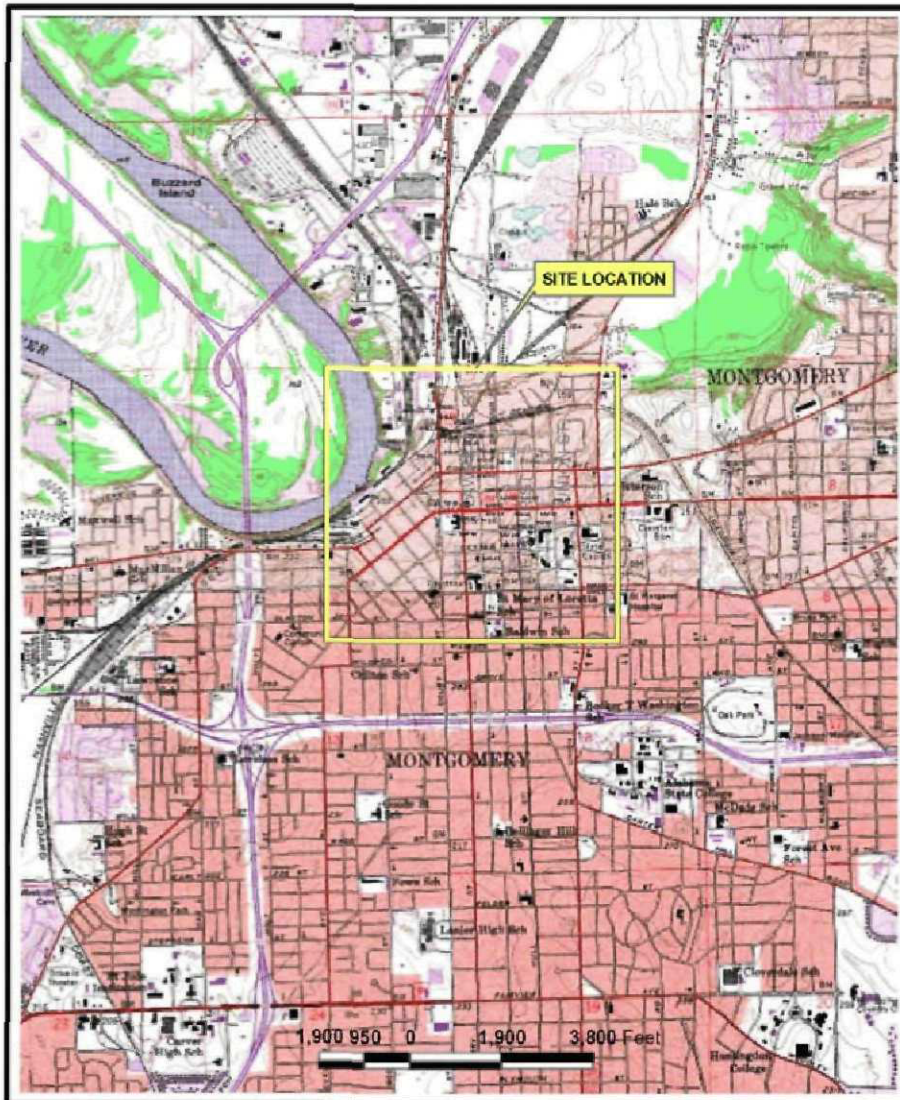


Capital City Plume

Montgomery, Montgomery County, AL

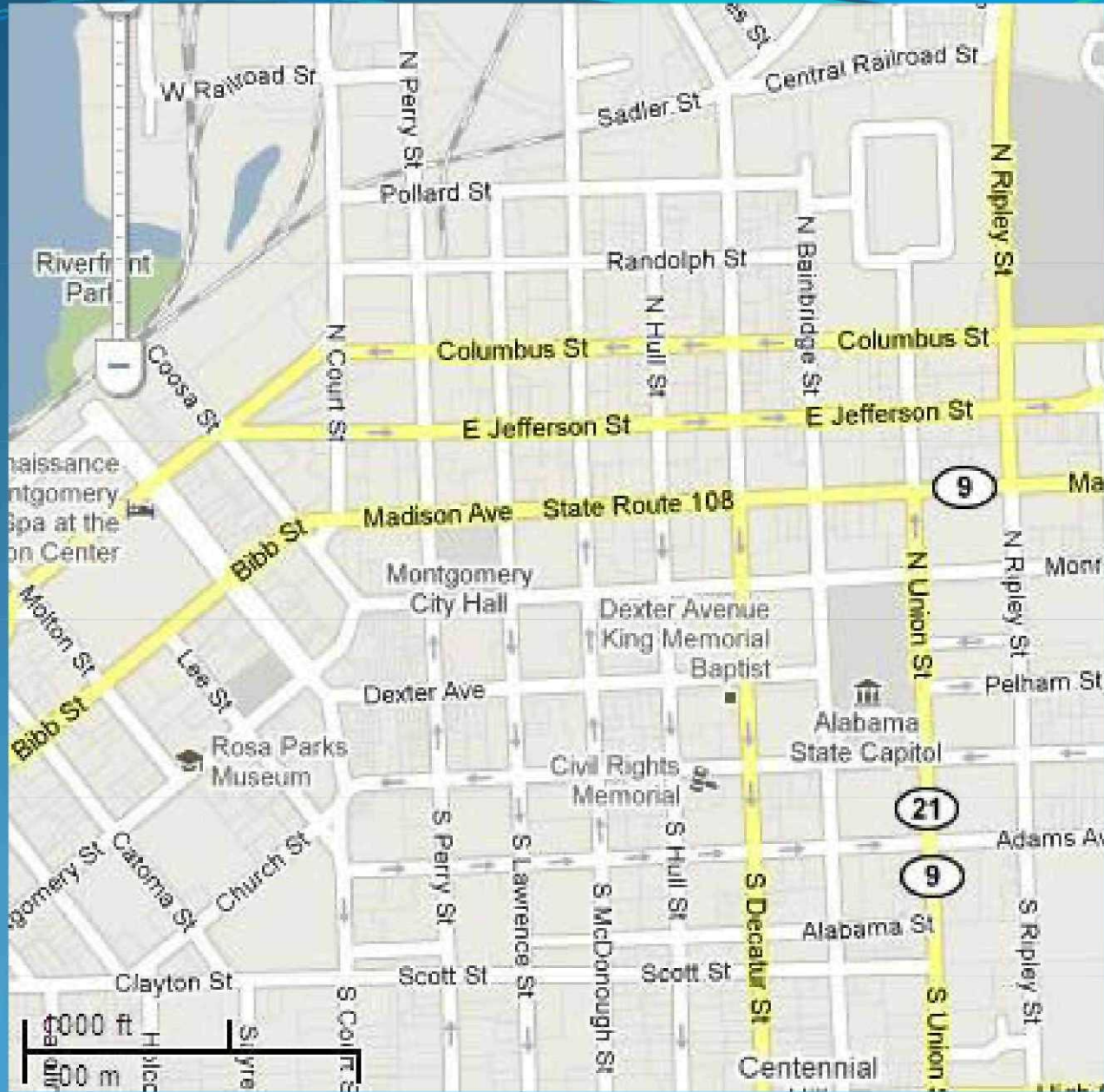
US EPA Region 4 Superfund Program
Superfund Division Director Briefing,
Jan. 18, 2011

Site Location



- Heart of downtown district – State Capitol, City Hall, Dexter Ave.-King Memorial Baptist Church, Riverfront Park
- Site is a 7 by 7-block area of office buildings and other commercial properties; about 150 acres







- Permanent Monitoring Well
- Temporary Monitoring Well
- Industrial Well

Site Background

- 1993 – Construction workers encounter PCE-contaminated soil below ground surface while excavating basement/foundation for RSA Tower energy-plant building
- 1993 – Montgomery Water Works takes water supply well 9W out of service due to PCE
- 1993-96 – ADEM completes ESA Phase I, Phase II, CERCLA PA, and CERCLA SI
- 1997 – Mtgy WW takes water supply well 9E out of service due to PCE and well-structure concerns

Site Background (cont'd)

- 1999 – ADEM provides draft HRS Pkg; EPA initiates Fund-Lead RI/FS (thru 2002)
- 2000 – EPA Proposes site to the NPL in Federal Register (5/11/2000)
- 2000-2001 – EPA receives Governor 'non-concurrence' letter; technical comments; and 'don't-list' letters from two Congressmen
- 2002 – RI concludes; PCE and BTEX plumes are identified. EPA signs agreement (AOC) with City for a) 5 years of continued groundwater monitoring, b) prepare an FS, c) take water wells offline, and d) implement inst. controls to prevent digging or well installations

Site Background (cont'd)

