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Indiana holds second place again for U.S. EPA Brownfields Grant awards in Region 5

The puzzle pieces of brownfield redevelopment are coming together for several Indiana communities. April was a month for good news for Indiana from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) which made announcements about its annual, competitive CERCLA 104(k) Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) grants. Indiana will again benefit from multiple awards of assessment funding.

Nationwide, 144 communities will receive 221 U.S. EPA Brownfields ARC Grants totaling $54.3 million to investigate, remediate and repurpose brownfield properties. Among the awards, six Indiana applicants (three coalitions and three communities) received 12 assessment awards for hazardous substances ($1,372,250) and petroleum ($967,750) contamination, totaling $2,340,000. Indiana ranked second among the U.S. EPA Region 5 states for overall dollars awarded and number of awards. While the total dollar amount awarded to Indiana grantees was up 3% from last year, only 32% of the dollars requested in Indiana proposals was awarded, demonstrating just how competitive the annual grant round is.

The Indiana award recipients include the following seasoned communities:

- **Clarksville, Town of:** $440,000 Assessment Coalition award ($322,250 Hazardous; $117,750 Petroleum) for brownfield redevelopment efforts targeted in areas along the Ohio River
- **Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, Southern Indiana:** $400,000 Assessment Coalition award ($300,000 Hazardous; $100,000 Petroleum) to continue/enhance its brownfield work in the Coalition counties of Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry, Pike, and Spencer

Continued on Page 2
**Indianapolis, City of:** $300,000 Community-wide Assessment award ($150,000 Hazardous; $150,000 Petroleum) focused on the Southeast Neighborhood Development, Inc. properties adjacent to the federally-designated Indy East Promise Zone

**Jeffersonville, City of:** $300,000 Community-wide Assessment award ($150,000 Hazardous; $150,000 Petroleum) targeted at the 10th Street Corridor

**Michigan City Sanitary District:** $600,000 Assessment Coalition award ($300,000 Hazardous; $300,000 Petroleum) focused on brownfields in the Trail Creek and Monon corridors

**Richmond, City of:** $300,000 Community-wide Assessment award ($150,000 Hazardous; $150,000 Petroleum) targeted at the Depot District

On April 26, 2018, Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) staff were honored to be among U.S. EPA, Congressional, and City representatives who participated in a press conference in Michigan City that highlighted the Michigan City Sanitary District Assessment Coalition award. The announcement was made at Millennium Park by Mayor Ron Meer and other officials and featured displays showcasing redevelopment plans in the area.
As usual, leveraging financial resources is one of the keys to successful projects. Part of the recent U.S. EPA award announcement mentioned how the U.S. EPA Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and Drinking Water SRF can be used, under certain conditions, to address the water quality aspects of brownfield sites and the assessment and construction of drinking water infrastructure on brownfields, respectively. For several years, the IFA has embraced this synergy with its SRF Loan programs to maximize Brownfields RLF cleanup funding.

To learn more about brownfield funding opportunities, U.S. EPA’s Brownfields Program Web site may be accessed via the Program’s Web site and directly at http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/. The U.S. EPA News Release and list of the FFY 2018 applicants selected for funding, including their respective fact sheets, may be found directly at this link: https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicants-selected-fy18-brownfields-assessment-revolving-loan-fund-and-clean-up-grants. For more information about the ARC grants, please check out: https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding.

Time to inventory your inventory efforts

Reminder that U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants can fund local inventory efforts. Note that the free, on-line Brownfields Inventory Tool (BIT) developed by the U.S. EPA-funded Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program can be an invaluable tool for developing your local brownfield inventory. Detailed information can be found at www.tab-bit.org. The Indiana Brownfields Program continues to encourage brownfield stakeholders to share site information in order for the Program to continue its support of local redevelopment projects.

Supplemental Funding award keeps the Indiana Revolving Loan Fund Incentive alive and well

On June 7, 2018, Indiana received more good news from U.S. EPA that the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) received a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Supplemental funding award in the maximum amount of $500,000 to address environmental cleanups at petroleum contaminated brownfields. Approximately $15.7 million in supplemental funding was awarded nationwide to 33 existing, successful RLF grantees to facilitate a variety of brownfield cleanup and redevelopment projects for improved environmental, public, and economic health.

