1. Has your firm had discussions or made decisions to explore/encourage the use of AI (but are not yet using AI)?

Yes	43%
No	56%
Total responses	93

Check the areas your firm has discussed/explored.

Answer Choice	Response Percentage
Report Writing	52%
Risk Assessment and Data Analytics	28%
Field Data Collection	10%
Marketing/Business Development	39%
HR/Recruiting	13%
Other	23%
Total responses	46

"Other" examples provided: scope of work development, report review/auditing, email prep, research, graphic illustration

2. Is your firm actually using AI for any consulting or other functions?

Yes	15%
No	84%
Total responses	93

Check the areas your firm is using.

Answer Choice	Response Percentage
Report Writing	22%
Risk Assessment and Data Analytics	22%
Field Data Collection	4%
Marketing/Business Development	31%
HR/Recruiting	18%
Other	59%
Total responses	22

"Other" examples provided: Scope of work development, Phase I ESAs, internal ChatGPT-type program for research/assisting with writing, an AI program that protects information privacy

3. Are you using AI in non-work areas of your life, e.g. volunteer or community activities?

Answer Choice	Response Percentage
Yes	13%
No	86%
Total responses	93

Check the areas you have used.

Answer Choice	Response Percentage
Research/homework	36%

Report/document writing	21%
Data analytics	21%
Mailing lists	0%
Email, Newsletters	15%
Other	57%
Total responses	19

"Other" examples provided: vacation planning, brainstorming ideas, image generation

What have been your/your firm's thoughts/experience on the challenges of using AI in the waste site cleanup practice?

The vast majority of respondents replied: *Not applicable, haven't discussed, no experience at this time*

AI is helpful for generating ideas during the draft process, however cannot be trusted for final products which shall always be thoroughly reviewed by the human counterpart.

AI is only as good at the quality of data it can obtain. You still need a person to interpret the quality of original data, and in many cases the information (such as scanned MassDEP reports) is not readily available to AI.

AI only learns from the material it's given and I think a lot of nuance and varying conditions would be lost.

See strong downside of AI in report and document writing is that individuals will not exercise personal judgement; rather, they may rely on AI evaluations for their opinions. A professional licensee still has responsibility if the AI system makes an error in judgement.

Currently, do not see a benefit to use of AI in data management and analysis, which is where our interests are. Adapting to company specific database.

Concern over the technology being misused and concern over being left behind by the industry.

Furthermore, it is going to make training junior staff potentially more challenging, or change how we train staff, as AI may be used as a shortcut to learning the meaning behind certain principles/procedures.

Not yet reliable as a search engine. Significant, non-factual fabrications (hallucinations)and reliance on dubious online sources of information.

While cost of content search and preparation may be reduced, Licensed Professionals in all fields will become validators of AI generated content.

We haven't used it as far as I know, but accuracy will likely be the major concern.

We've not used AI thus far. We are concerned about confidential information and possible errors made by AI. Exposure to our proprietary information.

confidentiality concerns related to using externally hosted third-party AI and quality control/explainability of results

I would generally be opposed to its use.

every site is different, more applicable to ASTM Phase I ESAs.

What have been your/your firm's thoughts/experience on the benefits of the use of AI in the waste site cleanup practice?

The vast majority of respondents replied: *Not applicable, haven't discussed, too early to say, no experience at this time*

We can all be replaced (just kidding)

AI is helpful for brainstorming ideas for marketing and development, such as providing general templates for newsletters or resumes.

We are just starting to use AI across all of the engineering departments in the company.
Caution; Don't trust it; I don't like AI
There is no benefit to me. This is going to be a disaster because it is uncontrollable once it gets started. Just look at the mess social media has done to society. Anyone get an account in social media and spread whatever they want to about individuals without any consequences or drawback. Do you really want AI controlling things. Big Tech and the global elite is behind this big push. It's too bad that we are always looking for the easy way out. What control will our enemies have over us
Potential efficiency in small task (i.e. letters, memos, Phase I ESAs)
AI may help streamline the writing of certain report sections where the data is easily available for interpretation
Could help initial draft of reports.
There are opportunities to streamline data management and analysis.

Other Information to Share?

Comments included:
One of my large multinational consulting firm clients IS starting to use AI to create original drafts of reports.
It's all changing very quickly, but since AI is only going to become more prevalent, I think it's important for people to know what it can reliably be used for and what it can't.
I think it will be an advantage in report writing and research initially.
Hopefully warnings about why you should avoid AI.
AI may be very dangerous and its use should be avoided until much more is known. Like the COVID vaccines,too many people are lemmings running head long over the cliff.
This is not an LSP issue. lets focus on what we do.
I am on a committee for college scholarships, and we had two applications that appeared to be AI, well done, informative, but No Soul/Heart or understanding - interesting. AI is coming but i think a bit premature in my world.
I am very interested to see how it can be used.
What exactly does the LSPA mean when referring to AI?
check everything so nothing slips through the cracks. especially when it comes to health and safety and clean up standards

Are your clients encouraging/discouraging you to use AI? If so, for what functions?

The vast majority of respondents replied: *No, not yet, not that I am aware of*
The following represent one response each:
A few clients have encouraged the use of AI to aid understanding of large data sets.
Yes, as a government agency, for collecting toxicity information.
Clients have neither encouraged or discouraged AI use.
Clients have not been encouraging per se, but it feels necessary to keep up with technology/innovation.
Not Yet. Although one can anticipate that we will be competing with work products generated by AI in the near future.