



TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT - 001

EFFECTIVE DATE - AUGUST 26, 1991

RE: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NUMBER OF SOIL SAMPLES TAKEN FOR LABORATORY ANALYSIS FROM SOIL BORINGS

The purpose of this guidance document is to assist the regulated community in its investigation of hydrocarbon contamination. Specifically, this guidance document addresses the use of soil borings to determine the **vertical and horizontal extent of soil contamination**. This document provides guidance for the minimum number of soil samples from soil borings that the District will accept for UST investigations. The total number of soil borings in each area being investigated will be site specific according to site conditions, amount of the contamination, and the judgment of the on-site investigation.

PROCEDURE:

I. If the field screening techniques indicate that contamination does not exist in a soil boring, then the sample taken from the greatest depth must be analyzed by the laboratory. This sample must be collected at an elevation which is either:

- A. At a sufficient depth to adequately characterize and test the soil at the site. This depth shall be below the lowest elevation of the tank pit(s) and is sufficiently below that elevation if the ground surface is sloping, or
- B. Immediately above the water table; or
- C. Immediately above the soil-bedrock interface.

II. If the field screening techniques indicate that contamination does exist in a soil boring, then at a minimum two (2) soil samples from the boring must be analyzed. The following two (2) soil samples shall be selected for laboratory analysis:

- A. The sample which the field screening techniques indicate contains the highest level of contamination; and
- B. The sample taken from the greatest depth which;

1. Has a positive indication using the field screening techniques; or

2. Is collected immediately above the soil-bedrock interface or the water table.

NOTE: If the sample with the highest reading using the field screening techniques is coincident with either the sample at the soil-bedrock interface, the water table or the sample taken at the greatest depth, then the sample with the next highest reading will also be sent to the laboratory for analysis.

III. If the depth to bedrock or to the water table at a soil boring location is five (5) feet or less then only the sample retrieved from immediately above the soil-bedrock interface or immediately above the water table is required to be analyzed by a laboratory.