RLFs specifically supply funding for loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. The primary purpose of the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program)’s RLF Incentive is to facilitate the redevelopment of brownfield sites by making low-cost funding available to eligible public and private borrowers through low-to-zero interest loans with flexible terms to finance environmental cleanups and facilitate the public or private redevelopment of brownfield sites throughout the state. The Program offers loan and subgrant opportunities.

With this recent award from U.S. EPA, the Program is launching a new Petroleum Orphan Sites Initiative (POSI) RLF subgrant (Subgrant) incentive through which it expects to issue four to six Subgrants to four to six communities to remediate petroleum-contaminated orphan brownfield sites to a level for which the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) will issue a No Further Action (NFA) determination in order to help prepare sites for redevelopment.

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For those unfamiliar with the Program’s POSI, it assists political subdivisions by investigating and undertaking corrective action at brownfield sites contaminated with petroleum from a release from an underground storage tank (UST) for which there is no viable responsible party to conduct tank removal and cleanup. To facilitate redevelopment of such orphan properties, the Program provides site assessment, UST removal, and remediation to close environmental conditions on a site under IDEM’s Remediation Closure Guide. Hazardous substances or petroleum contamination from other on-site sources (e.g., hydraulic lifts, etc.) are also addressed if additional funding is available. Sites to be funded are primarily identified to the Program by the Enforcement Section of IDEM’s Office of Land Quality and the Leaking UST program. However, if a political subdivision has concerns about an abandoned petroleum UST site in its community, it can contact the Program to request an evaluation of the site for potential funding. The Program goal is for a No Further Action (NFA) letter to be issued by IDEM to the site owner at the end of remediation.

With this new incentive, potential Subgrantees will submit an application to the Program demonstrating Subgrantee and site eligibility prior to being awarded POSI RLF Subgrant funding. POSI RLF Subgrant awardees will enter into an RLF Subgrant Agreement with the IFA addressing the conditions of the Subgrant. Waiver requests to exceed the $200,000 Subgrant cap will be made to U.S. EPA as needed.

Additional information about U.S. EPA’s Brownfields Program and recent RLF awards are available at: [http://www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields) or [https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/announcing fy18 supplemental funding brownfields revolving loan fund grants](https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/announcing fy18 supplemental funding brownfields revolving loan fund grants).

Opportunity Zones in Indiana

Indiana is a land of opportunity. Under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, Governors around the nation have nominated specific census tract areas within their respective States to be Opportunity Zones. Investments in these areas will benefit from tax incentives patterned after the $50 billion New Market Tax Credit program. All 156 of the census tracts nominated by Governor Holcomb have been certified and designated as Opportunity Zones by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. These zones will be in place for ten years of Opportunity fund investment for private redevelopment in the target areas. Community development emphasis is on private commercial development, but infrastructure and brownfield assessment/cleanup are also eligible site investments since these activities “substantially improve” the property. Since this State-driven nomination process allows local input on priority areas, it may result in additional brownfield redevelopment if brownfield priority sites and Opportunity Zone investment target areas align.

Additional information is available in the Governor’s [April 19 press release](https://www.in.gov/gov/2979.htm). Here is a direct web link to the map and list of Indiana’s Opportunity Zones: [https://www.in.gov/gov/2979.htm](https://www.in.gov/gov/2979.htm). The official map from the U.S. Department of the Treasury can be found [here](https://www.in.gov/gov/2979.htm).
This interactive map can be accessed on the Indiana Brownfields Program Web site at https://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm.
Brownfields and SRF synergies

As with most brownfield projects, necessary financial resources rarely come from one source. Typically a mix of public and public/private investments is required to complete site cleanup and redevelopment. Among many brownfield success stories in Indiana in which the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) has played a part, several have also involved the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program. This synergy was highlighted at the federal level, where Program staff responded to the following questionnaire on which the U.S. EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) has been working with the U.S. EPA Office of Water on two fact sheets (one on Clean Water SRF projects and one on Drinking Water projects) and another project of “Case studies” on brownfield examples of these types of projects for a larger compendium.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
Recognized Projects Questionnaire

Interviewee Name and Contact Information: Michele Oertel, moertel@ifa.in.gov, 317-234-0235
Role/Relationship of Interviewee to Project: Brownfields RLF Grant manager for Indiana Finance Authority
Program Name: Indiana Brownfields Program (and State Revolving Fund Program)
Fund Recipient: Indiana Finance Authority
Project Name: Former Columbus Wood Treating Plant (NPS/Brownfield Site)

1. How would you describe this project to someone? A combination of State Revolving Fund (SRF) and Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) loan funding to address a longstanding eyesore has benefitted the City of Columbus (City). A December 29, 2011 $1.8 million loan to the City from the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) funded petroleum remediation activities at the 1.24-acre, vacant, former Columbus Wood Treating Plant (Site) located at 705 2nd Street (a.k.a. 53 Lafayette Avenue) which facilitated construction of a pedestrian/cycling trail.

