

Railroad Ditch Remediation Project

Remediation of a ditch that runs parallel and adjacent to an active railroad is complicated. The project needed to be coordinated between the rail line, the property owner, the client and the state regulator. Arecon designed and implemented remedial techniques to avoid the expense and time of shoring along the rail. The strategy involved excavating twenty-foot sections along the railroad. Each section was to be backfilled and compacted before the next section was started. The excavation was coordinated to avoid times when the trains were on the railway. The problem was assuring that all of the contamination was removed. In order to overcome the problem Arecon utilized an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analyzing instrument to assure that all of the contamination was removed.



The remediation of the ditch is shown in the photograph on the left. The ditch was just less than 900 feet long. Arecon used controlled excavation and filling techniques.

The ditch after remediation is shown in the photograph on the right. Topsoil is in place and it has been conditioned with lime, fertilized and seeded. Mulch blankets are shown on the top of the hill.



The photograph to the left shows part of the ditch, found clean by XRF analysis, being compacted and tested for compaction using a nuclear density-testing device.



These five photographs show the ditch after the project was completed, including the manhole.

