



# **NASA JPL – Operable Unit 2 (OU-2)**

## **Summary Presentation**

**Proposed Plan  
for Cleanup of Soils at the National  
Aeronautics and Space Administration  
(NASA) Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL),  
Pasadena, California**



# Public Meeting Participants

- Peter Robles                      NASA Management Office
- Richard Zuromski                Naval Facilities Engineering Command
- Mark Ripperda                    U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Richard Gebert                    Department of Toxic Substances Control
- David Young                        Regional Water Quality Control Board



# Summary of Presentation

- Site Description
- Regulatory Framework
- Site Assessment and Investigation Activities
- Remedial Activities and the Proposed Remedial Alternative
- Questions and Comments



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## Site Description

- Site active since 1939
- 1940-50s: Seepage pits used for waste disposal
- Late 1950s to Early 1960s: Sewer system replaces seepage pits
- 1992: Site added to U.S. EPA's National Priorities List (NPL)

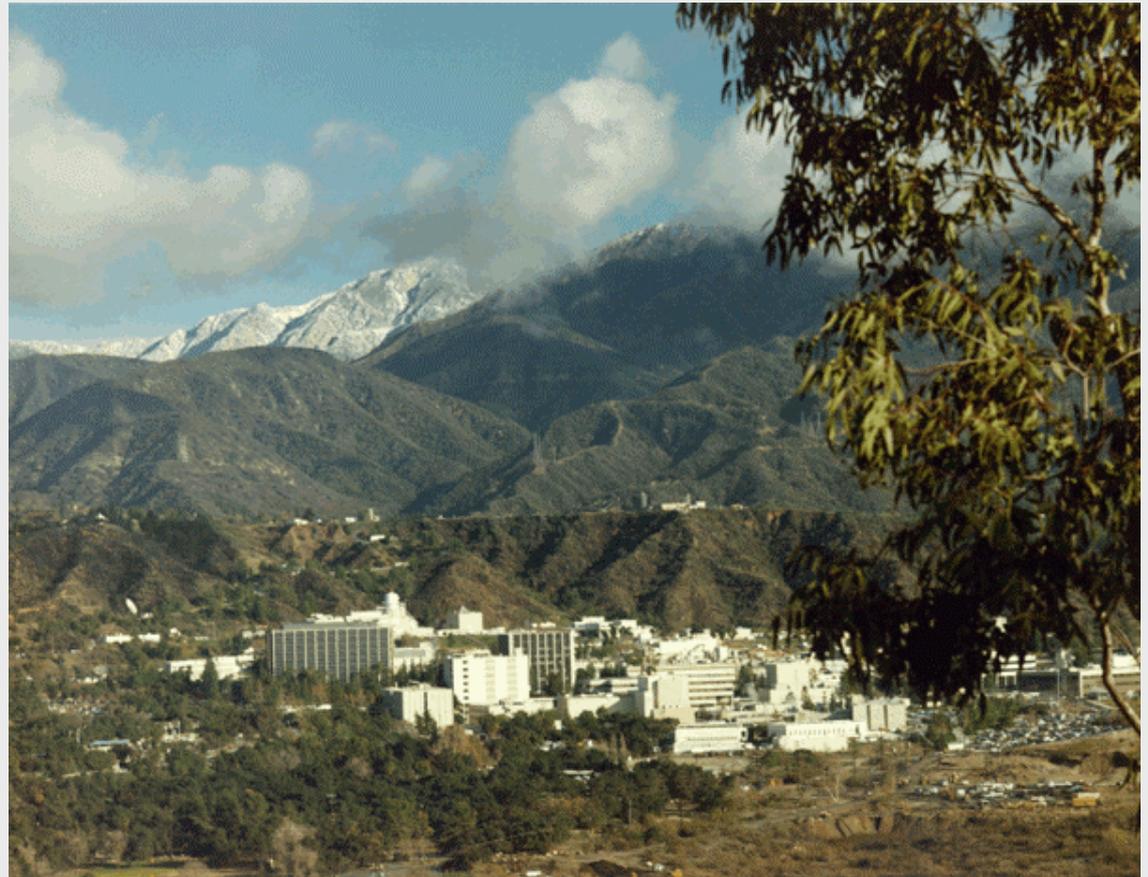




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### Current Activities

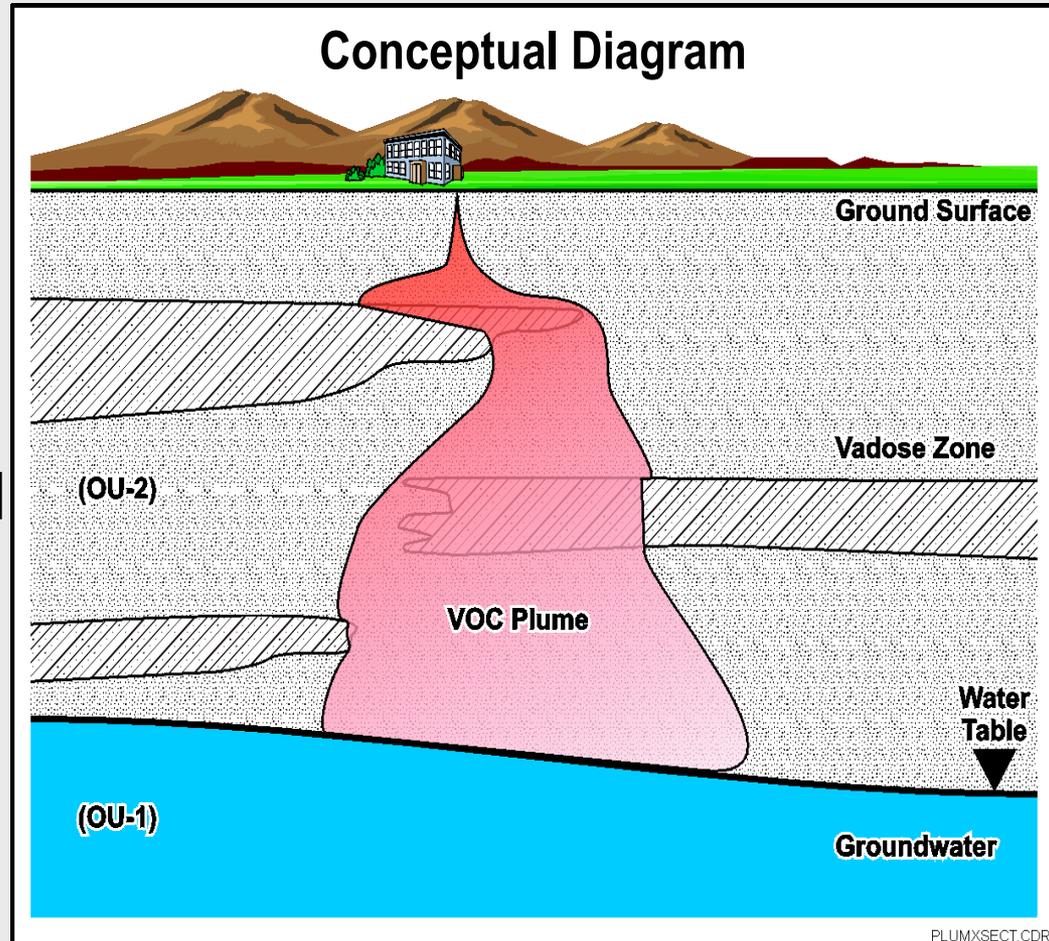
- Current lab activities meet all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.