2. Please describe the current status of the project—completed, planned or underway? Underway. The remediation activities conducted to mitigate groundwater and soil impacts associated with a long history of Site operations including coal and coke processing and wood treating/preservation helped to eliminate the discharge of Site contaminants and protect the Flat Rock River. Groundwater sampling/monitoring (with SRF funding) will continue for at least three more quarters to evaluate plume stability in order for the State to be able to issue a closure letter regarding environmental conditions on the Site.

3. What will the project area look like, or how will it be different once the project is completed? The newly-constructed trail serves as interim greenspace redevelopment for the Columbus community until commercial or other redevelopment occurs in the future.

4. What sources of funding were used? In what amounts? How were the funds used? The IFA-combined funding at the Site, $1.2 million in petroleum Brownfields loan funds coupled with $600,000 in CWSRF loan funds, was used to assess and remediate environmental conditions on the Site including the removal of 223.85 tons of contaminated soil, treatment by soil solidification/stabilization, UST removal and installation of over 30 groundwater monitoring wells. The loan funding leveraged additional financial assistance to facilitate Site reuse including over $300,000 in a federal Housing and Urban Development Economic Development Initiative Grant. See detailed funding below:
5. How long did the project take? Please provide any details about the process. **Approx. 1999-present.** Several Environmental Site Assessments were conducted, including delineation of contamination, prior to remediation/monitoring and redevelopment activities via multiple funding sources.

6. What is the most unique and/or interesting aspect of this project? **The combination of CWSRF funding with Brownfields funding to address a Non-Point Source (NPS) of ground water contamination on and emanating from a brownfield site.**

7. What makes the project innovative, major, exciting and/or sustainable? **In addition to combining CWSRF funding with Brownfields funding to undertake remedial activities, the City is committed to using sustainable landscaping methods, with a focus on the use of native plants in a low-maintenance design.**

8. Are new or unique technologies/practices being incorporated? Please explain. **The City is embracing sustainable landscaping methods as part of site redevelopment.**

9. Please provide any additional details about this project you would like included in the case study. **Potential off-site exposures to site contamination are targeted to be addressed through use of institutional controls, the recording of environmental restrictive covenants on the adjacent City-owned properties in order to limit groundwater (impacted with free product) exposure and facilitate commercial development under consideration for the surrounding property.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Approx. Date</th>
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<td>$300,000</td>
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<td>$32,893</td>
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<td>$311,839</td>
<td>Brownfields RLF Grant Funds Loaned - EPA</td>
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<td>$36,125</td>
<td>IFA Site Assessment Grant (SAG) (Round 4)</td>
<td>1999</td>
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</table>

Former Columbus Wood Treating Plant redeveloped as pedestrian/cycling trail, Columbus.
Many happy returns

We at the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) are happy when our brownfield stakeholders return our Return on Investment (ROI) survey requests. Throughout the years, the Program has found success in measuring Program success primarily through survey responses, media stories, and Indiana Workforce Development jobs data. From news stories/Google Earth searches since the last update, the benefits of brownfield assistance have increased showing 1,776 acres back in productive use for 359 completed sites. Program efforts continue with the assistance of a summer intern.

Sharing site successes is not limited to the summer months! At any time throughout the course of your brownfield project, we welcome project updates in whatever way is most convenient to you. Our gratitude remains for Program participants who have shared stories, statistics, and site photos with us which help us process our Program’s incentives that facilitate local efforts. In anticipation and support of your next redevelopment success, we thank you for helping Indiana’s economy and environment, one brownfield at a time.

Reminder that the brief ROI project survey form – as an on-line survey or a downloadable spreadsheet version – can be conveniently accessed on our Program Web site at http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2354.htm or at https://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2361.htm. Please feel free to reach out to Nancy Dollar of the Indiana Brownfields Program at NaDollar@ifa.in.gov.

Summer is not just for recreation, but for education

In partnership with the U.S. EPA-funded Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program and the Indiana Communities Institute at Ball State University, the Indiana Brownfields Program is again co-hosting two back-to-back brownfield workshops. This year, for something different which will allow workshop participants to experience a brownfield redevelopment success first hand, the two workshops will be held in what was a boarded-up factory called the Tube Processing Corporation Facility (former Tube Factory) on a residential street in the Garfield Park neighborhood in Indianapolis but which is now a multi-use community gathering space owned by Big Car Media, Inc. The two events entitled Brownfields Financing Workshop and Brownfields Legal Considerations Workshop are not mutually exclusive and will be held on August 22 and August 23. Please stay tuned for additional information about registration for either/both workshops via our Program Web page and at: https://www.ksutab.org/education/workshops/ and at http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/community/state/ici/training/brownfields.

Reading and remembering

The Brownfields legacy of the late Charlie Bartsch, “The Original Brownfield Hero,” lives on in his writings, which draw upon his 25 plus years of experience in economic and community development program and policy analysis that focus on brownfield reuse. Below are just a few of his nationally recognized reading materials related to public-private and state and federal brownfield financing:

> Financing Brownfield Redevelopment in Small Towns and Rural Areas

> Promoting Brownfield Redevelopment: Role of Public-Private Partnerships

> Reinvestment Focused Environmental Finance: The Economic Development Function of EPA/Environmental Programs
Site Highlights

Perfect Grand Opening – former Perfection Paint becomes The Vue

On June 5, 2018, Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) staff attended the Grand Opening at The Vue on Georgia Street in Indianapolis, a residential redevelopment of a 2.6-acre former brownfield called Perfection Paint that received assistance from the Program (2014 Comfort Letter). At the event, staff connected with Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett and Jeffrey Kittle of Herman & Kittle Properties Inc. and understands that they have filled approximately 45% of the units since November 2017. Appropriately named, The Vue does have stunning view of downtown Indianapolis and is a success for the mixed residential and commercial/industrial neighborhood.

Building on the BUILD Act

Stick around for changes to the next U.S. EPA annual Brownfields ARC Grant round. These national grants will be affected by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment and Local Development (BUILD) Act, enacted on March 23, 2018 as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018. The BUILD Act reauthorized U.S. EPA’s Brownfields Program, and made amendments to the 2002 Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. In addition to making changes to the grant program, authorized changes will affect liability provisions, as well as state and tribal response programs. U.S. EPA is developing policy guidance to implement the changes made through the BUILD Act.

Of particular note, the following three provisions are included in the BUILD Act:

1. The authority to increase the per-site cleanup grant amounts to $500,000;
2. The new multi-purpose grant authority; and
3. The new small community assistance grant authority.

For more information about these provisions, visit https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-broadcast. Updates about the BUILD Act and grant funding will be posted on the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) Web site accordingly. As applicable and appropriate, the Program will continue to support Indiana applicants pursuant to updated U.S. EPA grant guidelines. For more specific information about this grant opportunity, please visit http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm or contact Michele Oertel of the Indiana Brownfields Program at moertel@ifa.in.gov.
Southside Lumber becomes Kokomo Residential Care Facility

The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) conducted technical oversight for environmental activities and issued a Site Status Letter and a Comfort Letter addressing potential liability for historical contamination in order to facilitate residential redevelopment at the 2.81-acre former Southside Lumber site located at 408 S. Washington Street, Kokomo in Howard County (Site). The Site Status Letter and Environmental Restrictive Covenant (ERC) documented closure of environmental conditions on the Site/no need for a response action following Program Petroleum Orphan Sites Initiative (POSI)-funded removal/remediation activities to facilitate residential reuse of the Site. Actually, two unused adjacent project properties were redeveloped, putting them back on Kokomo’s tax rolls.

In 1916, the downtown Kokomo Site was developed with a lumber yard, and Southside Lumber and Coal Company operated on a portion of the Site until at least 2003. A 3,680-square-foot retail building is located on the western perimeter of the Site which operated an automobile repair, automobile laundry, and a motor sales shop (1927-1936) along with several machine shops (1927-1953). A gasoline filling station was located in the southwest corner of the Site (1938-1959) and represents the last of the buildings constructed on the Site. The northern portion of the Site includes part of Wildcat Creek and its associated flood plain and was formerly part of the “Old” Kokomo Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP), an Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) project. Metals and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) contamination was present in soil and groundwater.

