Determination of water flow paths with the aid of ERT measurements – A case study at the Rautenweg landfill (Vienna)

Oliver Pöschl (1), Robert Scholger (1), Renato Sarc (2), and Karl Reiselhuber (3)

(1) Montanuniversität Leoben, Chair of Applied Geophysics, Department Applied Geosciences and Geophysics, Austria (oliver.poenschl@stud.unileoben.ac.at), (2) Montanuniversität Leoben, Chair of Waste Processing Technology and Waste Management, Department of Environmental and Energy Process Engineering, (3) Municipal Department 48 of the city of Vienna, Rautenweg landfill, Rautenweg 83

The knowledge of water contents within landfills is of high interest for waste management, since it has one of the strongest influences on biogas production (Rettenberger, 1992). At landfills where the gas production is decreasing due to a dried-out subsurface, attempts are made to restart or increase the production with a focused irrigation. During this irrigation, the water flow paths can be monitored. This contribution demonstrates the suitability of ERT (Electrical Resistivity Tomography) measurements for the monitoring of these water flow paths within the landfill. The investigated area is located in the northeastern part of Vienna at the Rautenweg landfill. Overall, four 2D ERT profiles, with a length of 170 m, 200 m and 250 m, respectively, were acquired. The time-lapse inversion results indicate, that if the conductivity difference between the subsurface and the introduced water is large enough, the spreading of the water in the subsurface can be traced very well.

References: