with (ii) the extensive use of the trajectory targets during the model calibration. As a result, results in the model calibrated excessively high transmissivity zones along the path of the plumes, essentially creating conduits along those directions. Because of these excessively high transmissivity zones, the extraction wells are capturing not only the particles from the C-400 Building but also the particles from all the source locations within the plant area. In reality, this is extremely unlikely, especially when it is known that drawdowns at the extraction wells are minimal even at high pumping rate. A third major concern is that the model calibration only used two (2) stress periods, even though the MWG agreed to use at least five (5) stress periods representing both high and low river stages. EPA has emphasized these concerns in previous comments on earlier drafts of the report and in multiple modeling work group meetings (see Attachments 1 and 2 to this Enclosure). These concerns are detailed in the comments below.

Response 1: Comments and concerns are noted. Please see specific responses below.

**Comment 2:** A major limitation of this model is that the calibration result showed excessively high value of hydraulic conductivity (K) and recharge rate (RR). Since K and RR are directly proportional, a higher RR value would calibrate to a higher K value. EPA asserts that an acceptable calibration could be achieved at lower recharge rates and lower hydraulic conductivity values. The model calibrated both K and RR at or above the estimated range inside the plant boundary. K values inside the plant boundary were calibrated as high as 1000 ft/day or greater, while the RR value was as high as 45 in/year. Although the calibrated K value was within the range the Modeling Work Group (MWG) agreed on, the pump test data inside the plant boundary and downgradient from the C-400 building showed a maximum K value of 175 ft/day (see MW79 and PW1 in Figure 5.2). Please note that all the other data points from the pump test, shown in Figure 5.2, is either outside the plant area or upgradient to the C-400 Building. In addition, the model calibrated from the C-400 steam treatability study (2016) for steam injection showed hydraulic conductivity between 100 and 300 ft/day. It was EPA's understanding that the pump test data, as well as the treatability study data, would have greater influence inside the plant area. However, it is evident from the calibrated model that the transmissivity is at the maximum range almost entirely inside the plant area (see Figure 6.5).

EPA asserts that the automated model calibration tool (i.e., PEST) favored higher K value to accommodate higher recharge rate. Although the initial K value during the automated calibration process was 300 ft/day, the initial RR values for the most dominant recharge zones (i.e., Zones 16, 18 and 24) were at their highest values. Therefore, as soon as the automated calibration began, the model automatically recognized that the K value had to go up to accommodate the highest recharge values. If the

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recharge rates were restricted to a lower range along with an initial K value of 100 ft/day, the calibrated model could show a lower combination of K and RR values. During the initial MWG meetings, it was agreed that a calibration for low infiltration rate would also be conducted following the calibration for agreed on RR value of 22 in/yr. It is disappointing that the final modeling process only covered the higher end of the expected range for K and even exceeded the range for approved maximum recharge rate.

**Response 2:** DOE disagrees with EPA's characterization of the PEST calibration and believes that the presented data supports the accuracy of the calibration. Future efforts to evaluate model calibration should be discussed further with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 3:** A major limitation of the model is the excessive use of the trajectory targets during model calibration. These targets were used to drive the groundwater flow from the C-400 Building by forcefully changing the direction of flow towards the direction of the plumes. This approach is no different than the 2008 model where a flow conduit was setup along the same path of these trajectory targets by assigning higher hydraulic conductivity values along that path. Because of these trajectory targets, the current model calibrated a channel of higher transmissivity values, effectively conduits, from the C-400 Building along the two plumes (Figure 6.5). Since there are no data available to validate this extremely high contrast in transmissivity values (as shown in Figure 6.5), it is recommended that DOE address this data gap by conducting aquifer pumping tests along the path of the plumes. Also, model output for flux through cross-sections across the two plumes at the plant boundary could be verified against the measured flux from the NW and NE plume extraction wells.

