

**John E. Sepich, P.E.**  
*Curriculum Vitae*

**Education:** B.S. Civil Engineering, University of Illinois, 1970

**Professional Registrations:**

Registered Civil / Professional Engineer: AZ, CA, DE, FL, IL, LA, NJ, NY, TX

Registered Land Surveyor: Arizona, California

Licensed Contractor: California (General Engineering, HazMat, Asbestos)

CRF29 Hazwoper 40 hour trained/ CFR 30 Hydrogen Sulfide Safety Trained

Licensed Deputy Inspector, Methane Gas, City of Los Angeles

**U.S. Patents:** #5,921,321; 6,176,317; 6,542,189; 6,629,390 (*methane and VOC soil vapor mitigation*)

**Professional Affiliations:**

- ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers), and
- ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials) --  
Chairman of Vadose Zone Methane Soil Gas Committee

**Professional Experience:** 40 years of civil and environmental engineering practice with a current specialty in **methane and VOC soil vapor mitigation**, and including the following career experience:

- Land surveying, Highway route location and design / rights-of-way development
- Grading, earthwork compaction, drainage, paving, underground utilities design
- Sand-gravel quarry plans, volume calculations, phasing, slope stability, drainage, post-closure use
- Residential, commercial, institutional, military and industrial site civil and sanitary design
- Municipal waterworks storage and distribution
- Agricultural carbon dioxide/ liquid CO<sub>2</sub> receiving, vaporization, delivery systems
- Sanitary sewerage collection design, trunk line and lift station pumping design
- Sewer rehab. including leak testing, in line television investigations, pressure grouting, poly-lining
- Septic systems, onsite treatment/disposal: lagoons, leachfields, seepage pits; outfalls
- Municipal WWT and private activated sludge wastewater plant design
- Hazardous/toxic liquid waste treatment plant design for industrial, and landfill facilities
- Food processing effluent pretreatment and disposal; sewer connection (IW and NPDES) permits
- Contaminated groundwater migration and mitigation
- Pumping facilities (water, wastewater, air and gases)
- Amusement park hydraulics, fountains, waterfalls, rapids, flash floods
- Underground tank design, remediation
- Environmental Impact Reports/ Statements (EIR/ EIS) related to methane soil gas
- Solid waste collection; Transfer station civil design, time and motion studies
- Sanitary landfill site selection, planning, civil and environmental design, operations management
- Sanitary landfill environmental and settlement monitoring / building foundations on settleable fill
- Sanitary landfill post closure use design / recreational and commercial
- Landfill gas and leachate control, storm runoff management
- Gas incineration, explosive gas mitigation, volatile organic compound (VOC) mitigation
- Air quality monitoring and modeling, carcinogenic vapor mitigation, Health Risk Analyses
- Tunneling soil gas geotechnical evaluation, mitigation and monitoring
- Methane, radon, H<sub>2</sub>S, VOC and other soil vapor testing / mitigation systems design and installation
- Forensic engineering related to combustible and toxic vapors, indoor and outdoor air quality
- Property transfer and assessment – natural (utility) gas leaks, identification and mitigation
- Health and safety risk analyses utilizing soil vapor intrusion and migration algorithms
- Numerous government code committees for methane soil gas regulations promulgation
- Author of a number of articles and technical papers related to methane gas hazard
- Developed mathematical algorithms for calculating methane soil gas hazard/action levels
- Determination of methane soil gas genesis and hazard potential based upon isotopic analyses

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Professional Career:

- ◆1967 - 1969, Engineering Assistant, Crawford Murphy & Tilly, Springfield, Illinois
- ◆1970 – 1973, Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Dept. of Engineering, Los Angeles, California
- ◆1973 – 1976, Civil Engineer, Ralph M. Parsons Company, Pasadena, California
- ◆1976 – 1980, Civil Engineer, Gram Phillips Associates, Pasadena, California
- ◆1980 – 1984, Associate Civil Engineer, Lockman & Associates, Monterey Park, California
- ◆1984 – 1987, Principal Engineer and Partner, Jensen & Lockman, Ventura, California
- ◆1987 – 2001, Owner/Founder, Sepich Associates, Inc. *d.b.a* “Methane Specialists,” Moorpark, California, (sold company in 2001)
- ◆2001 – 2006, Independent Consultant, (period of non-compete agreement)
- ◆2006 to Present, Owner and Founder of Sepich Enterprises, LLC, *d.b.a* BROWNFIELD SUBSLAB, San Antonio, TX, and Westlake Village, CA

Some Expert Testimony

- ◆1982. South Coast Air Quality Management District in Los Angeles, California: expert testimony under oath in a series of hearings before a special board, comprised of heads and technical experts from various local and state environmental agencies, the board having been assembled to investigate issues at the 160 acre, three hundred foot thick (half below grade) Operating Industries, Inc. (OII) hazardous waste landfill, a superfund site, in Monterey Park, CA, next to which were constructed single family residences. Issues included migration and surface emissions of vinyl chloride and landfill gas, odors, use of air dike systems for soil vapor control, and hazardous leachate contamination of groundwater. Surface sweep monitoring procedures which were promulgated pursuant to the hearings are now in common use across the nation. Testimony was provided on behalf of the legal firm of Rourke & Woodruff, Mr. Daniel Spradlin, Esquire, 700 S. Parker St, Orange, CA, telephone (714) 558-7000.

1983. Los Angeles Superior Court, Los Angeles, California: depositions and later expert testimony under oath, homeowners vs. OII site mentioned

above. Judge ruled “res judicata” in favor of OII, that all issues had already been adjudicated through a voluntary program some years earlier. Testimony on behalf of defendant OII and legal firm Rourke & Woodruff, Mr. Daniel Spradlin, Esquire, 700 S. Parker St., Orange, CA, telephone (714) 558-7000.

- ◆1990. Los Angeles Superior Court, Los Angeles, California: depositions expert courtroom testimony under oath, on behalf of plaintiff developers Comstock, Crosser & Hickey (CC&H) vs. Chevron Oil Company, related to issues of oily soil contamination, soil vapors, and petroleum exclusion. Settlement was made before trial concluded. Client: Daniel Romano, Esquire, Suite 802, 11661 San Vicente Blvd., L.A., CA 90049, Phone: (310) 207-0411, Fax: (310) 207-0221

- ◆1998 - 2000. Belmont Learning Center (BLC), testimony under oath at a series of hearings before the Special Task Force board, comprised of state and local politicians, related to methane gas at what is believed to be the most expensive high school ever built; also reference Los Angeles District Attorney’s office final report, Steve Cooley, [http://da.co.la.ca.us/pdf/BLC\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://da.co.la.ca.us/pdf/BLC_Final_Report.pdf)

Publications:

- ◆*CPT Evaluation of Soil-Gases for L.A. Metro Rail Tunnel*, J. Putnam, B. Ghadiali, J. Sepich, G. Johnpeer, S. Kehoe; International Conference on Cone Penetrometers, Linkoping, Sweden, 1995.
- ◆*Look Beyond Belmont Hysteria*, Op-Ed, John Sepich, Los Angeles Times, July 29, 1999.
- ◆*Hazard Assessment by Methane CVP* -- John Sepich, Battelle Conference, 2006, Monterey, CA
- ◆*Geochemical Characterization, Source and Fate of Methane and Hydrogen Sulfide at Belmont Learning Center, Los Angeles*, Isaac Kaplan and John Sepich, Environmental Geosciences, 03/2010
- ◆*Methane Soil Gas Identification and Mitigation*, John Sepich, ASCE San Antonio, 04/2012
- ◆*Toxic Soil Vapor Identification, Assessment, and Mitigation* John Sepich, ASCE Amarillo, 09/2011