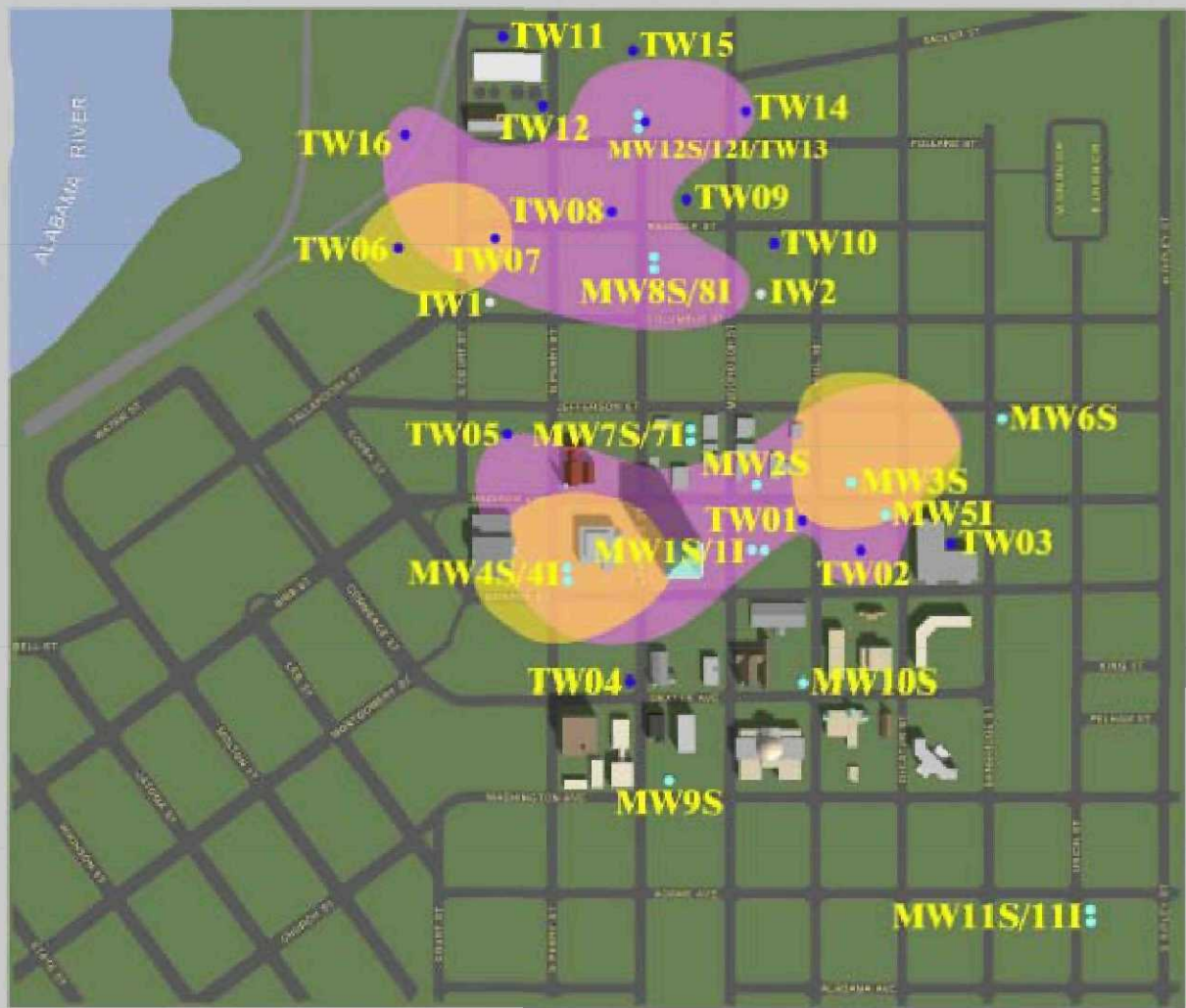
- 2003 – Institutional control (“No-Dig-No Drill” ordinance) implemented by City for site area
- 2004 – Site FS completed by City’s contractor, recommends basic approach agreed to in the AOC.
- 2006 – EPA-approved monitoring plan initiated for site
- 2008 – City makes arrangements with two Auburn University professors to guide phytoremediation testing and trial work; EPA contracts with USGS for Supplemental RI and groundwater monitoring

Site Background (cont'd)

- 2009 – USGS work points to former Montgomery Advertiser locations as sources of PCE and metals (mainly chromium) in groundwater and soil
- 2010 – Discussions about listing;
- 2010 May: Numerous 104e letters sent;
- 2010 August: Discussion about listing with ADEM staff at SF Program Review Meeting in Montgomery