**Response 3:** The use of trajectory targets, in addition to flux and head targets, was demonstrated to be an essential element in the calibration process (i.e., the plume trajectories could not be simulated accurately without the use of trajectory targets). Future efforts to collect additional K data in the plant area and evaluate modeled and measured flux will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 4:** The implications of Comments 2 and 3 are evident from Figure 6.35 (attached), where it shows that the extraction wells are capturing particles from all the source locations within the plant area. Since the higher transmissivity channels have been created along the flow path towards the extraction wells, all the particles are ending up in the extraction wells. If this has been true, any release of contaminants anywhere within the plant boundary would most likely be captured by these extraction wells. EPA is not aware of any validation data available to support his modeling result. This is a significant line of evidence for why it is not reasonable to accept the results from the current version of the model for use in CERCLA cleanup activities under the PGDP FFA.

**Response 4:** The size of the capture zone indicated by particle flow paths is a function of transmissivity and recharge specified across the plant area and may indicate that the constraint limitations applied to the PEST calibration are not representative of site conditions (i.e., higher hydraulic conductivity and recharge may be more representative of site conditions). Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 5:** Calibration with stress periods at high river stage are necessary for model robustness. The river stage stays at higher elevations about half of the year. Therefore, it is necessary to calibrate the model for the high river stage as well (i.e., the wet season). Transient river stage does not necessarily mean that groundwater is not at steady-state. As stated in the report, transient river condition might influent the groundwater near the river. Since one of the objectives of the model is to estimate the capture

Page 2 of 8

zones around the extraction well networks (see Section 1.1 on page 1), sudden variability of the river stage should not significantly influence groundwater near the extraction wells. The model calibration only used two (2) stress periods, even though the MWG agreed to use at least five (5) stress periods representing both high and low river stages.

**Response 5:** Water level response to rising and falling river stages is a transient process, such that synoptic water level data collected during periods of variable river stage would not represent the groundwater system during steady state conditions. Use of these transient water levels as calibration targets in a steady state model is not appropriate. Additional continuous water level data collection and sitewide synoptic water level gauging events during different seasons will provide useful information for further evaluation of transient site conditions. As discussed in MWG meetings, the use of two stress periods rather than the five that were identified as suitable for calibration was due to time constraints in the modeling schedule. For the next model update, inclusion of additional stress periods and collection of additional data will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

### **Specific Comments:**

**Comment 6:** Constant or general head boundary condition should be used for the Metropolis Lake instead of assigning an extraordinarily high K value (50,000 ft/d) for the model cells. Such a high K value is driving the groundwater in the direction of the lake, as it is observed in the particle tracking results. Using a head boundary would have much less influence on groundwater moving in the direction of the lake.

**Response 6:** As initially stated in the 2008 modeling report, the lake is conceptualized as a "window into the RGA" that does not act as a net source or sink of groundwater. Using a high K value allows the lake to be represented in this way, while still accounting for the fact that it is a surface water body with flat water levels at the lake surface. This method of simulating a lake using a high contrast hydraulic conductivity zone is a common approach and is well documented in technical literature (e.g., Using High Hydraulic Conductivity Nodes to Simulate Seepage Lakes by Mary P. Anderson, Randall J. Hunt, James T. Krohelski, and Kuopo Chung; Vol. 40, No. 2-GROUND WATER-March-April 2002, pages 117-122). Using constant head boundaries may lead to a net loss or gain of water at Metropolis Lake and would require additional data collection for model input. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 7:** Based on the minimum clay/silt of 30-35% in the entire model domain, it was assumed in the model that the maximum recharge within the site is 29 in/yr. However, the Modeling Work Group (MWG) agreed to allow a maximum of 22 in/yr recharge based on 40% clay/silt and 60% sand/gravel. It is evident from Figure 3.8 that only a small fraction of the plant area is below the 40% clay/sit threshold. The vast majority of the plant area has clay/silt at 50% or greater. That means based on the harmonic mean, a maximum recharge rate of 18 in/yr would be allowable. The MWG never agreed to use the median hydraulic conductivity in addition to the harmonic mean value for recharge estimation. Therefore, EPA recommends that model calibration should limit the recharge rated to a maximum of 22 in/yr.