## Site Description

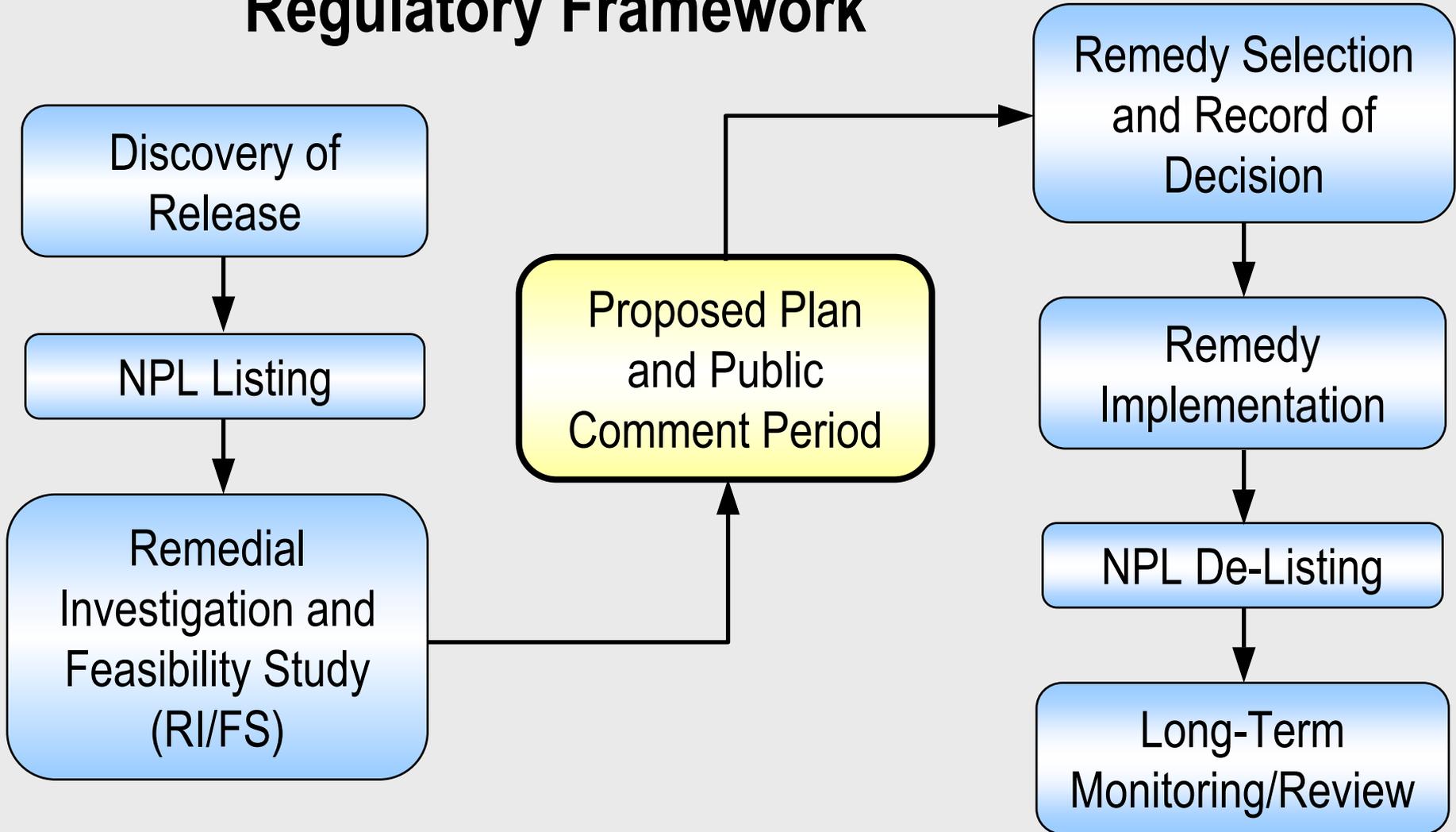
- OU-2 consists of vadose zone soil containing chlorinated solvents and other chemicals.
- Vadose Zone - Soil zone located between the ground surface and water table.
- NASA intends to address groundwater issues separately.





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## Regulatory Framework





# Regulatory Framework

The public comment period provides an opportunity for YOU to get involved!

- Stay informed of ongoing site investigation activities.
- Understand the proposed course of action for site cleanup.
- Provide questions, comments, and/or concerns.

