In FY15, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Research and Development (ORD), Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM, formerly OSWER), and regional waste management offices established the Technical Support Project (TSP).

- The TSP was created to enable ORD personnel to provide effective technical assistance by ensuring the ORD scientists and engineers were accessible to the Agency’s regional decision makers, including Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs), and corrective action staff.
- Three of the five ORD Technical Support Centers (TSCs) are supported by the SHC Research Action Plan.
- This includes the Engineering Technical Support Center (ETSC); the Ground Water Technical Support Center (GWTS), and the Site Characterization & Monitoring Technical Support Center (SCMTSC).
- All are co-funded by ORD and OLEM, and supported by EPA Regions and Offices.
- Each TSC is dedicated to serving the EPA and its clients by supplying high-quality, quick-response technical support services. These TSCs provide site characterization assistance to waste program project managers by supporting the use of state-of-the-science methods and technologies for identifying contaminants, determining levels and concentrations, and identifying their geographic extent.
- The technical support cycle involves three main components:
  - Linking ORD research to Agency decisions: developing the critical links between ORD scientists and Agency decision-makers to channel technical expertise and research results to the EPA's operating programs.
  - Applying best practices to field applications: facilitating application of the best scientific understanding and practices to solve real-world problems and reduce risks to human health and the environment.
  - Providing feedback from field application to research: serving as a conduit to ensure ORD research is addressing the most important problems the Agency is facing.

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In FY15, the SCMTSC supported 35 sites in 9 EPA Regions.
- Support included numerous site tasks for each project such as site-specific work, report reviews, sampling technology evaluations, presentations, site meetings, and conference calls.
- The SCMTSC offers a suite of technical & statistical services including: assisting with statistical needs for site characterization; reviewing field sampling/monitoring activities; assessing vapor intrusion issues; environmental forensics; and evaluation of geophysics and remote sensing technologies.
- The SCMTSC has helped site managers make statistically defensible decisions by developing and enhancing the ProUCL software. In FY15, the SCMTSC helped more than 100 users with ProUCL inquiries.