

## CEPSA'S POSITION AND STRATEGY ON SOILS AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION

**HSEQ** 



## **POSITION**

The soil is one of the natural elements considered essential for life on our planet, because of the many important functions carried out in it, such as food and biomass production, water storage and gases exchange with the atmosphere. Soils are also the habitat of many organisms, they are source of raw materials and serve as a basis for human activities.

Cepsa, due to the type of activities that it develops, establishes between its environment priorities, the soils and groundwater protection during the whole life cycle of the installations, from the initial

construction project until the dismantling, as well as the recovery of the sites that could be affected because of the development of the installation.

## **STRATEGY**

Cepsa's soils and groundwater protection is based on the application of preventive actions that avoid leaks and spills towards non-accommodated areas and, at the same time, providing early warning mechanisms and control procedures that detect them the soonest as possible with the aim of carrying out corrective actions that minimize the most the affections. Preventing and minimizing the impact of the activities during the whole installations' life cycle with a positive net effect over the biodiversity is the objective.

Through its intern procedures, Cepsa establishes the prevention as a key piece in its environment management, focused on:

- The design and construction of new installations or modification of the existing ones considering standards that guarantee its watertightness and the existence of control, safety and alarms elements.
- The development and implantation of inspection and maintenance programs of the installations aimed to the detection, prevention and correction of possible pollutant emission points towards the subsoil.
- The existence of surveillance and control elements for the quality of the subsoil.
- Performing the characterization of the soil affection if detected, risk analysis and, if needed, carrying out as swiftly as possible, the remediation actions to first of all avoid its extension and arrival to the groundwater and ultimately achieve the required quality levels in order to delete the risks for the health and the ecosystems.