

CASE HISTORY

Petrochemical plant utilizes FQE® NORM-Clear™ to decontaminate specialized, high cost filters for reuse that are usually disposed of at a high cost

Results Achieved

Within 6 hours radiation readings were reduced to within the plant's acceptable allowance

Over 95% reduction in outage time

No personnel exposure to hazardous materials

No additional disposal expense



Chemicals Utilized



A large petrochemical plant in Texas used our NORM abatement product FQE NORM-Clear to decontaminate a bank of natural gas filters that were contaminated with radioactive NORM scale.

The gas filters remove entrained water and solids present in incoming feedstock natural gas. The filters are regularly contaminated with high levels of radioactive scales. These filters are typically replaced and disposed of at a high cost due to the NORM content.

The filters were chemically treated with an aqueous solution of FQE NORM-Clear. The application was conducted at ambient temperature and each filter was circulated with the treating liquid for 4-hours. After the chemical circulation was completed, the filter casing was rinsed with water.

The initial radiation readings were reported at over 2000 mrem/hr. On completion of the work, the radiation readings were reduced to less than 10 mrem/hr., within the plant's acceptable allowance.

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The decontamination process allows the plant to save the replacement cost of the specialized, high cost filters and to eliminate the cost of disposing NORM contaminated equipment. The total decontamination time, per filter bank was 6-hours to completion resulting in a significant cost and time savings to the client.

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Contact us

Head Office

Deer Park, Texas 4820 Railroad Street Deer Park, Texas 77536

+1 (281) 476-9249

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FQE-CH-031-NA

Calgary, Alberta

Suncor Energy Centre, West Tower #5100 – 150 6th Ave SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 3Y7

+1 (403) 538-3050

Perth, Western Australia

14 Cocos Drive Bibra Lake, Perth, WA 6163

Office: 08 9434 3919 Intl: +61 8 9434 3919

