

NEWS from 

REGENESIS

Leaders in Accelerated Natural Attenuation

RegenesiS ■ 1011 Calle Sombra, San Clemente, CA 92673 ■ 949.366.8000 ■ www.regenesis.com

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Press contact: Serena Siegfried, 212/873-1944

REGENESIS' HRC® TO BE USED BY SAFETY & ECOLOGY CORP. FOR SOIL AND GROUNDWATER CLEANUP AT OHIO DOE SITE

SAN CLEMENTE, CA, April 8, 2002 – Safety & Ecology Corporation (SEC), a Knoxville-based environmental firm specializing in radiological and hazardous waste sites, has been awarded a \$500,000 contract by Earthline Technologies, Inc., to clean up a trichloroethene (TCE) solvent plume at the Department of Energy's Ashtabula Environmental Management Project in Ohio. SEC will use a rapid-acting, low-cost bioremediation technology to perform the work, by injecting RegenesiS' **Hydrogen Release Compound (HRC®)** into saturated soil and groundwater to speed the natural biodegradation of the TCE into nonhazardous end products. Additionally, studies at Argonne National Laboratories (Argonne, IL) and Northwestern University (Evanston, IL) have shown HRC to facilitate the biological reduction and immobilization of radionuclides currently migrating out of this remediation zone at the Ashtabula site.

HRC is a food-grade polylactate ester specially formulated to provide a time-released source of hydrogen. When the viscous, honey-like substance is applied into the subsurface, usually by direct injection, contact with water causes it to slowly release lactic acid over an extended period of up to 18 months. Native, anaerobic bacteria thrive upon the lactic acid and convert it to hydrogen; the hydrogen is then used by another group of microbes to strip chlorine molecules from the contaminant, thus dechlorinating the harmful substance.



TCE-contaminated soil at the federal Department of Energy's Ashtabula Environmental Management Project, a former uranium fabrication plant, will be remediated with an enhanced bioremediation process, using RegenesiS' HRC® (Hydrogen Release Compound) to stimulate microbial growth.

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SEC REGENESIS' HRC® TO BE USED BY SAFETY & ECOLOGY CORP. FOR SOIL AND GROUNDWATER CLEANUP AT OHIO DOE SITE, page 2

The Ashtabula project, in northeast Ohio, encompasses land and buildings belonging to the RMI Titanium Company Extrusion Plant (formerly Reactive Metals, Inc.). Starting in 1962 RMI, under contract to the federal government, received shipments of uranium metal, as well as experimental quantities of thorium, which were formed into metallic uranium tubes, rods and forged uranium parts for the Cold War nuclear weapons program. By 1988, when the 42-acre plant closed, its 25 buildings and the surrounding soil and groundwater were extensively contaminated with uranium, technetium-99 (a fission product from recycled reactor material) and other (non-radioactive) hazardous chemicals including TCE. DOE then contracted with Earthline, an RMI subsidiary, to deactivate and decommission the facilities, clean up the site and prepare it for future industrial use.

Site closure is scheduled for 2003, with final uranium cleanup levels expected to be less than 30 pCi/g (30 trillionths of a curie per gram) in soil. The Department of Energy will then end its presence in Ashtabula, leaving the Extrusion Plant site clean and suitable for heavy manufacturing, for which the area is zoned.

Incorporated in 1994, Regenesis is the world's leading developer and distributor of products used to restore contaminated groundwater and soil through accelerated natural attenuation (bioremediation). Regenesis' products, Oxygen Release Compound (ORC®) and Hydrogen Release Compound (HRC®), have been used to remove a wide range of groundwater contaminants, ranging from gasoline, MTBE, and chlorinated solvents to nitroaromatic explosives and heavy metals, from over 7,000 sites across the U.S. and around the world. Readers are invited to call Regenesis at 949-366-8000 or visit their website at www.regenesis.com to arrange a free site evaluation for the application of ORC® and/or HRC®.

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