News

Haley & Aldrich wins research funding for PFAS destruction and groundwater modeling projects from Department of Defense

Burlington, Mass., April 27, 2021 – Haley & Aldrich announced today that the Department of Defense (DoD) has selected two of the company's applied research proposals for funding through the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP). The first research project will seek to advance the technology for the destruction of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The second project will be to produce a practical guide for incorporating complex geologic models into efficient numerical simulations of groundwater flow and contaminant transport.

"The potential for these two projects to equip DoD and its contractors with better tools for protecting human health and the environment is very exciting," said Murray Einarson, Haley & Aldrich's Contaminated Site Management Service Leader. "I'm proud of how both project teams have applied their technical expertise toward developing future-oriented environmental solutions."

The PFAS project, "Demonstration of Cost Effective and Sustainable Destruction of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Concentrated Waste Steams" (ER21-5152), seeks to demonstrate a cost-effective and sustainable chemical reductive technology for destructive treatment of PFAS in concentrated waste streams. Often referred to as "forever chemicals" due to their recalcitrance in the environment, PFAS represent one of the toughest challenges facing the environmental industry. The project is expected to start in June 2021 and will last three to four years with a budget of over $1 million. The project team includes John Xiong, Sarah Mass, Min-Ying Jacob Chu, Darrin Costantini, Mike Calhoun, and researchers at the University of California, Riverside.

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The groundwater modeling project, “Procedure for Generating Optimized Numerical Models from the New Generation of Advanced Geologic Site Conceptual Models Developed Using Environmental Sequence Stratigraphy (ESS)” (ER21-5226), involves developing and publishing a practical guide for DoD contractors. This guide will evaluate and incorporate advanced geologic models into more efficient, accurate numerical models of groundwater flow and contaminant fate and transport. This project will enable DoD and its contractors to design more effectiveremediation systems, better predict remediation duration, and generate more accurate assessments of potential risks to human and ecological receptors. The project team includes Einarson, Chu, several environmental software developers, and researchers from Clemson University.

Established in 1995, ESTCP is DoD’s environmental technology demonstration and validation program to promote the transfer of innovative technologies that have successfully established proof of concept for field or production use.

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