# Soil Reference Value Revisions



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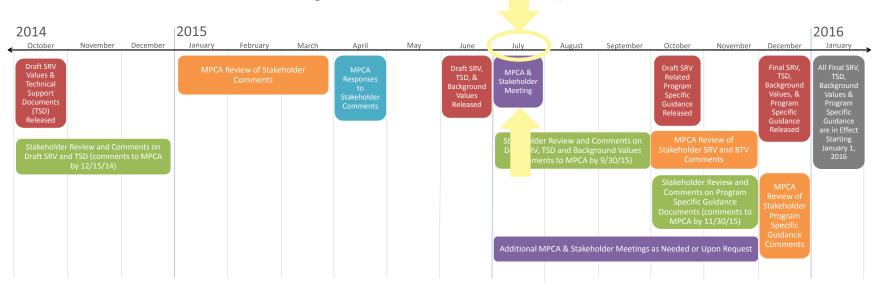
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**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency** 

### Where are we in the Timeline?



Remediation Program\* Soil Reference Valu SRV) Revision Timeline

\* Superfund, Site Assessment, VIC, RCRA Cleanup

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### Why are SRVs Revised?

• Periodically revised to incorporate new

- Methodology
- Exposure parameters
- Toxicity values
- Chemical specific parameters

Not in response to any specific incident, project or occurrence

### What Changed with this Revision?

 Methodology EPA Superfund methodology Addition of mass limit volatilization factor • Exposure Parameters 2014 EPA Superfund recommendations Minnesota specific modifications Toxicity values More recent values used if appropriate Chemical specific parameters **EPA** Superfund hierarchy

### What Documents Were Revised?

#### SRV Technical Support Document (TSD) DRAFT COMPLETED How the SRVs were derived and their intended use

#### SRV Spreadsheet DRAFT COMPLETED SRVs applicable to any site in Minnesota

#### SRV Spreadsheet - Site Specific DRAFT COMPLETED Used to derive SRVs applicable to a specific site

### Soil Investigation Guidance

VIC, Superfund, RCRA program Specific Guidance SRVs are one of the tools used

Who Was involved? • SRV Revisions - MPCA **Remediation** Division Staff participation in work groups Consultation with other staff and staff review of documents **Environmental Outcomes & Analysis Division** Remediation risk assessor participation in work groups Consultation with other staff and other risk assessors/toxicologist review of documents Consultation and review of documents MDH MDA EPA USGS (inorganics in BTV documents only)

### How are SRVs Intended to Be Used?

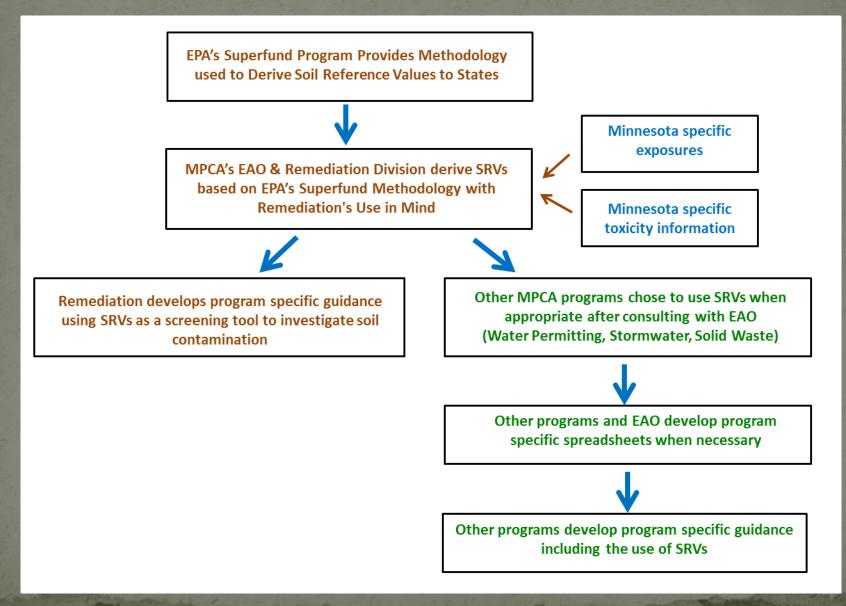
VIC, Superfund, RCRA cleanup sites
SRVs are a screening tool

