Site-Specific Risk Assessment as a Cost-Effective Step in Achieving Regulatory Closure at a Former Gas Plant in Southern Alberta

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To obtain regulatory closure at a former gas liquids straddle plant within the saline zone of southern Alberta, various risk-based approaches were implemented in a Site-specific risk assessment (SSRA). Contaminants of potential concern in soil and groundwater at the Site included sterilants, petroleum hydrocarbons and metals. Using a combination of methods including fate and transport modelling, consideration of natural salinity in the area and statistical approaches, the SSRA concluded minimal remedial actions were required and no long term monitoring was necessary. The SSRA was accepted by regulators, allowing the Site to progress from the assessment to reclamation stage following a minor excavation.

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