**Response 7:** It is assumed that the reviewer intended geometric mean when stating harmonic mean. The values in Table 3.5 were provided as a basis for estimating the range of maximum recharge based on

lithologic descriptions. The appropriate statistic for estimating recharge in the plant area has been discussed, but no agreement by the MWG was made regarding a final value. During the model calibration process, the maximum constraints based on the geometric mean were realized, and subsequent simulations used the median values to allow the calibration to find values that were not constraint limited. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 8:** It does not appear that the recharge zone for the storm drains (Zone 16) followed the footprint of the HU3 clay unit (see Figures 3.11 and 5.5). In fact, the storm drains are the highest contributor to mass flux of all the anthropogenic recharge boundaries (see Table 6.3). The area covered by these drains should not extend beyond the footprint of the HU3 unit.

**Response 8:** The recharge zone for the storm drains (Zone 16) follows the footprint of the storm drain piping and is independent of the HU3 clay unit characterization. The calibrated recharge rate is expected to be on the higher end of the range of values calibrated for anthropogenic recharge because of documented leaks and leakage typical to aging storm water systems. The higher contribution to mass flux is based partially on the relatively large footprint of the recharge zone due to the extensive network across the plant area (see Figures 3.11 and 5.5). Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 9:** Although the McNairy formation has 2 to 3 orders of lower hydraulic conductivity, it would still be a significant formation for DNAPL source accumulation and plume migration within the McNairy formation. Back diffusion of solvents from the McNairy formation to the Regional Gravel Aquifer (RGA) could be significant as well. Therefore, the exclusion of this potential secondary source zone would be a major limitation if the current version of the groundwater flow model is used simulation is used for solute transport modeling.

**Response 9:** With respect to groundwater flow, the CSM recognizes limited flow in the McNairy; however, the RGA is the primary conveyor of groundwater from PGDP to the Ohio River. If the model is used to simulate solute transport in the future, then the best method to model back-diffusion from the McNairy formation will be discussed with the MWG. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 10:** The model allowed excessively high recharge rate for the roof drains (e.g., 30 in/yr). To assume this high recharge into groundwater underneath the large buildings is unrealistic. There should be at least some loss from runoff. EPA understands that these buildings have a thick (ca. 10 ft) gravel underneath the foundation and were flooded occasionally in the past. But just because these buildings have standing water, it does not mean that the recharge rate would be higher than the maximum allowable rate limited by the underlying formation. The soil underneath the gravel would limit the recharge, unless the gravel layer cuts into the RGA. Therefore, lithologic limits (which is  $\leq 22$  in/yr) should apply to these buildings as well.

**Response 10:** See Response 7. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 11:** The ratio of the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity does not show a value of 10, as explained in the text. Closer comparison of the data presented in the report shows that the ratio to be between 14 and 20, when the arithmetic and geometric means are compared, respectively. In addition, the model for the C-400 treatability study for steam injection also calibrated the ratio to be in the range of 20 to 30. A higher ratio of the horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity would lower the maximum recharge rate allowed in the model as well. Therefore, EPA recommends that DOE update the model calibration with a higher ratio of horizontal to vertical hydraulic conductivity.

**Response 11:** It is assumed the text referred to is in Section 3.3.1. The 10:1 anisotropy ratio referred to in Section 3.3.1 is related to the value reported for the UCRS (see Figure 13 from the Treatability Study Report, DOE/LX/07-2202&D1, December 2015). The 10:1 ratio used as a basis for estimated maximum recharge based on lithology is an appropriate order of magnitude assumption considering the precision of data relied on to conduct the analysis (e.g., variability of lithologic descriptions from boring logs for multiple purposes by multiple inspectors). The anisotropy ratios reported in the treatability study as high as 30:1 are referring to the RGA. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 12:** Calibration statistics presented in Table 3.6 should also show the Scaled Root Mean Squared (RMS) Error inside the plant boundary, since this is the most important area of interest for model calibration. The observed head range inside the plant area would be much smaller than that shown in the table; hence, the Scaled RMS Error could rise. Note that the Scaled RMS Error of greater than 10% would indicate that the calibration of the flow model is not acceptable according to the industry standard.

