

Emergency Response Best Management Practices

Paul A. Nony, Ph.D
Senior Toxicologist

The logo for the Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH) is displayed within a blue rectangular box. The letters "CTEH" are in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right of the "H".

CTEH[®]

Responding to a Chemical Emergency

- The response itself must:
 - Be rapid
 - Involve more resources than needed at the outset
 - Be properly staffed
- Emergency responders must:
 - Be properly trained
 - Be properly equipped
 - Have the proper expertise

Responding to a Chemical Emergency

- Considerations:
 - Human impacts/safety/evacuations
 - Environmental impacts
 - Business interruption
 - Situational awareness
 - Mitigation/remediation resources
 - Crisis communication
 - Regulatory requirements
 - Data management
 - Company reputation
 - Managing the overall response- logistics, operations, planning, finance- Unified Command

Responding to a Chemical Emergency

- Things that are not always so obvious:
 - Public perception of the response
 - Public anxiety about returning home
 - The extent of offsite impacts
 - Variable data quality/management
 - Regulatory agendas
 - Contractor battles
 - Media influences
 - Litigious interests

Understanding Litigious Interests

- High probability of lawsuits being filed against the responsible party (at least in the US)
- Future scrutiny of data collected
- Future scrutiny of relationships between consultants and the RP
- Future scrutiny of on-site activities
- Claims will be made by people affected in varying degrees
- Response activities must keep future implications in mind: Think about it DURING the response, NOT AFTER

Chemical ER Best Practices:

Preparedness

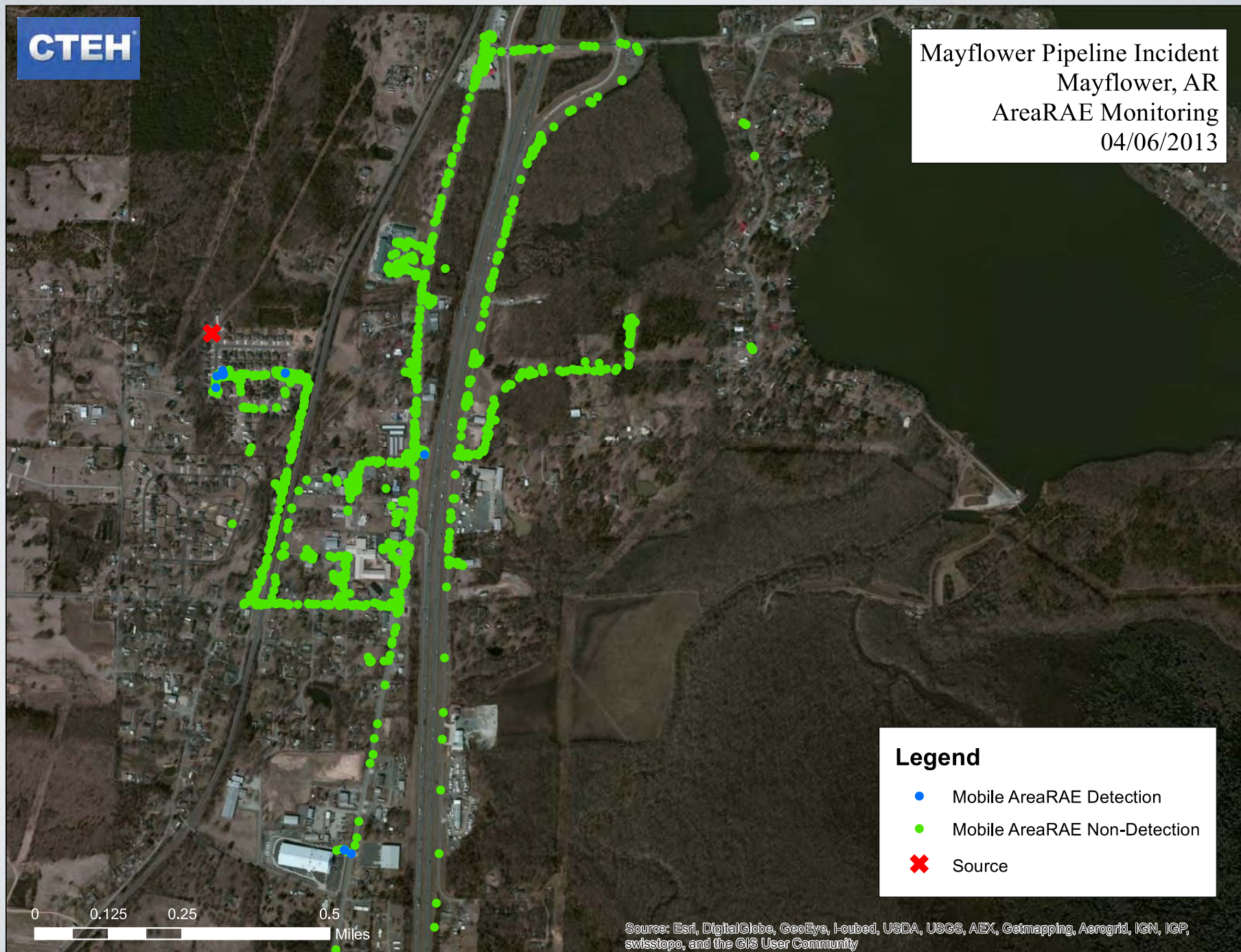
- Contractors/Consultants and RP response team must be prepared to travel 24/7/365 and have:
 - Properly trained personnel on call
 - Necessary equipment ready to go
 - Rapid response time (planes on go)
 - Ability to begin work on site immediately
 - Ability to staff multiple shifts within 24 hours
 - Draft plans ready for review upon arrival