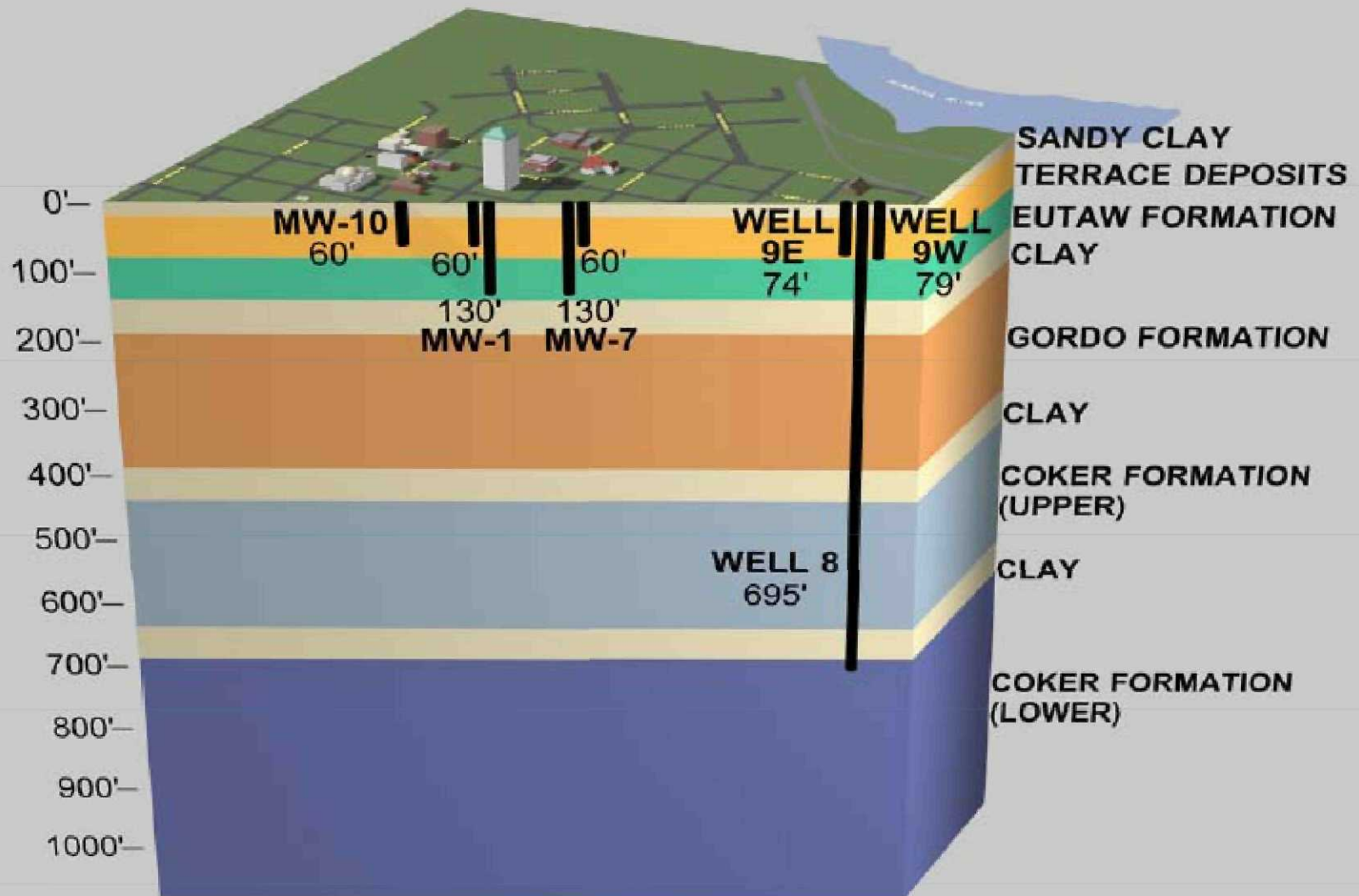
RI and Previous Investigations

- 1993-95 work identified 12 soil-gas plumes: 6 BTEX, 6 PCE
- The RI and previous sampling efforts identified two individual groundwater plumes of commingled PCE & TCE, ~45 acres total
- Wells have also shown BTEX; Benzene significant (up to 4,500 ug/L), USTs suspected
- Also trace VOCs and SVOCs; chromium

