

## FEATURE



# DEALING WITH THE FUEL POLLUTION NIGHTMARE



**IT HAS TO BE EVERY FUEL RETAILER'S worst nightmare - to discover weeks, possibly months, after it started that one of their tanks or their pipework has sprung a leak and has been unknowingly polluting the land around the site.**

Or find that having bought a forecourt site to develop, or decided to expand their own forecourt or to sell it off, that their land is polluted. Just what happens next? One answer is to call in TRM Ltd, specialists who work across the UK and in Ireland, and are experts in working at forecourts where contamination has occurred.

TRM stands for Telluric Remediation Management and TRM's Emma Yates explained exactly what they do and how they can help PRA members who fear they have a land contamination problem. She says: "We deal with a lot of petrol stations, forecourts that have been disused and are being developed, as well as petrol

stations that are still operating and have a problem with leaking storage tanks.

"We clean up the soil and the area around. We work on a lot of disused sites where there was a forecourt previously, perhaps a site where the land has been bought by a developer, and the developer then finds that there is a problem with contaminated land and they need somebody to clean it up for them.

"We then put together a series of different remediation proposals and together with the Environment Agency put that action programme in place. There are various techniques that we can use to clean up the land. Which technique we adopt depends on how badly the land has been polluted.

"With forecourts that are still operating we are often able to do the work without the forecourt having to stop its operations and we are able to use a variety of techniques, such as using bore holes to access the

contaminated land, and using underground pipework and pumping out."

TRM works using so-called "remediation" solutions that are tailor-made for the forecourt site in question, and which can be adapted to clean up polluted land under and around operating fuel stations. This is done using "discrete" clean-up units which are rapidly installed on site but away from the service facilities, which means that the daily running of the fuel retailer's business can carry on without being affected in any way.

TRM also deals with old, disused petrol stations that have been sold on for redevelopment and which all too often require remediation before they can be developed. This is often enforced by the Environment Agency or local council.

TRM point out that by combining their practical experience with expert knowledge gained from successfully completing a large number of remediation contracts throughout the UK, they:

- Offer complete site remediation from concept design to validation
- Effectively liaise with the client, consultant and regulatory bodies
- Have access to a large fleet of specialist plants and equipment
- Have full project management capability
- Employ highly qualified and experienced personnel
- Are Mobile Plant Licence holders and Registered Waste Carriers 