

Public Page
Improvements to the External Corrosion Direct Assessment
Methodology by Incorporating Soils Data
Agreement DTRS56-03-T-0003; 6th Quarterly Status Report
July 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004
Contractor: Battelle

The subject contract covers two projects: (1) adding soils data to the previously developed external corrosion direct assessment (ECDA) datasets and methodology and (2) developing a quantitative basis for evaluating certain time-dependent threats. The status of the first project is reported here.

Project 1: ECDA Soils Model

The objective of this project is to add soils data and a soils model to the previously collected external corrosion direct assessment (ECDA) datasets and methodology. This project includes (1) working with pipeline operators as they conduct ECDAs, (2) collecting soils-related data, and (3) modifying an existing soils model for ECDA.

The lines that have been made available to us have been surveyed. Not all the lines that we wanted access to were available because of company work schedules, their crew availability and weather delays. However, there is enough data to complete the analysis. We have tentatively kept all the sites on the list so that if something changes and we can ultimately do an additional site analysis before the report is completed, we will add it. However, at this point in the program it is unlikely that any significant data sets can be added.

The data alignment has been very accurate given the above ground measurement tools available today. As the data was being analyzed as part of the soils model development a few inconsistencies were discovered that need resolution. We are in the process of reviewing the information with the cognizant field personnel in an effort to understand the situation. It may simply be that the reporting methodology needs clarification, but we need to confirm that.

The preparation of the draft final report has begun by summarizing and compiling the field data in a format that will be useful to the reader as appendices.

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