Equipment Readiness



Chemical ER Best Practices: Air Monitoring/Sampling

- Worker health and safety
- Community health and safety
- 360 degree perimeter and offsite documentation
 - Document presence of chemicals
 - Document absence of chemicals
- Recommendations on PPE, evacuations, and “all clear”
- Rapid data collection, interpretation, and presentation
- Wind direction always matters, but more so during claims/litigation

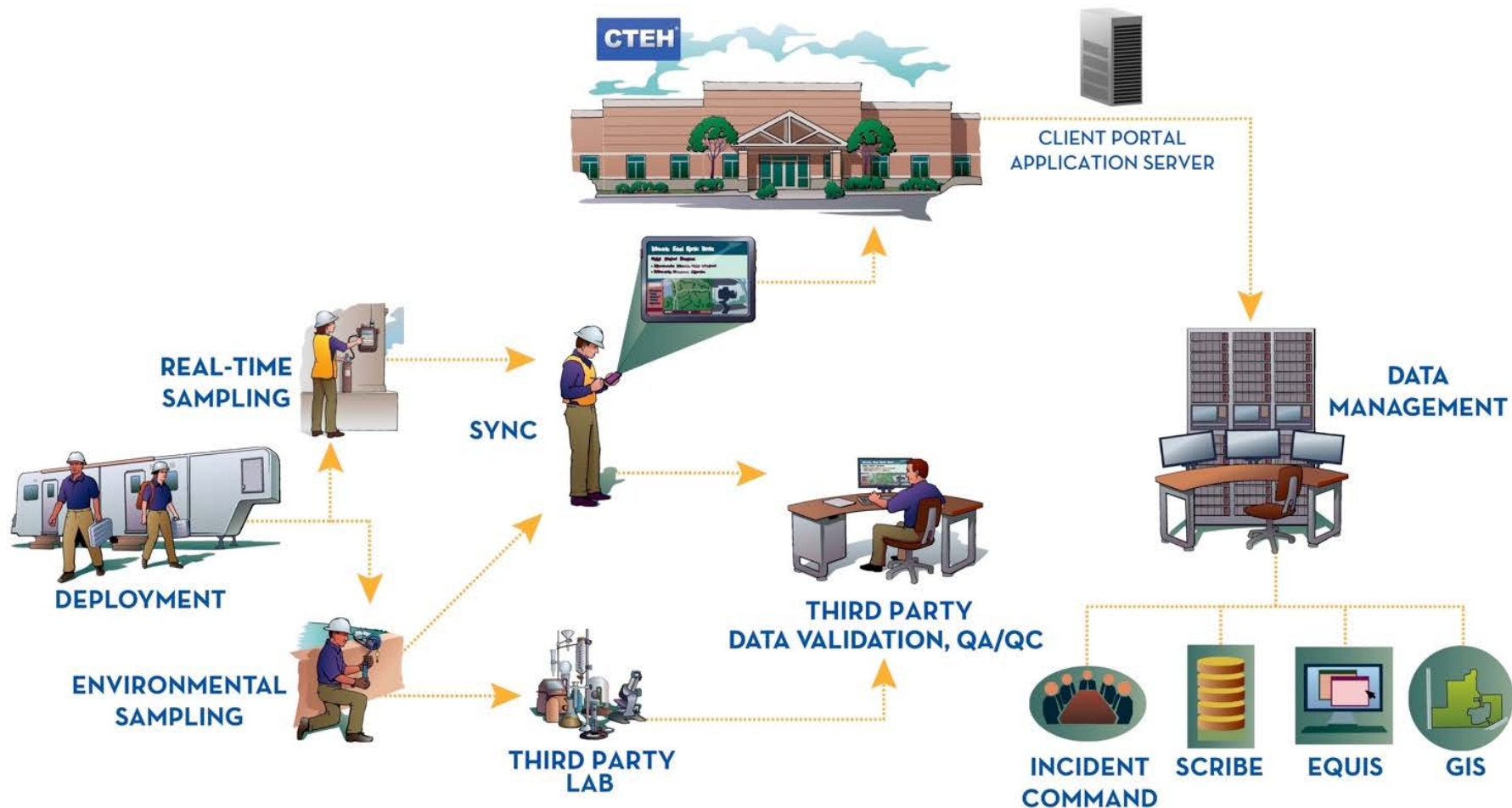




Chemical ER Best Practices: Soil/Water/Waste Monitoring/Sampling

- Determining extent of impact-fingerprinting
- Proving remediation
- Satisfying regulatory requirements
- Mediating regulatory requests