NOT intended to be used as Cleanup Values

Responsible or voluntary parties can

Chose to derive site specific SRVs for clean up values
Chose to use state wide SRVs as cleanup values

### How are SRVs Intended to Be Used?



### What Do SRVs Evaluate?

 Human exposures to soil on land NOT ecological NOT sediments Soil Exposure Routes Ingestion Dermal Contact Inhalation Particulates in surface soil Particulate Emission Factor

- Volatilization from soil at depth
  - Volatilization Factor (standard and mass limit)

**Exposure Frequency** 

- Receptor type based on soil land use category
  - Residential/Recreational
  - Commercial/Industrial
- Soil exposure route
  - Ingestion
  - Dermal
  - Inhalation via fugitive dust
  - Inhalation via vapors
- Type of contamination present
  - VOCs
  - Non-VOCs

100 frozen and snow covered days per year eliminated from some exposure routes

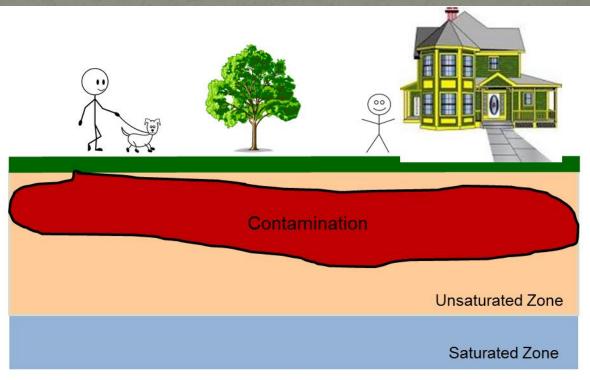
Exposure Route	VOC	Non-VOC
Ingestion	Eliminate 100 days/year Although ingestion exposure will occur both indoor and outdoor, VOCs will not be present in indoor dust due to their volatile nature	Do NOT eliminate 100 days/year Ingestion exposure will occur both indoor and outdoor and non-VOCs will be present in indoor dust
Dermal Contact	NOT included for VOCs Dermal contact is not considered to be a significant route of exposure for VOCs due to their volatile nature	Eliminate 100 days/year Dermal contact is considered to only be a significant route of exposure outdoors and will not occur when the ground is frozen and snow covered greater than 1 inch
Inhalation – Fugitive Dust	NOT included for VOCs Inhalation of fugitive dust is not considered to be a significant route for exposure for VOCs due to their volatile nature	Eliminate 100 days/year Fugitive dust is not expected to be present outdoors when the ground is frozen and snow covered greater than 1 inch
Inhalation – Vapors	Eliminate 100 days/year Vapors are not expected to be present outdoors when the ground is frozen and snow covered greater than 1 inch	Eliminate 100 days/year Vapors are not expected to be present outdoors when the ground is frozen and snow covered greater than 1 inch

#### Ingestion Rate

- Previous ingestion adjusted to account for frozen days and snow covered days
- New ingestion rate does not consider frozen and snow covered days since this is considered in exposure frequency

