

4 REED BEDS TO TREAT FORMER PESTICIDE FACILITY



PROJECT FACT

4 reed beds were installed,
totalling

4,000m²

PROJECT FACT

Contaminated water
continued to be circulated
through the reed beds
for more than

20 years

In the 1990s, Oceans-ESU were asked to remediate an old industrial site that had been used as a pesticide research and development facility. The ground and underlying aquifer was heavily contaminated with pesticides and other chemicals.

Initially the contaminated soils were removed and partially treated by thermal desorption. Next, a groundwater treatment system was installed. This consisted of 4 reed beds (4,000m² in total) which used the partially treated soils mixed with limestone as a growing medium. Two pumps were installed to extract contaminated water from the groundwater aquifer and feed it to the reed beds.

By this means, the remediation of the contaminated soils was completed, and contaminated water continued to be circulated through the reed beds for more than 20 years. This has achieved gradual clean-up of the groundwater aquifer, while also preventing the migration of contamination to the adjacent river and other sensitive areas.