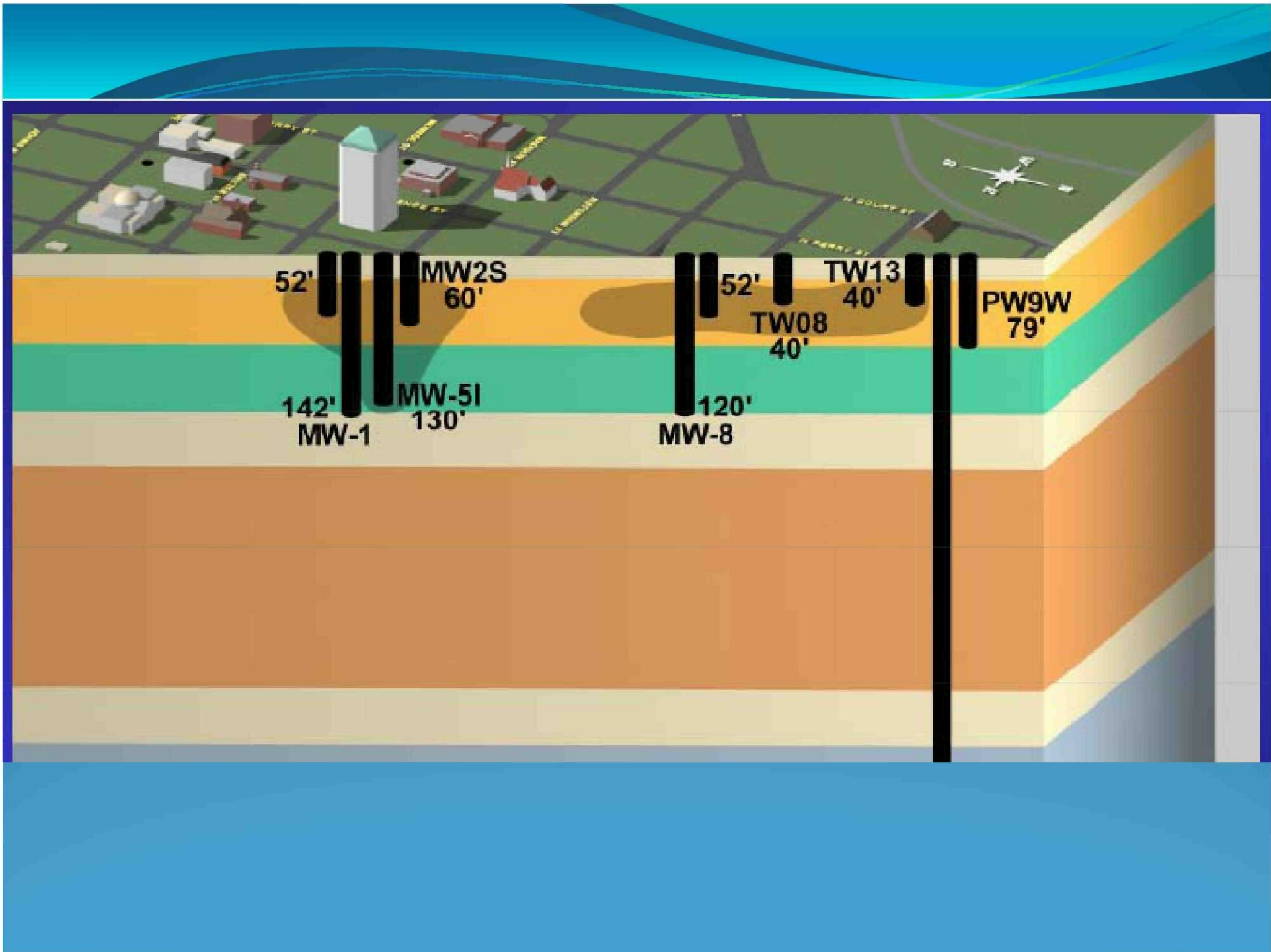


- Permanent Monitoring Well
- Temporary Monitoring Well
- Industrial Well

- ≥ 5 ug/L TCE MCL
- ≥ 5 ug/L PCE MCL



CAPITOL CITY PLUME SITE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



(b) (5), (b) (7)(A)

Contaminants and Pathways

Contaminant	Max detected (ug/L)	Benchmark (ug/L)	Pathway
Tetrachloro-ethylene (PCE)	270 <small>(2010)</small>	MCL = 5	Groundwater
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	18 <small>(2010)</small>	MCL = 5	Groundwater
Benzene	4,500 <small>(2002)</small>	MCL = 5	Groundwater
Chromium	440 <small>(2010)</small>	MCL = 100	Groundwater

(b) (5), (b) (7)(A)

(b) (5), (b) (7)(A)

State & Community concerns

- SRB staff have cordial working relationship with City and ADEM representatives
- In August 2010 ADEM staff expressed neither support nor opposition in discussion with EPA Superfund staff, in Montgomery; mainly they expressed wanting to be kept involved and updated.
- Until recently no definite opposition had been expressed, but recent communications from ADEM indicate they and the State have significant concerns about Listing.

Questions