**Response 12:** Evaluation of the scaled RMS within the plant area and the applicability of model-wide guidelines in future modeling efforts will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 13:** The residual values in Figures 6.9 and 6.10 show a number of calibration targets with high residual values inside the plant area. Some of the targets with higher residual errors are located near the southern boundary. Also, west of the C-400 building shows higher residual errors in all three layers. Changing the boundary values and/or types might help improve the calibration near the southern boundary.

**Response 13:** The high residual values and the low residual values are distributed across the stress periods and layers. There does not appear to be any obvious bias that could be addressed by "Changing the boundary values and/or types." Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 14:** Since the new transect wells are located within the high recharge zone (Zone 24) inside the plant area, it is critical to include the water elevation data from these transect wells in future model calibrations. These transect wells could be used to validate the high recharge rates in Zone 24.

**Response 14:** Incorporation of these data into the next model evaluation is recommended (Section 8.2, Recommendations). Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

## Major Concerns on the Current Version of the Model

Comments from Eva Davis, PhD

**Comment 1:** In comments previously offered to the MWG, this reviewer asked how 'robust' the model is, especially given the fact that it was only calibrated to two (2) stress periods. The MWG held discussions during conference calls about the need to calibrate the model to as many stress periods as possible for which DOE had data; however, this was not done. The report alternately describes the model as an 'accurate' representation of groundwater flow within the PGDP Basin under steady state conditions (Sections 6.9 and 8.1) and 'reasonably' reproducing observed flow directions (Sections 7.1, 8.1). The report text really does not tell the future user of the model much in terms of what would be appropriate uses for the model and what kind of margin of error should be allowed in the results, which are the key questions that the FFA Parties will need to address going forward.

Sections 7.2 and 8.1 state, "*Regarding use of the groundwater model for specific project needs, limits on the application of the model for site or project-specific requirements and determinations of the appropriate use of the model should be made by appropriate project personnel on a case-by-case basis.*" There does not appear to be adequate information in the report to allow others outside of the MWG to make a determination of the appropriateness of the model for a given proposed use.

**Response 1:** The report provides details of data analysis, model construction and calibration, assumptions and limitations, and additional data needs as a basis for others outside of the MWG to make their own determination of the appropriateness of the model in the context of a specific application. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

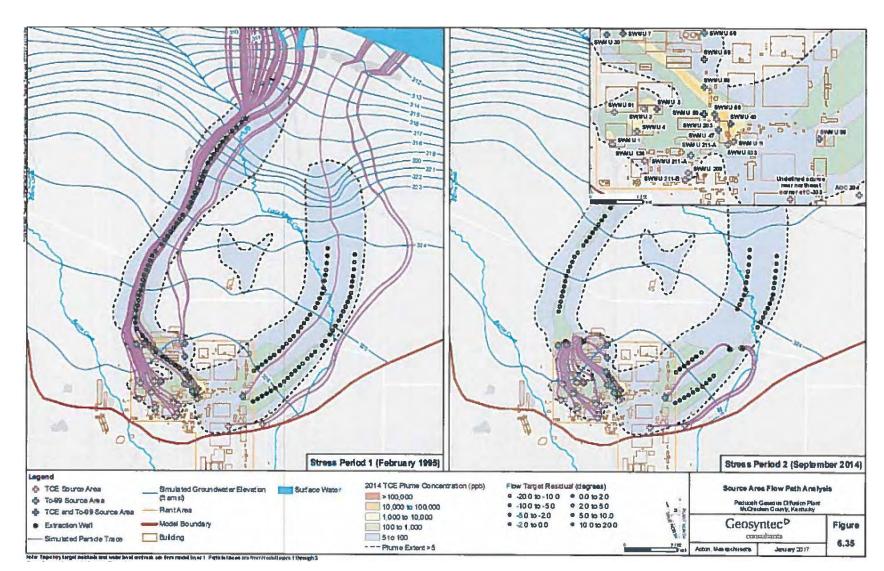
**Comment 2:** The second to the last bullet of Section 7.2 states, "*The steady state model is calibrated to periods of relatively low river stage and provides a reasonable representation of transient conditions but is a less valid representation of site conditions during periods of high precipitation rates when higher and more variable Ohio River stages are observed.*" The last bullet of Section 8.2 states, "*The groundwater system in the PGDP Basin is in a transient state for much of the year except in dry periods typically experienced in the fall.*"

