



EPA Region V and ITRC

“ITRC – Promoting better decisions while shaping the future of regulatory acceptance for innovative environmental technologies and approaches”



EPA Region V includes: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin

The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is a state-led coalition working together with federal partners, industry, academia and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of innovative environmental technologies and approaches. Through the development of consensus-based tools and resources ITRC's state-led technical teams provide information to facilitate confident technical decision-making on environmental issues in the states. The ITRC was created in 1995 by the Committee to Develop On-Site Innovative Technologies under the Western Governors' Association. Today, ITRC is a committee formed under the bylaws of the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS), which is the research and educational arm of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS).

ITRC tools and resources help EPA Region V save time and money:

- ***Passive Diffusion Bag Sampling leads to big savings-*** Boyd Possin, president of the Wisconsin Ground Water Association, believes ITRC to be a valuable asset to the environmental cleanup community. Passive Diffusion Bag samplers in groundwater “could result in potential savings of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually by using the technology,” states Mr. Possin who attended ITRC training in this topic.
- ***ITRC promotes new ways to address contamination-*** Over 1,100 trees were planted in two different locations chasing PERC and TCE/TCA. Rich Lange, Illinois EPA, suggested that the Phytoremediation ITRC promotes “awoke enthusiasm for a new technology implemented in an old way. The newsletter from ITRC is a wonderful way to pursue new technology implementation.”
- ***Permeable Reactive Barriers could save up to \$100,000 –*** “Information is wonderful! That ITRC exists and covers PRB use was a boon to the acceptance of the technology. It is interesting to track emerging and expanding technologies and the efforts of those using them,” Steve Carlson of STS Consultants in Minnesota said. He participated in the ITRC *Advanced Techniques for Permeable Reactive Barrier* internet training. He noted “the experience was beneficial in describing the utility of an application to the regulator.”
- ***ITRC Phytotechnologies Internet Training valuable in Michigan-*** “Using information from ITRC training and guidance documents could result in savings of up to \$100, 000,” says William Harmon, Michigan DEQ regulator. He is working with the Copper Range Company site in White Mine, Michigan.
- ***ITRC In Situ Chemical Oxidation (ISCO) training and documents in Wisconsin-*** ITRC guidance documents and training are being used to educate stakeholders involved with a northwest Wisconsin site that has a TCE contaminated plume some two miles long which is affecting a number of homes. Patrick Collins, Wisconsin DNR, is using information gained from the ITRC training and documents to assist in testing and projected implementation of ISCO at the site. “As a regulator, we want to use ITRC products to enhance our knowledge, and the knowledge of those who work with us, to ensure everyone is asking the right questions, ultimately to get the most cost effective use of our state money,” Mr. Collins exclaimed.

Through ITRC EPA Region V states leverage resources from across the country:

- EPA Region V environmental experts receive free on-line training – 2,200 participants trained in EPA Region V states
- Classroom training, free to regulators, brings hands-on tools to better prepare environmental professionals to make better decisions- Over 250 participants have been trained from EPA Region V
- EPA Region V states share expertise by participating on ITRC technical teams and in return these states have access to a national network of experts

EPA Region V states use of ITRC resources leads to better decision-making:

- Improved permitting processes
- ITRC information leads to faster cleanup decisions
- ITRC experts provide knowledge transfer and guidance on complex issues
- Members dedicated to optimizing state resources and reducing compliance costs while protecting human health and the environment

ITRC creates a cultural shift in the way cleanup is planned & implemented:

- Reduces regulatory barriers for the use of innovative technologies for environmental remediation through guidance documents and sharing of technical expertise
- Leads a culture change in environmental decision-making, replacing long-standing adversarial relationships with collaboration, consensus and concurrence

Additional Information:

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