INSIGHT GAINED FROM DETAILED EMPIRICAL DATA ANALYSES:
BACKGROUND AND ATTENUATION FACTORS

DR. IAN HERS
Golder Associates Ltd.
500 - 4260 Still Creek Drive
Burnaby, BC V5C 6C6 CANADA
(604) 296-4200
Ian_Hers@golder.com

In 2002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued draft vapor intrusion guidance (Draft Guidance for Evaluating the Vapor Intrusion to Indoor Air Pathway from Groundwater and Soils; U.S. EPA, 2002) that was based on the understanding of vapor intrusion at that time. A critical piece of that document, the generic attenuation values used for Tier 2 screening of concentrations in subsurface media, was based on a statistical analysis of a limited number of observations from a few sites.

Since 2002, EPA has been collecting additional observations from vapor intrusion sites to improve our knowledge and understanding of vapor intrusion as well as background levels of chemicals of concern. More specifically, EPA has designed, developed, and managed a database to store and analyze data collected at vapor intrusion sites.

This presentation provides updated information about the database (i.e., design, structure, and content) and discussion of how that data might be used in future vapor intrusion assessment or regulatory guidance.