The MWG had a brief discussion of how much of the time the system was at steady state during the Dec 13, 2016, call. Based on evaluation of the river stage graphs (Figures 3.16 to 3.25), this reviewer estimated that the system was at steady state at about the river stage DOE used for calibration (295 feet) on average approximately 3 months of the year (based on the data presented). From the sensitivity analysis that DOE presented (Figures 6.16 to 6.33), it appears that the plume trajectory is most sensitive to river stage (Figure 6.32), especially under non-pumping conditions – in fact, as far as the particles in the plant area are concerned, river stage appears to have the largest effect on their trajectory. River stage is highly variable - more so in the early part of the year, it appears. Therefore, it is not clear how 'robust' the model is with respect to the conditions of most of the years and the text in Section 7.2 and 8.2 does not appear to be supported. The fact that large changes in recharge in the plant area (Figures 6.22 to 6.29) do not appear to affect the trajectory of particles in the source area is troubling. Higher groundwater contaminant concentrations than expected (based on previous plume maps) have been detected in first round of transect well sampling (October 2016). Slides 29 to 47 of the February 10 & 11, 2015 work group meeting show a highly complex flow pattern in the ROA in the plant – this is not surprising, due to the anthropogenic recharge in the plant area. Obviously, too, the slides show some variation over time. Yet the sensitivity analysis for the current model shows that differences in recharge rates don't have an effect on particle trajectory in the plant area. The MWG should consider whether this is a case of particles not being released in in the right place to show the variation in flow directions.

**Response 2:** Additional continuous water level data collection is recommended to evaluate transient response to river stage. Collection of synoptic water levels during different times of the year and assessment of 2016 transect data are recommended to improve understanding of sitewide seasonal flow conditions as well as the location of the apparent divide near the new monitoring well transect. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.







## Response to Kentucky Division of Waste Management Comments Submitted May 5, 2017, 2016 Update of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Sitewide Groundwater Flow Model, Paducah, Kentucky, DOE/LX/07-2415&D1 Dated April 3, 2017

## **Specific Comments:**

**Comment 1, page 3, Figure 1.2:** There was discussion at the March 23rd meeting regarding the RGA not thinning as it approaches the OH River. KY recalls that DOE would confirm cross section is representative of depiction. KY agreed instead of modifying the figure that DOE would add notes to the figure informing reader of RGA conceptual model.

**Response 1:** A note has been added to Figure 1.2 to indicate variability in RGA thickness and to refer the reader to the RGA thickness map in Figure 3.4.

**Comment 2, page 3, Figure 1.2:** Figure is difficult to read (especially in printed version). Larger print should be used.

**Response 2:** Figure is reformatted to 11x17 size to improve readability.

**Comment 3, page 5, Figure 1.4:** Previous figures list the Upper Continental Deposits as "Upper Continental Deposit/Regional Gravel Aquifer." Consider revising for consistency.

**Response 3:** The response assumes the reviewer intended the revision to read, "Upper Continental Deposits/Metropolis Formation," rather than the "Upper Continental Deposits/Regional Gravel Aquifer." This assumption was confirmed in the May 31, 2017, MWG meeting. The suffix, "/Metropolis Formation," is added to "Upper Continental Deposits."

**Comment 4, page 5, Figure 1.4:** Previous figures list the Lower Continental Deposits as "Lower Continental Deposit/Regional Gravel Aquifer." Consider revising for consistency.

**Response 4:** The suffix "/RGA" is added to "Lower Continental Deposits"; the acronym is used due to space limitations.

**Comment 5, Section 3, page 13:** Please expand the 2016 model descriptions to include all of the 2016 updates. Additional synoptic water levels, revised GW Model boundary, MW datum surveys, stream info, OH River stage, New MWs, additional isopach thickness maps, etc. (reference list from 3-23-17 mtg)

**Response 5:** The following sentence was added to the end of the first paragraph in Section 3. "Specifically, model revisions were made to RGA elevations and thickness; the location of the southern model boundary; recharge along the southern boundary to account for inflow from the Terrace Gravel; anthropogenic recharge rates and zonation; water level calibration targets (additional synoptic gauging events, monitoring wells, and monitoring well datum surveys); and Ohio River and creek boundary conditions."

