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Industry Sector Perspectives: Examples and Observations

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Figure 11: Selection Trends for Groundwater Remedies (FY 1986-2011)

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Lessons Learned - Groundwater Remediation at Superfund Sites (1980s - present)

- Sites are complex and site conceptual models often over-simplify the situation.
- Regulatory clean-up levels continue to go lower, making site closure even more difficult.

Lessons Learned (cont.)

- New contaminants are sometimes identified, requiring new studies and possible changes in remedial action objectives and remedial strategies.
- Contaminant concentrations can decrease significantly over many years with pump & treat, but returning groundwater to drinking water quality may not be feasible at many sites.

Lessons Learned (cont.)

Pump & treat has disadvantages as a clean-up strategy, but so do other technologies.

Superfund sites never seem to go away - always new issues.