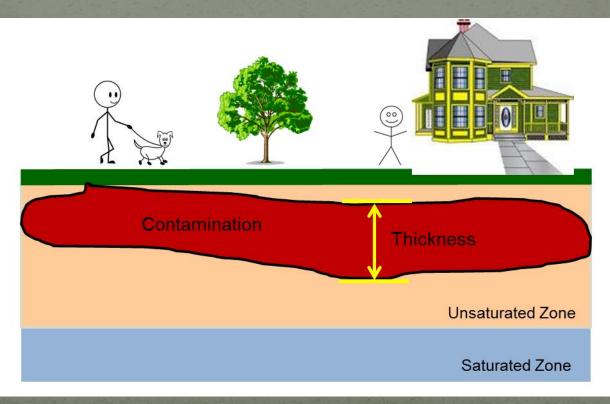
#### • Standard volatilization factor

- Contamination right below ground surface
  - Infinite source may violate mass balance considerations
- Uniform rate of volatilization based on
  - Infinite source
  - Henry's Law specific to a contaminant



#### • Mass limit volatilization factor

- Contamination right below ground surface
- Finite source based on thickness of contamination
- Uniform rate of volatilization based on
  - Finite source size



#### Volatilization Factors

- Eliminate violation of mass balance considerations
   2 SRVs derived
  - 1 using standard volatilization factor
  - 1 using mass limit volatilization factor
  - SRV with highest value used
- Example
  - Chemical X SRV using standard VF = 100 mg/kg Chemical X SRV using mass limit VF = 200 mg/kg SRV is set at 200 mg/kg

### How did Revisions Change SRVs?

Mass limit volatilization factor
Net increase for impacted VOCs

• Exposure parameters

- Residential/Recreational SRVs
  - Net slight decrease
- Commercial/Industrial SRVs
  - Net increase

## Toxicity Values & chemical specific parameters Contaminant specific

### How did Revisions Change SRVs?

- SRVs potentially below soil background levels?
  - Aluminum
  - Arsenic
  - Barium
  - Chromium
  - Cobalt
  - Iron
  - Thallium
  - Vanadium

Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) equivalents TCDD (2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin) equivalents

- Evaluation to determine if SRVs are below soil background levels
- Establish a Background Threshold Value (BTV)
  Estimate of the background level in soil
  - Background
    - Amount of a chemical that is present in soil that is NOT due to local anthropogenic sources such as a release

• Inorganics: aluminum, arsenic, barium, chromium, cobalt, iron, thallium, vanadium USGS's 2013 Soil Survey 137 samples from Minnesota • USGS vs. EPA analytical methods USGS - aggressive digestion EPA - less aggressive digestion Results in different concentrations Specific chemical Geological characteristics of the soil Differences NOT consistent across Minnesota

Difference between USGS and EPA's method?
Re-analyze 45 samples using EPA' method

• Data

USGS complete 137 sample dataset

- EPA reanalyzed 45 sample dataset
- BTV Evaluation

Differences in concentrations across Minnesota Outliers using USGS's full 137 sample dataset Are background concentrations higher than SRV? Differences between results of 2 methods Establish BTV if necessary

• How was a BTV established? Complete USGS 137 sample dataset EPA's ProUCL software **Upper Tolerance Limit (UTL)** • What is a UTL95-95? 95% confidence limit of the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the dataset • Why a UTL? Large number of comparisons to BTV False positive and negative errors rates minimized • Some BTVs were established using a lower percentile All BTVs used a 95% confidence limit

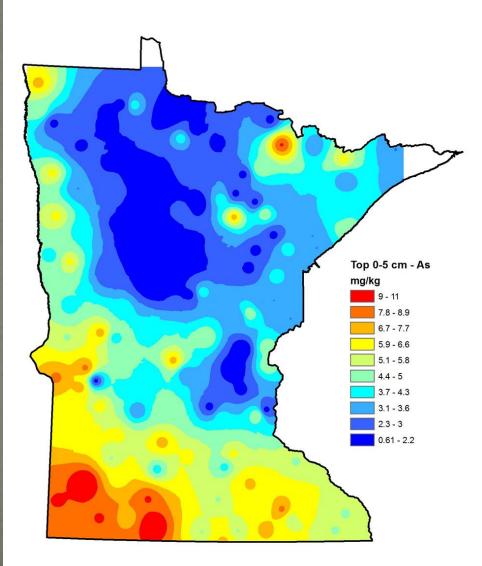
Difference between USGS & EPA methods varies by
Specific inorganic