Comment 6, Section 3.1.1, page 13: Add a comma after KRCEE and before referred.

Page 1 of 7

**Response 6:** The suggested edit is made.

Comment 7, Section 3.1.1, page 13: Lower case "u" in the word update.

**Response 7:** "Update" is changed to "update."

**Comment 8, page 14, Figure 3.1:** Figure 3.1 is difficult to read. Please consider using a higher resolution image.

**Response 8:** The figure is replaced with a revised figure received from Steve Hampson on May 31, 2017. Per Steve: "The figure represents continued characterization and discretization of UCRS/HU2 materials as of the end of January 2017. Clarity is problem with source doc for figure and is what it is. Color in column is intentional per text discussion."

**Comment 9, page 14, Figure 3.1:** Colors were to be removed. Steve Hampson distributed a revised version of the map during the 3-23-17 meeting.

**Response 9:** See Response to Comment 8.

**Comment 10, page 15, Figure 3.2:** Add "2016" to Model Boundary in legend. (general comment and applies to other figures)

**Response 10:** "2016" has been added to Model Boundary in legend in Figure 3.2 and all subsequent figures that include the 2016 model boundary.

Comment 11, page 17, Figure 3.4: Add "2016" to Model Boundary in Legend.

**Response 11:** "2016" has been added to Model Boundary in legend.

**Comment 12, Section 3.2, para. 1, page 18:** Use of LIDAR data not clear (source reference? resolution?) Recommend modifying sentence

**Response 12:** LIDAR data source has been cited in the text. Detail regarding resolution has been added to the text.

Comment 13, Section 3.2, para. 3, page 18: Add "WHAT" website reference.

**Response 13:** Web site reference is added as a footnote in first sentence of the paragraph.

Comment 14, Section 3.2, para. 4, page 18: Need additional data points from Station 45.

**Response 14:** Clarification of this comment was provided by Chris Jung in the May 31, 2017, MWG meeting. The reviewer intended to request that collection of additional streamflow data be considered in future modeling efforts. Consideration for these data is included as a recommendation in Section 8.2.

**Comment 15, page 20, Figure 3.6:** Mention that LIDAR data was retrieved from this site to define the basins.

**Response 15:** A footnote has been added to Figure 3.6 to explain that LIDAR was retrieved from the cited Web site.

Page 2 of 7

**Comment 16, page 21, Table 3.1:** Add website reference for data. Consider adding and explanation regarding how the table was populated based off the data available from WHAT website.

**Response 16:** A footnote was added to Table 3.1 with the Web site reference, and another footnote was added with a reference to a description of the base flow estimation methods used to populate the table using USGS daily stream flow data.

**Comment 17, page 24, Table 3.2:** Text needs some explanation about why the east and west basins differ in recharge amounts.

**Response 17:** An explanation has been included in Section 3.2. Brian Begley rescinded this comment in the May 31, 2017, MWG meeting after rereading the text. No response is needed.

**Comment 18, Section 33.1, para. 2, page 25:** Statement is inconsistent with Table 3.3 and MW 128 which is classified as being transitional for lithology.

**Response 18:** The data for MW128 was not used in the calculations and has been removed from Table 3.3 for consistency.

Comment 19, Section 33.1, para. 2, page 25: Could use some text on how slug test were performed.

**Response 19:** Text has been added indicating that slug tests were performed on site monitoring wells during field investigations conducted in 1991 and 1992 using either a pneumatic displacement device or a displacement cylinder. Citation to the source reports, DOE 1991 and DOE 1992, also was included.

Comment 20, page 26, Table 3.3: Would like to see the date the slug test was performed.

**Response 20:** See Response to Comment 19.

Comment 21, page 26, Table 3.3: Add definition for Transitional lithology.

**Response 21:** The data for MW128 was not used in the calculations and has been removed from Table 3.3 for consistency along with the reference to transitional lithology. See Response to Comment 18.