With the demolition of all the on-Site buildings, the Southside Lumber POSI project has been redeveloped for multi-tenant residential reuse. Chicago-based Vermilion Development and The Laubacher Company redeveloped the property with a $20 million investment. It constructed a 4-story, 119-unit assisted living complex on the Site, employing 35 people and investing more than $1 million in payroll annually. The City of Kokomo reported that the new Kokomo Residential Care Facility will serve a specific niche of senior citizens with physical disabilities who need a level

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of care that falls between independent living and skilled nursing care. Other amenities include a library, hair salon, fitness center and wellness programs, routine medical services, 24-hour trained staff and emergency call system, three nutritionally balanced meals per day, housekeeping and laundry services, and resident transportation. The facility is centrally located across from Foster Park and the Kokomo Senior Center. Pedestrian extensions are planned to connect the Kokomo Residential Care Facility to the nearby Industrial Heritage Trail and the Walk of Excellence which will complement the City’s Master Plan. On June 28, 2018, a Grand Opening was held for the Kokomo Residential Care Facility, called Silver Birch of Kokomo.
August 14, 2018
Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) EDA Revolving Loan Fund Webinar Series: Strategies for Addressing Non-Performance and Loan Defaults
2:00 pm ET
Free to register at https://www.cdfa.net/.

August 16, 2018
CDFA Federal Financing Webinar Series: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
2:00 pm ET
Free to register at https://www.cdfa.net/.

August 22, 2018
Brownfields Financing Workshop
The Tube Factory artspace, Indianapolis
This event will be co-hosted by the U.S. EPA-funded Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program, the Indiana Communities Institute at Ball State University, and the Indiana Brownfields Program. Information and registration can be found at: https://www.ksutab.org/education/workshops/ and at http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/community/state/ici/training/brownfields.

August 23, 2018
Brownfields Legal Considerations Workshop
The Tube Factory artspace, Indianapolis
This event will be co-hosted by the U.S. EPA-funded Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program, the Indiana Communities Institute at Ball State University, and the Indiana Brownfields Program. Information and registration can be found at: https://www.ksutab.org/education/workshops/ and at http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/community/state/ici/training/brownfields.

September 6, 2018
CDFA Brownfields Redevelopment Financing Webinar Series: The Developer’s Perspective in Financing Brownfield Projects
2:00 - 3:30 pm ET
Free to register at https://www.cdfa.net/.

September 19, 2018
American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Indiana Environmental Business & Funding Sources Conference
Indianapolis
For more information, check out www.acecindiana.org.

September 19, 2018
21st Annual Partners for Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show
Indianapolis Marriott North
For more information, visit www.IN.gov/idem/ppp/2334.htm.

October 16, 2018
CDFA EDA Revolving Loan Fund Webinar Series: Solutions for Revolving Loan Fund Servicing
2:00 pm ET
Free to register at https://www.cdfa.net/.

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October 17-18, 2018
2018 AHAIN Affordable Housing Conference & Annual Meeting
NEW Embassy Suites by Hilton, Noblesville Indianapolis Conference Center
Co-sponsored by USDA Rural Development and the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority.
For more information, visit www.inaha.org.

October 22-23, 2018
Indiana Chamber 2018 Indiana Environmental Conference
JW Marriott Indianapolis
For more information, check out https://10times.com/environmental.

November 7-9, 2018
CDFA National Development Finance Summit
Dallas, TX
For more information, check out https://www.cdfa.net/cdfa/ndfs.nsf/register.

November 8-9, 2018
Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC) Annual Conference
The Omni Severin Hotel Indianapolis
For more information, visit http://www.iarc.cc.

December 2018
DEADLINE anticipated for U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant Proposals
For updates, visit https://www.epa.gov/brownfields.

Disclaimer
Mention of non-Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) Web site links and documents does not constitute an IFA endorsement of their contents, only an acknowledgement that they exist and may be relevant to our brownfield redevelopment stakeholders.

Awesome AA retiring soon
Sue Overstreet, our awesome Administrative Assistant, who has been with the Program since its inception, will be retiring later this year. Sue will be missed by Indiana Brownfields Program staff and other fans, who wish all the best in what we hope will be a relaxing retirement.

Indiana Brownfields Program staff photo taken in anticipation of Sue’s retirement in 2018
The Indiana Brownfields Program offers educational, financial, legal, and technical assistance and works in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other stakeholders to assist Indiana communities in making productive use of brownfield properties.