

Working to Control Seepage in Kansas City

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BER has been working to control the slow discharge of contaminated groundwater that has been surfacing along a residential street adjacent to a historic solid waste dump site which now houses the Kansas National Guard Armory in Kansas City. The Armory was constructed on top of the dump site that was used for flood debris in the 1951 flood and then used by Owens Corning for the disposal of fiberglass waste. Since the landfill was closed in 1963, numerous investigations and sampling events have been conducted. Results from the last few years have revealed high concentrations of boron in the groundwater discharge.



Contaminated groundwater surfacing along a city street.

In order to prevent the contaminated groundwater from surfacing in the residential area and migrating to a nearby creek, BER worked with a private contractor and other stakeholders to design an interceptor trench to capture the seepage and direct it to the Board of Public Utilities sanitary sewer system. After holding a public availability session with the area residents, construction of the interceptor trench system was completed in less than two weeks. Evidence of the effectiveness of the trench was immediate – the groundwater discharge onto the roadways is no longer present.



Digging a trench to redirect groundwater to a treatment system.