Geology at sample site

Inorganic	Minimum Difference	Maximum Difference	Upper Percentile Difference
Aluminum	-95%	-67%	-70%
Arsenic	-75%	39%	-1%
Barium	-95%	-65%	-71%
Chromium	-84%	-48%	-63%
Cobalt	-56%	21%	-19%
Iron	-65%	-2%	-32%
Thallium	-79%	-35%	-55%
Vanadium	-76%	-11%	-52%

Inorganic	Soil Land Use Category	EPA Method Value mg/kg	Source	USGS Method Value mg/kg	Source
Aluminum	Res/Rec Chronic			59,000	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset
Aldininum	Com/Ind Chronic	100,000	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
	Res/Rec Acute	9	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset		
Arsenic	Res/Rec Chronic	9	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset		
	Com/Ind Chronic	9	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset		
	Res/Rec Acute	250	Res/Rec acute SRV		
Barium	Res/Rec Chronic	3,000	Res/Rec chronic SRV		
	Com/Ind Chronic	35,000	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
Chromium III	Res/Rec Chronic	23,000	Res/Rec chronic SRV		
	Com/Ind Chronic	100,000	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
Chromium VI	Res/Rec Chronic	11	Res/Rec chronic SRV		
	Com/Ind Chronic	57	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
Cobalt	Res/Rec Chronic	13	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset		
	Com/Ind Chronic	67	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
Iron	Res/Rec Chronic	30,000	BTV, UTL95-90 from USGS dataset		
	Com/Ind Chronic	100,000	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
	Res/Rec Chronic		Site specific BTV		
Thallium	Com/Ind Chronic	2.3	Com/Ind chronic SRV		
Vanadium	Res/Rec Chronic			121	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset
Vanadium	Com/Ind Chronic			121	BTV, UTL95-95 from USGS dataset

Determining site specific background is always an option



Map of arsenic background concentrations in Minnesota from USGS dataset

Determining site specific background is always an option

## Organics: BaP equivalents, TCDD equivalents Other states data

Data specific to other states reflecting ambient levels

Inorganic	Soil Land Use Category <sup>1</sup>	EPA Method Value <sup>2</sup> mg/kg	Source <sup>3</sup>
BaP Equivalents	Res/Rec Chronic	1	BTV, available data
	Com/Ind Chronic	14	Com/Ind chronic SRV
TCDD Equivalents	Res/Rec Chronic	4.0E-06	Res/Rec chronic SRV
	Com/Ind Chronic	2.0E-05	Com/Ind chronic SRV

### How did Revisions Change SRVs?

#### Residential/Recreational

Decrease	89
Increase	59
No Change	1
No Previous SRV	7
Set at BTV	7
Total	163

#### Commercial/Industrial

Decrease	58
Increase	88
No Change	8
No Previous SRV	7
Set at BTV	2
Total	163

### What are site specific SRVs?

• Applicable to VIC, RCRA & Superfund sites only • Derived using SRV Spreadsheet – Site Specific Requires approval of project manager & risk assessor • Ability to modify exposure parameters Example: Hazard Quotient (HQ) Purpose – present a range of potential risks Example: Exposure frequency Purpose – reflect site specific conditions Site Specific SRV Exposure Parameter Modifications Table in SRV TSD, Table B-1

### Reference – USGS Soil Survey

USGS 2013. Smith, D.B., Cannon, W.F., Woodruff, L.G., Solano, Federico, Kilburn, J.E., and Fey, D.L., 2013, Geochemical and mineralogical data for soils of the conterminous United States: U.S. Geological Survey Data Series 801, 19 p., http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/801/.

# Soil Reference Value Revisions





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