Chemical ER Best Practices: Data Management



Chemical ER Best Practices: Situational Awareness

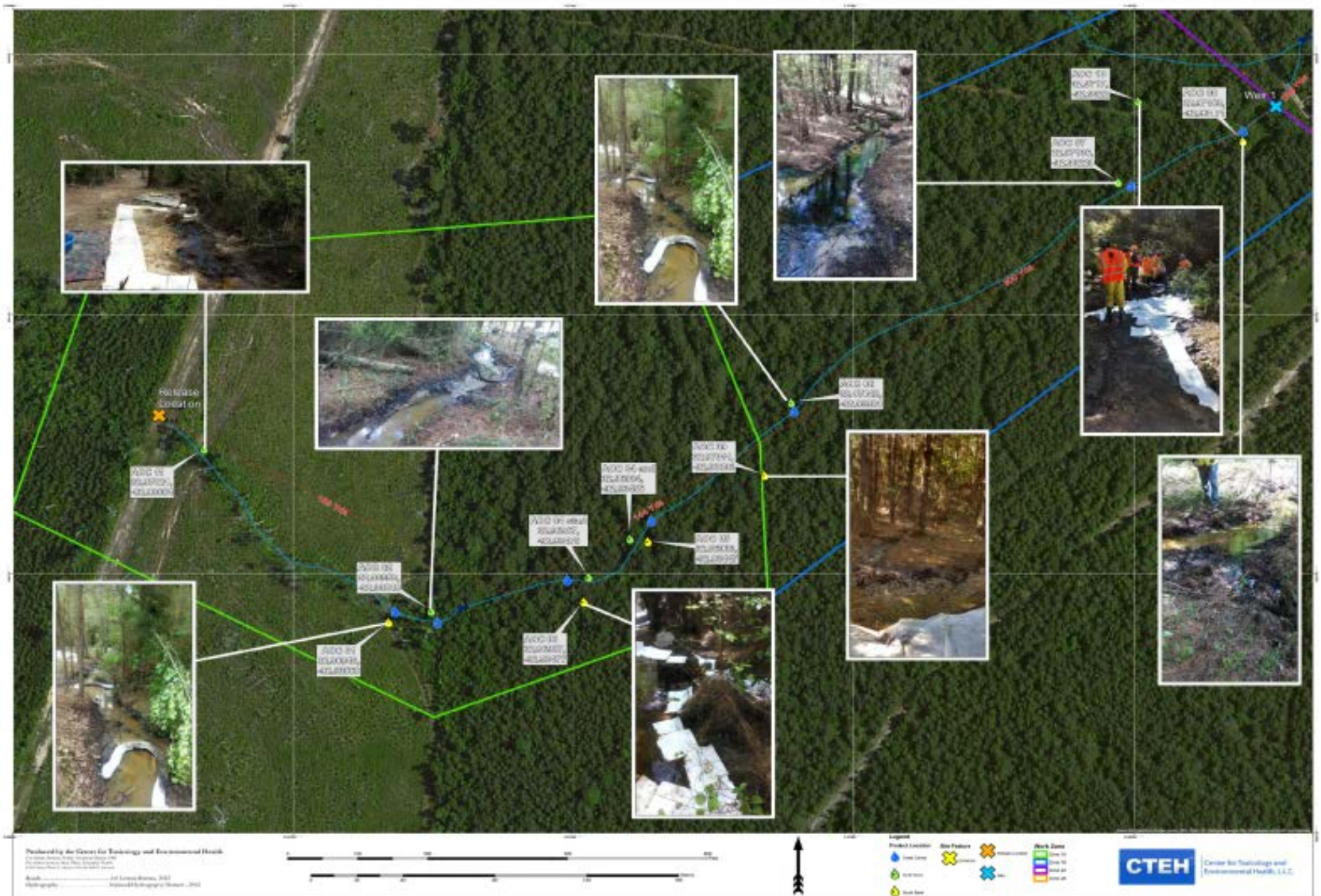
- Aerial imagery
 - Response documentation
 - Resource tracking
- Web-based data portals
- Response management software

QUADCOPTER AERIAL IMAGERY

- Average Flight Time: 10-12 minutes
- Flight Ground Coverage: 0.25 square miles
- Auto Home Navigation safety feature



SITUATIONAL AWARENESS



Why go to such efforts?

- Address stakeholder concerns
- Timely and effective risk/crisis communications
- Document the negative
- Increase transparency/trust with regulators and public through data
- Delineate actual versus perceived or alleged impact
- Provide data/information for addressing claims
- Provide overwhelming valid, defensible data for regulatory and legal objectives



Hot Topic:

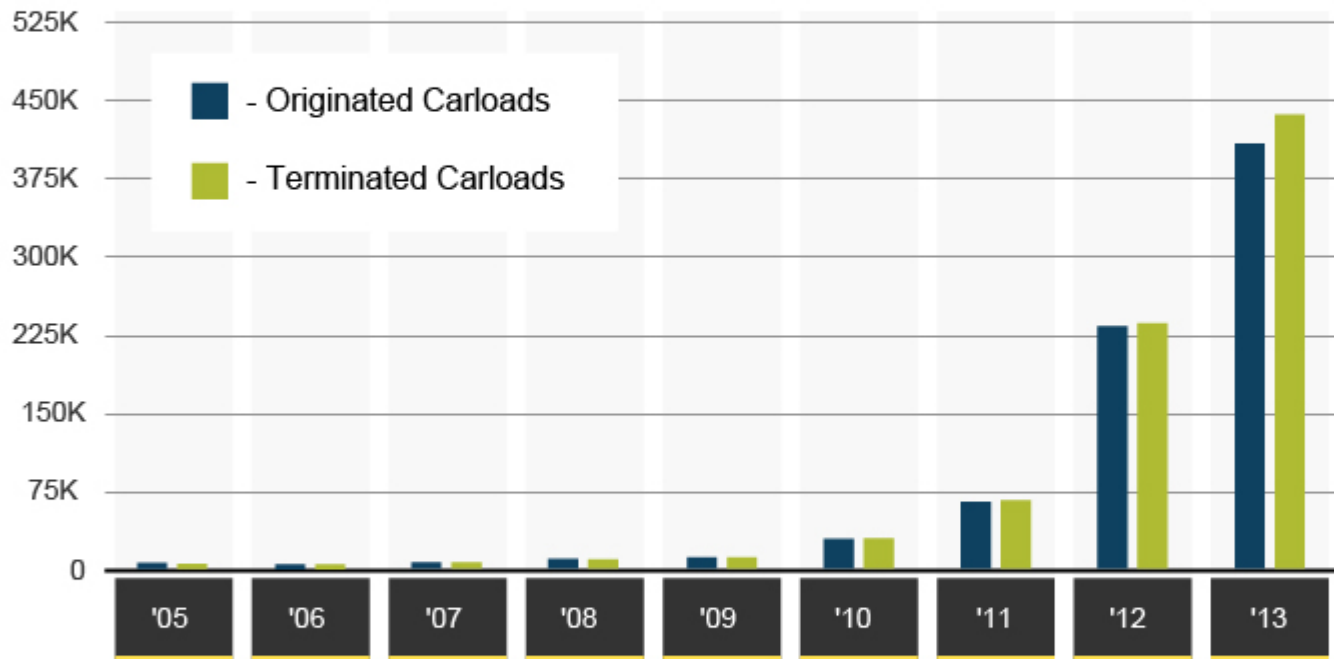
Crude Oil Transport

Crude by Rail

Crude by Pipeline

Crude by Ship/Barge