Comment 22, page 26, Table 3.3: Recommend highlighting in grey.

**Response 22:** Rather than highlight in gray, the highlight has been removed from the table, and the footnote indicator for Footnote 4 was moved after the duplicate hydraulic conductivity value was reported in the table.

**Comment 23, Section 3.3.2, page 36, para. 2:** KY would like a copy of the "Andy Anderson" email placed in the appendix, perhaps at the end of the scoping notes that it is associated with. In the document please refer to the e-mails location in the document.

**Response 23:** The A. Anderson e-mails referred to in the text have been added to Appendix A. The text was revised to indicate that the e-mails are included in Appendix A.

Comment 24, Section 3.3.2, page 36, para. 5, bullets: Add text regarding surrounding bedding materials.

**Response 24:** New text, "and surrounding bedding material," was added to the first three bullets that relate to piping systems.

**Comment 25, Section 3.3.2, page 36, para. 5, bullets:** Have the roof drain systems been repaired? Please add text to indicate repair dates.

**Response 25:** Information regarding roof drain repair has not been compiled. A bullet to include collection of these data has been added to Section 8.2, "Recommendations." Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

Comment 26, Section 3.3.2, page 37, para. 3: Note for future model. At least some of the roof drains have been repaired.

**Response 26:** See response to Comment 25.

**Comment 27, Section 3.4, page 37, para. 1:** Specify water level gauging events that were used or location of data in report. The rationale for choosing certain water level gauging events over others could provided so the reader and future modeling project teams can better understand why some data sets were used and others were not.

**Response 27:** Text was added to indicate the criteria for choosing specific data sets for calibration and that the data selected for calibration and validation is identified in Table 3.7.

Comment 28, Section 3.4, page 37, para. 1: Replace "is" with "are"

**Response 28:** Suggested edit is made.

**Comment 29, page 39, Figure 3.13:** Consider changing title to: Calibration Target Monitoring Well Network

**Response 29:** The title is revised to "Sitewide Synoptic Event RGA Monitoring Wells" to indicate that the network represents the synoptic event wells that were evaluated for use as calibration targets. The calibration target network is shown on Figures 6.1 and 6.2. "RGA" was added to the title of Figure 3.13 as well as Figure 3.12 to specify the hydrogeologic unit.

**Comment 30, page 39, Figure 3.13:** Define: shallow, intermediate, and deep monitoring wells. Verify that all MWs are depicted and accounted for. If not, explain why wells were excluded or change the title of the figure to something other than sitewide monitoring well network. Please referback to the GW Modeling Meeting from March 23, 2017.

**Response 30:** See Response to Comment 29. Figures 3.12, 3.13, and 5.3 have been revised to include the range of screen midpoint elevations used to define the shallow, intermediate, and deep intervals.

**Comment 31, Section 3.4, page 41, para. 2:** Would the vertical datums for NGVD29 & COE1912 be different? Are they not tied to a common datum? Provide additional text for clarifications consistent with discussions from March 23rd meeting.

**Response 31:** The following text is added for clarification: "The difference between the COE1912 datum and the NGVD1929 datum varies spatially, and a simple conversion is not available.

Comparison of the data from the two stations still is useful to evaluate approximate differences and identify the limitation of the Paducah data during periods of low river stage."

**Comment 32, page 42, Figure 3.14:** It would be helpful to have the gauging stations and the wicket gate represented on a map.

**Response 32:** A map depicting the locations of the gauges relative to the site has been added to Figure 3.14. The term "low flow wicket" was used early in the data review process and river stage elevation control at the Paducah Station since has been associated more accurately with Dam No. 52. Consequently, the term "low flow wicket" has been replaced with Dam No. 52 in the text and is depicted on Figure 3.14 in place of the wicket gate.

**Comment 33, page 57, Figure 4.2:** Conceptual Site Models often appear in various documents with no way to identify date of origin or version control. Consider placing a date (like that on plume interpretations) to signify to the reader the date the conceptual model was last modified. See figure 1.2 for comment regarding RGA depiction.

