



Former Gasoline Station
Oakville, Ontario

*“A Peer Review
of a Risk
Assessment
indicated
additional work
would be
required if it is
submitted to the
Ministry of the
Environment
and Climate
Change for
approval.”*

Purpose

Peritus was retained by a large law firm, who was acting as legal counsel for a multinational oil refinery, to act as an Expert Witness in a court case. The oil refinery owns a former gasoline service station in Oakville (the Site) and has remediated the hydrocarbon contamination in soil and groundwater. Post-remediation investigations determined chlorinated solvents are migrating onto the Site from a neighbouring property. Legal counsel requested that Peritus review all existing environmental documents and provide comments on contaminant migration and proposed remediation strategies.

Findings

Peritus consolidated data from the previous environmental reports and created detailed figures to illustrate the extent and contamination of chlorinated solvents in groundwater. The consolidated data and detailed figures were used to support opinions on the source of the chlorinated solvents, fate and transport, and effective remediation strategies. Peritus confirmed the remediation strategies proposed by other consultants would be effective and suggested that a permeable reactive barrier, installed as a funnel and gate system, would be the most effective system to prevent future contamination from migrating on-site.

The Expert Witness opinions allowed the opposing councils to expedite a settlement agreement satisfactory to both sides.

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