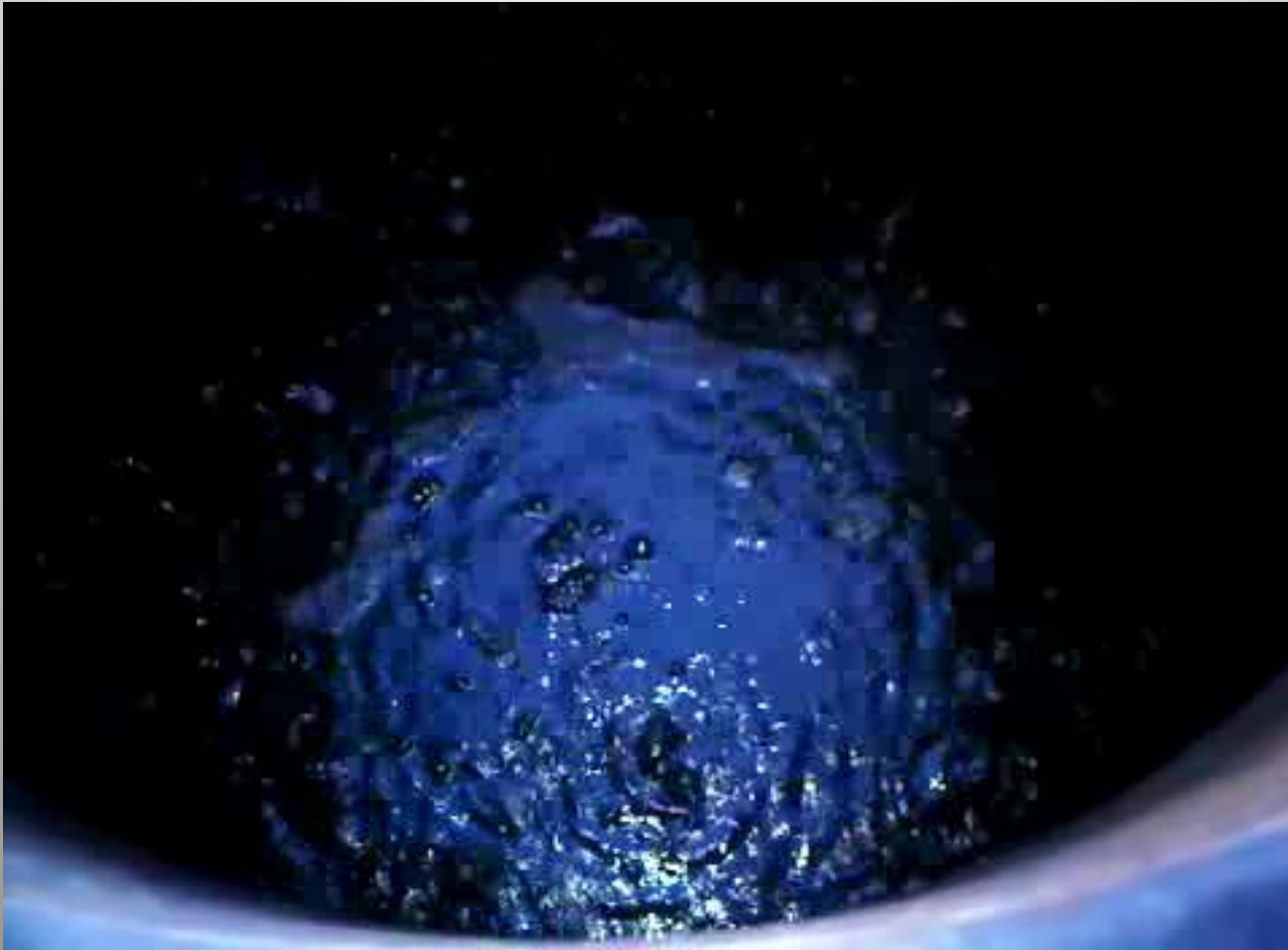
ORIGINATED CARLOADS OF CRUDE OIL VS. TERMINATED CARLOADS OF CRUDE OIL ON U.S. CLASS I RAILROADS