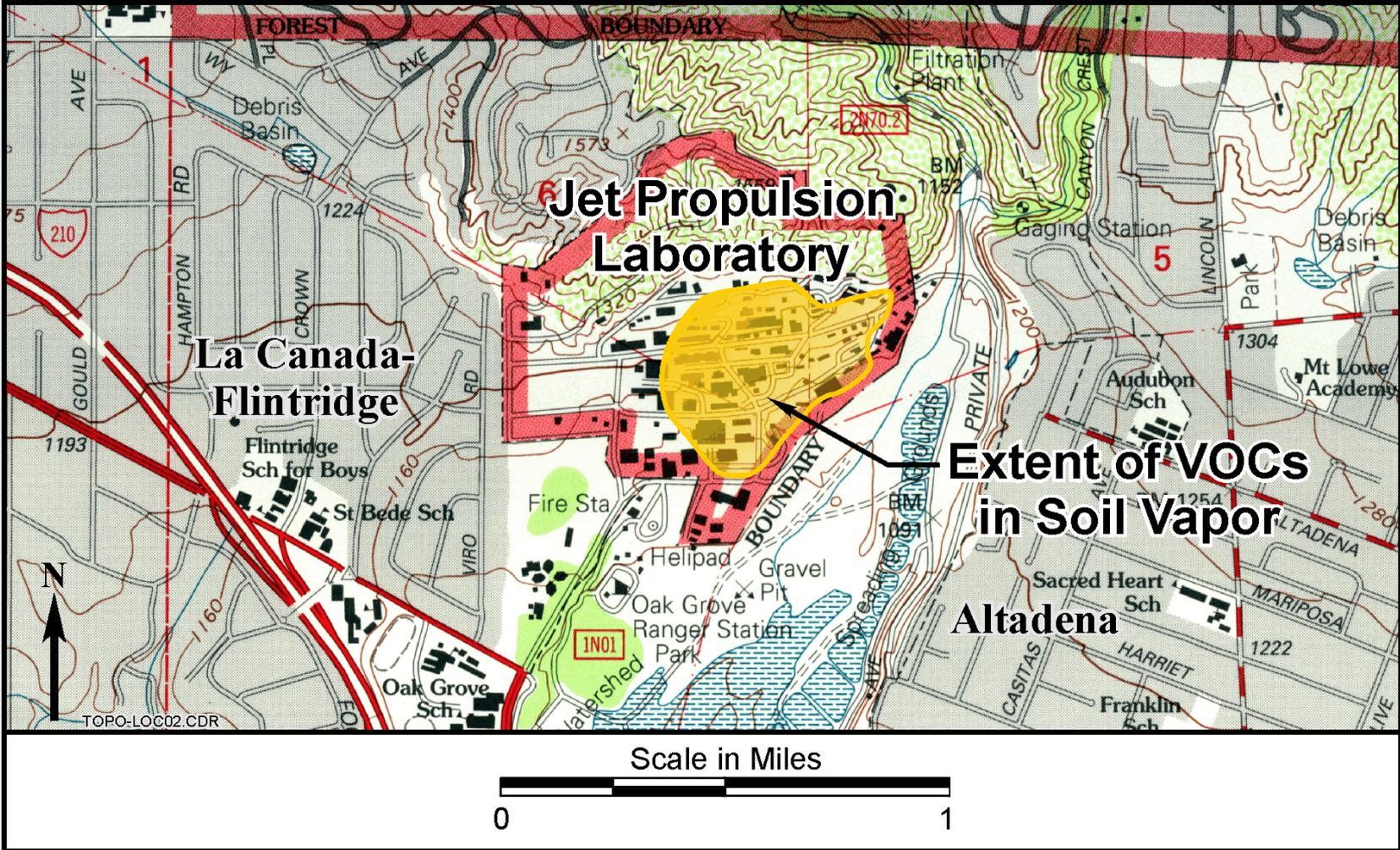


# Site Assessment and Investigation Activities

- Remedial Investigation
  - Identified the extent of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soil and distribution in soil vapor.
- Risk Assessment
  - Determined that the risks associated with direct exposure to surface soils and soil vapor are within accepted regulatory thresholds.
  - Determined that VOCs are present at levels that may migrate to groundwater.