**Response 33:** The year (2017) was added to the title, and footnote was added describing the variability of the RGA thickness (see response to Response to Comment 1).

**Comment 34, Section 5.2, page 63, para. 3:** Recommend for clarification: ,the creeks will be discussed in section 5.3.2 Recharge Zonation."

**Response 34:** The phrase, "..., the creeks will be discussed in Section 5.3.2, Recharge Zonation." has been replaced with "..., details regarding configuration of the upper reaches of the creeks are included in Section 5.3.2, Recharge Zonation."

Comment 35, Section 6.2.3, Page 77, para. 1: Replace u/L with ug/L

**Response 35:** The units appear to be reported in  $\mu$ g/L, will confirm with editors.

Comment 36, Section 6.2.4, page 77, para. 2: Add kriging method used. looks like regularization kriging was used?

**Response 36:** Text is revised to indicate that ordinary kriging was used.

Comment 37, Section 6.2.4, page 77, para. 2: Include Pest version number.

**Response 37:** Added version from PEST output file (Version 13.6) to the introductory paragraph of Section 6.

**Comment 38, page 85, Table 6.2:** General comment to verify that significant figures in tables are not being truncated by a rounding function. For example some of the 0.0 values depicted in tables have values but due to excel rounding function they are displayed as 0.0.

**Response 38:** Table was revised to ensure significant figures are depicted.

**Comment 39, page 133, Table 6.7:** Add annual precipitation for 2016 and two additional figures were identified for conforming changes at the March 23, 2017 meeting.

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**Response 39:** The annual precipitation for 2016 was added to Tables 3.7 and 6.7, and Figures 3.15 and 3.25 have been revised to include the full 2016 dataset.

**Comment 40, Section 6.9, page 145, para. 2:** "accurate representation" might be a little too strong a statement. KY recommends deleting "accurate".

**Response 40:** Recommended edit has been made. To be consistent, the same edit has been made to "accurate representation" in the first line of Section 8.1, Conclusions.

**Comment 41, Section 8.2, page 155, para. 7:** Additional slug test performed on a selection of appropriate monitoring wells will better define hydraulic conductivity across the model domain. Future discussions should include selecting an appropriate slug test method and criteria for selecting test wells.

**Response 41:** An additional bullet has been added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2, Recommendations, page 156. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 42, Section 8.2, page 156, para. 7:** To better understand the groundwater flow north of the site the TVA monitoring system data should be verified (especially datums) and used in future models.

**Response 42:** An additional bullet is added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2 Recommendations, page 157. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 43, Section 8.2, page 156, para. 9:** Perhaps the installation of piezometers beneath several of the large buildings to determine thickness of gravel and if water fluctuates over time.

**Response 43:** An additional bullet is added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2 Recommendations, page 157. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 44, Section 8.2, page 157:** Various components of a Water Balance Study can reduce uncertainty in regards to better understanding anthropogenic recharge.

**Response 44:** An additional bullet is added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2 Recommendations, page 157. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

**Comment 45, Section 8.2, page 157:** Additional MWs can be installed inside and outside of the plants industrial area to reduce uncertainty in regards to groundwater flow direction and chemical concentrations. The data can also be used to help in identifying additional contaminant sources (especially associated with the NE Plume) which the current model suggests.

**Response 45:** An additional bullet is added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2 Recommendations, page 157. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.

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**Comment 46, Section 8.2., page 157:** Additional Soil Borings and/or MWs can be installed to further refine the model boundary.

**Response 46:** This recommendation already is included in the report in the first bullet of Section 8.2: "To reduce uncertainty at the contact area between the Terrace Gravel and the UCRS in the vicinity of the southern model boundary, additional monitoring well installation may be considered to collect water level and soil boring information."

## Comment 47, Section 8.2., page 157: Conduct tracer tests to further define groundwater divide.

**Response 47:** An additional bullet is added to the list of recommendations in Section 8.2 Recommendations, page 157. Future modeling efforts and additional data collection will be discussed with the MWG to address the limitations/uncertainties identified, and any decisions will be dependent upon the risk of not addressing the uncertainty and the availability of funding.