*Estimate based on preliminary data

Source: AAR, FRA

Bakken Shale Crude Oil



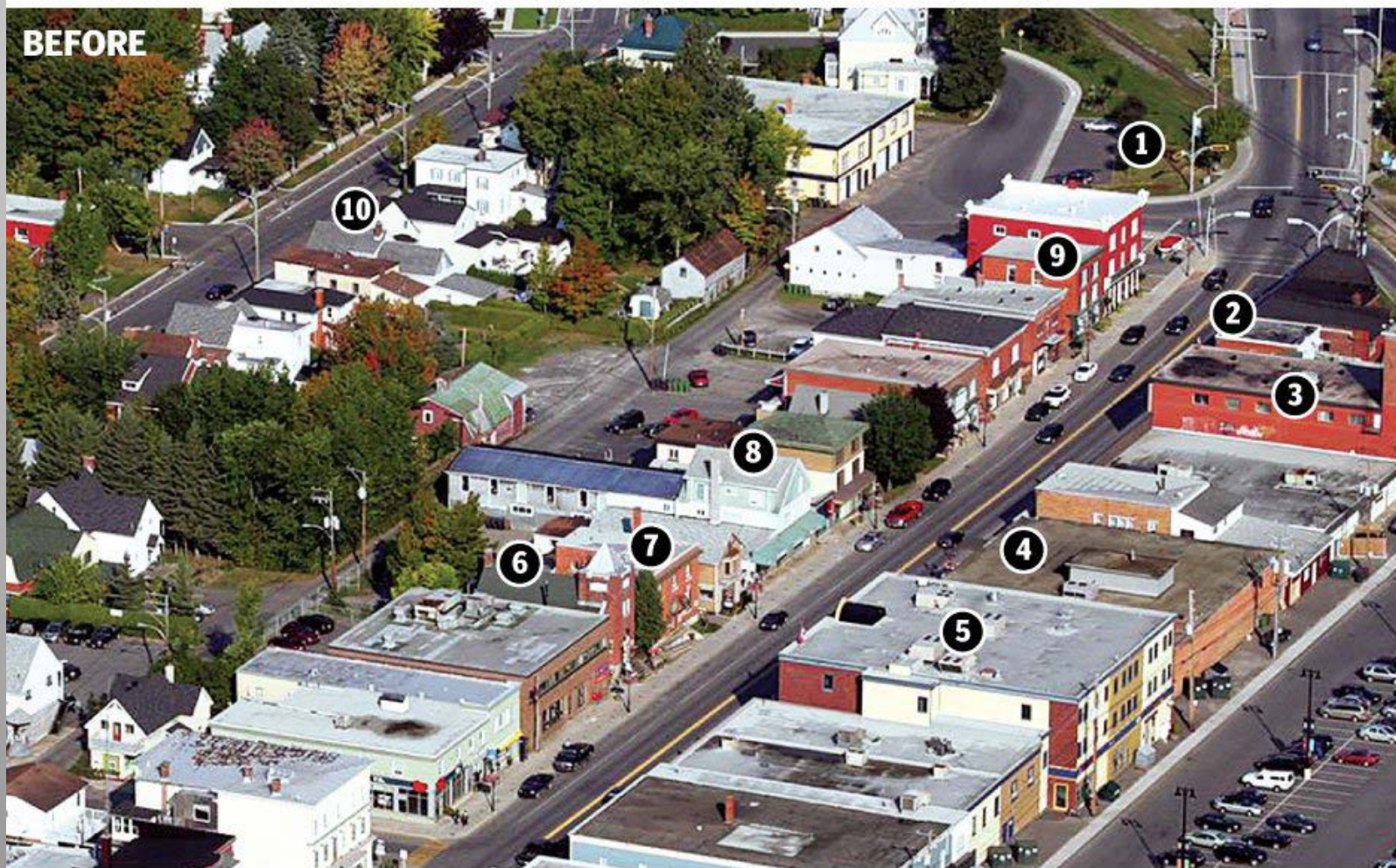
Casselton, ND



Lac Megantic, Quebec



LAC-MÉGANTIC: BEFORE AND AFTER



1. The railroad

2. The Musi-Café, a popular watering hole that was busy at the time of the explosions

3. The library

4. The former site of a Dollarama store

5. A commercial building

6. An old chapel that housed a restaurant-bar

7. A Bank of Montreal location

8. A stationery store

9. A gift shop called "l'Ambrequin"

10. A residential area near the Boulevard of Veterans

SOURCE: LA PRESSE

PHOTOS: YVES TREMBLAY / PHOTO HELICO, RYAN REMIORZ / THE CANADIAN PRESS
GRAPHIC: ALEXANDRA BOSANAC & JONATHON RIVAIT / NATIONAL POST



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Lac Megantic

The first two weeks...

- Lac Megantic was in shock
 - Emotionally charged areas surrounding site
 - Difficult to get the right resources in place to start recovery
- Many response resources were idle for several days

Incident Challenges

- 63 railcars involved
- No additional release or spill of crude oil or firefighting water/foam allowed
- Foam application before moving each car
- No torches
- High benzene concentrations when digging or dragging
- Limited confined space entry capabilities for tank car decontamination