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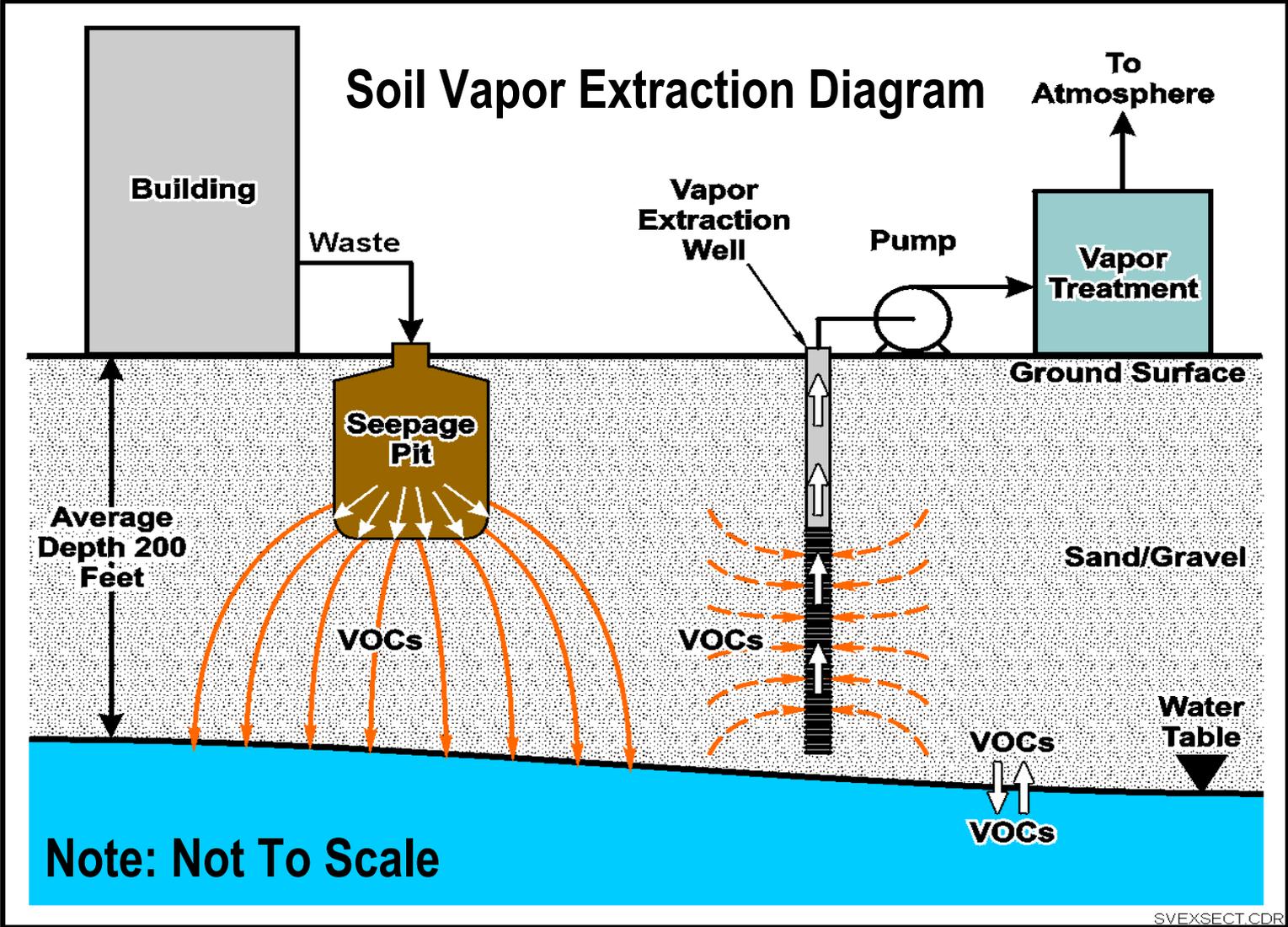
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# Remedial Activities and the Proposed Remedial Alternative

- Remedial Objective: Prevent VOC migration to groundwater
- Remediation technology evaluation
  - Alternative 1: No Further Action (NFA) with Continued Monitoring
  - Alternative 2: Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) with Continued Monitoring
- Conducted pilot study for soil vapor extraction. Over 200 lb of VOCs have been removed during 14 months of operation.



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# Proposed Alternative (Alternative 2): Soil Vapor Extraction

### Advantages:

- Reduces the volume and mobility of VOCs.
- Groundwater is protected from VOC vapor migration.
- Technology is well-established with demonstrated effectiveness (U.S. EPA Presumptive Remedy).

### Limitations:

- Estimated cost at \$3,816,000 is greater than Alternative 1, but not prohibitive.



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### Questions and Comments

- Tell us what you think about the proposed remedy:  
Alternative 2: Soil Vapor Extraction
- Please direct questions/comments to the moderator or contact Peter Robles, Jr. at:

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