

September 21, 2020 | RemTech Europe, Contaminated sites sustainable management strategies

Constructing a 1 Km River near downtown Toronto, Canada through Contaminated Land: Risk Based Strategy Maximized Soil Treatment and Reuse and Land Use Controls

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Toronto Port Lands Flood Protection Project



The Port Lands area, on the shore of Lake Ontario, immediately east of downtown Toronto were created through decades of infilling of historic wetlands and has historically been used for heavy industry. The project will flood protect 240 hectares of land in the Port Lands and surrounding communities by building a new one kilometer river channel and two new river outlets to convey flood waters. New parks, roads and bridge network will complete the public realm around the river channel that will become catalysts for a range of memorable activities and experiences and will unlock a 22 hectare area for revitalization.





Presentation Overview



- Risk based approach Land Use Controls and risk management measures
- Soil Excavation and Treatment for Reuse
- Current Construction Status



Transformative Vision





Upon Completion in 2024 and Beyond





Historical Site Use



- Crude Oil/Petroleum Refining and Storage
- Natural Gas Processing
- Explosives and Ammunition Manufacturing
- Metal Treatment and Fabrication
- Concrete and Cement
 Manufacturing

Images from http://www.blogto.com/city/2012/02/what_th e_port_lands_used_to_look_like/



Risk Assessment



- No current environmental regulatory approval process in Ontario for a project of this nature creating a river through a brownfield
- Used to identify and evaluate the risks to human health and the environment, and develop effective measures to mitigate or remove those risks
- allows for the development of a comprehensive strategy for treating and reusing soil within the project area meaning that soils can be moved, treated and placed across the entire site



Key Pathways of Concern





Risk Management Barrier – 1.5 metre cap









RMM: CutoffWalls – Two Types

- Concrete Secant Pile walls with over 1700 overlapping piles drilled into bedrock (20 to 40metres deep)
- Bentonite Slurry Walls









Risk Management Barrier – at Surface WaterWet RMM ConstructionDry RMM Construction







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Toronto Port Lands Soil Reuse



Support sustainable soil management:

>1,000,000 m³ to be cut for new Don River

>700,000 m³ required for flood protection



Soil Excavation







Soil Treatment

- Soil treatment through biopiling and STARx Smoldering Treatment (both of which were piloted in PLFP in 2017/2018)
- Approximately 300,000 m3 to be treated over two seasons (biopiling) and 18 months (STARx)
 - Up to 72,000m3 STARx
 - Up to 250,000m3
 biopiling





Soil Treatment

•Highly contaminated soil through STARx – smouldering

•Successful Pilot Test

- Initial PHC of 23,700 to 35,200 ug/g
- PHC concentration reductions between approximately 95% and >99.7%
- Remediation complete in 10 days

•Full Scale

•20 by 20 m containers, 250 m3 each•8 containers; 72,000 m3 over 18 months







Soil Treatment

•Less contaminated soil through Enhanced Bioremediation

•Successful Pilot Test

- 51 to 59% reduction in total PHCs in 8 weeks (enhanced and aerobic)
- Remediation complete in 8 weeks

•Full Scale

•Long windrow bioremediation over two seasons; started late June.





Water Treatment Facility





Construction Progress







Thank you.

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