Lac Megantic Wrecking Ops

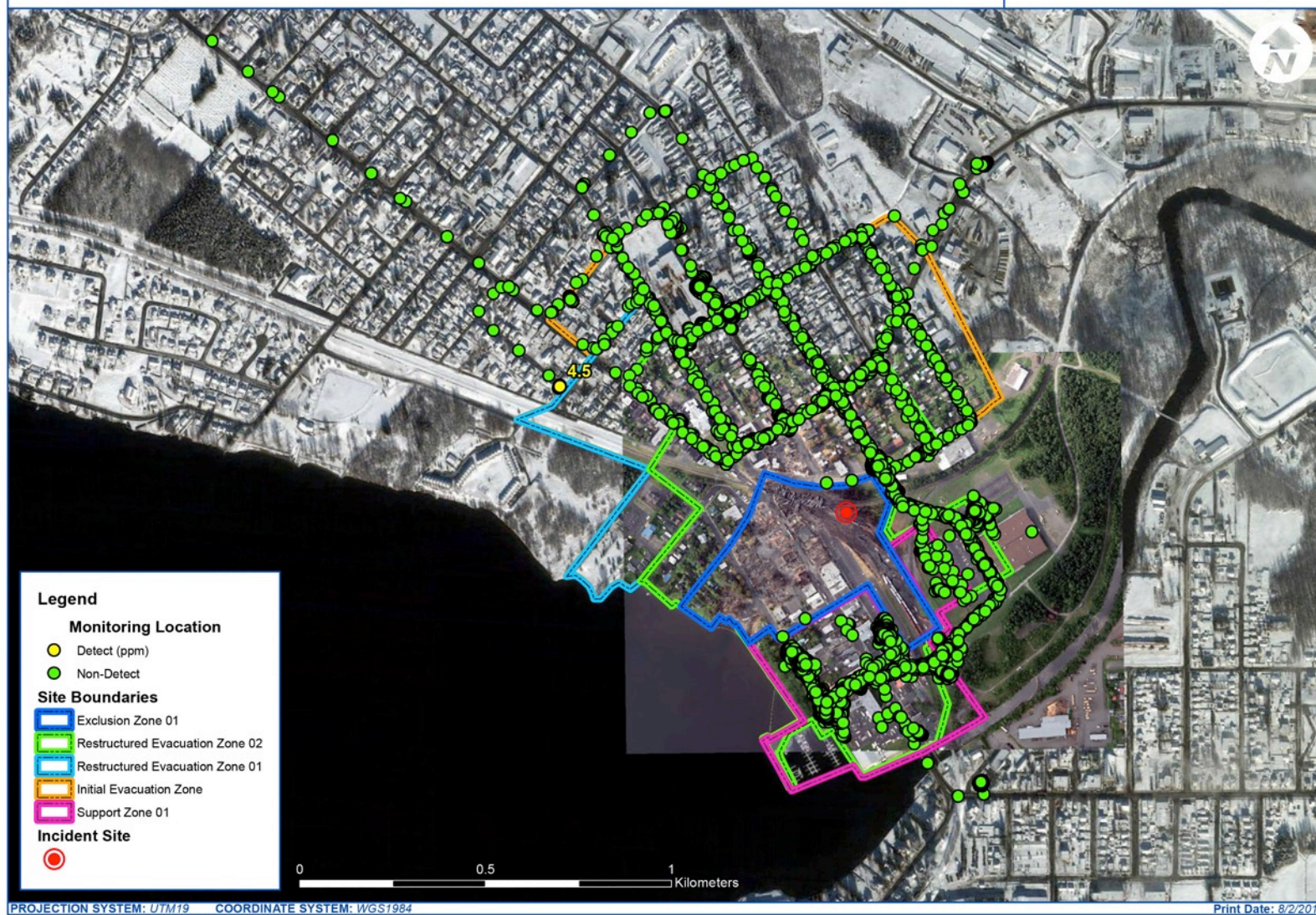
More Issues...

- Interactions with regulatory agencies regarding wrecking operations
- Action limit for $\frac{1}{2}$ face APR = 0.5ppm benzene and 25 ppm VOC. Full face required over 5 ppm benzene.
- Respirator supply and fit testing for wreckers
- Where to put 63 scrap tankcars?









Lessons Learned

- Preparedness and prior relationships are crucial.
- Tact is essential in emotionally charged situations.
- Respiratory hazards produce heightened concern.
- To let it burn or not to let it burn? That is the question.
- Crude by rail safety- is there an answer?

Questions?

- pnony@cteh.com
- 501-801-8582