Indiana receives nine U.S. EPA brownfield grant awards

Kudos goes to Indiana stakeholders for continued tenacity in securing federal funding for local brownfield endeavors. For the fall 2012 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) nationally competitive Brownfield Assessment, Cleanup, and Revolving Loan Fund (ARC) Grant round, five Indiana applicants (including two Coalitions) received nine awards totaling $3,150,000. Total national figures for the ARC Grant round include 240 recipients recommended to receive $62.5 million in grants to protect human health and the environment and to help redevelop contaminated properties in communities, while improving local economies and leveraging jobs. This year, nearly half of the awardees are new ARC Grant funding recipients.

For Indiana, seven Assessment grants totaling $1,350,000 were awarded to four recipients:

- City of Bloomington
- City of Clinton
- City of Indianapolis
- Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission Coalition

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Two Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grants totaling $1,800,000 were awarded to two recipients:

City of Indianapolis

Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority Coalition

Outside of the U.S. EPA ARC Grant round, the City of Indianapolis also received a U.S. EPA Area-wide Planning Grant of $200,000. With its Assessment and RLF grants, Indianapolis received a total of $1.6 million to address its blighted inner city brownfields.

The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) proudly supported these awardees during the ARC Grant proposal process, as well as ten other applicants from across the State that made the admirable attempt to obtain this highly competitive federal funding for brownfield redevelopment efforts.

For additional information on brownfield grant success stories throughout the years, check out U.S. EPA’s Web site at http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/index.htm.

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 City of Goshen received a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Recognition Award announced at the National Brownfields 2013 conference in Atlanta, Georgia, in May. U.S. EPA Region 5 recognizes one organization in each of its six states that makes significant contributions to the success of the federal Brownfields Program, and Goshen is among those communities that successfully secured nationally competitive brownfield grant funds directly from U.S. EPA.

What makes Goshen stand out is its ability to leverage funds from multiple sources, such as federal funds available through the Indiana Finance Authority’s Environmental Programs – the Indiana Brownfields Program and State Revolving Fund Program. Federal funding was used for cleanup activities at several projects, including the high-priority Goshen River Race, an area of nine brownfield sites located along Goshen’s millrace canal. Congratulations go to the City of Goshen, and in particular to Becky Hershberger, the City’s Brownfield Coordinator.
Indiana finds a creative way to finance brownfields redevelopment

Article posted on May 16, 2013 by Smart Growth America. Written by Meredith Gramelspacher, Director and General Counsel of the Indiana Brownfields Program

Indiana's toolbox for creative brownfields financing includes one source that is seldom used outside of Indiana: Supplemental Environmental Projects. Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) are used by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Office of Enforcement in negotiating settlements of enforcement cases. These environmentally-beneficial projects improve, protect, or reduce risks to public health or the environment. A regulated entity agrees to undertake the project in further settlement of an enforcement action, but which the regulated entity is not otherwise legally required to perform. In certain cases, IDEM agrees to allow a respondent to make a cash payment of an agreed-upon dollar amount directly to the Indiana Finance Authority in lieu of an assessed civil penalty for use on a brownfield project in the city, town or county in which the violation underlying the enforcement action occurred. The Indiana Brownfields Program then coordinates with the beneficiary community to select a brownfield property at which to utilize the SEP Funds consistent with Brownfield SEP guidelines. Click here for full article.

More information can be found on the Indiana Brownfields Program Financial Assistance web page. Questions regarding brownfield SEPs can be directed to Andrea Robertson.

Click here for Map of SEP projects.

First come, first served -- limited Indiana Brownfields Program Auto Sector Initiative funds remain

The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) may only be able to provide financial assistance/professional services from its Auto Sector Brownfields Assessment Initiative (Auto Sector Initiative) to eligible political subdivisions or private applicants for one or two more sites as the balance of available funds is almost depleted. This funding can benefit former parts/supplier-assembly-manufacturing plants and auto dealerships for which redevelopment is hindered by actual or potential environmental contamination. Through this initiative, environmental issues associated with facilities that closed as a result of the downsizing of the automotive manufacturing sector can be addressed. Eligible activities include a variety of environmental activities, excluding remediation, at eligible brownfields. The Program will continue to accept applications on a first come, first served-basis until the funding is gone. The Auto Sector Initiative guidelines and application are located on the Program Web site at: http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm. For more information or questions, please contact Michele Oertel.
The State continues to be creative in seeking ways to provide assistance to facilitate brownfield redevelopment through leveraged resources and sustainable partnerships. The Indiana Brownfields Program has been working with Indiana’s Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) to provide funding at brownfield sites. In addition to the Disaster Recovery 2 funding available from OCRA for demolition/clearance and other eligible activities necessary to facilitate brownfield redevelopment, a new OCRA program is under development to help fund environmental assessment activities at brownfields – the Comprehensive Brownfield Redevelopment Program (CBRP), which is anticipated to launch in the fall of 2013.

The purpose of the CBRP is to provide a comprehensive brownfield redevelopment program offering access to technical and financial resources to communities through all phases of the redevelopment process. The objective of the CBRP is to provide rural communities access to resources to address health and safety concerns and blighted properties within their communities in an effort to enhance community development and sustain long-term growth. This initiative is a collaborative effort between OCRA and the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA)/Indiana Brownfields Program. The partners will provide access to technical and financial resources to increase the capacity of local units of government to plan, identify, assess, and redevelop brownfield properties.

Next U.S. EPA brownfield grant round around the corner—time for planning, partnerships, and public participation

Whether you represent a small town, large city, Regional Planning Commission, or a new or experienced grantee, now is the time to start planning for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) grant funding for your brownfield redevelopment needs. The next nationally competitive U.S EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant round is expected, as in previous years, to be in the fall of 2013.

For those trying to secure one or multiple U.S. EPA grants, several resources and opportunities continue to be available to assist you. The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) Web site will provide announcements about webinars, in-state training, and steps to obtain the required State acknowledgement letter and/or petroleum determination letter from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

The Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) program, which is a national program funded by U.S. EPA, continues to offer free assistance with project planning, contractor selection, and general recommendations to improve your proposal, among other types of technical support. To request this free assistance, please visit the TAB web site at www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/outreach/tab or contact Blase A. Leven, LG with TAB at (785) 532-0780, baleven@ksu.edu.

Similar to past years, a U.S. EPA Brownfields Grant Proposal Writing Strategies workshop co-hosted by TAB, U.S. EPA Region 5, and the Indiana Brownfields Program, in coordination with Ball State University, is planned for August 28 at the Ball State Indianapolis Center.
Stay tuned for more details. For more specific information about U.S. EPA’s Brownfields ARC Grants, please check out http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm
News you can use

Smart Growth America Brownfields Redevelopment Tool - This new tool is designed to help encourage and aid community engagement in the brownfields redevelopment process. The Organizing to Promote Targeted Improvements in Our Neighborhoods (OPTIONs) Community Engagement Workbook is a series of seven worksheets with instructions designed to help community groups think about how to organize, what they need, and how to build a strategy to participate in the redevelopment process. Community groups can use these tools on their own, but they can be just as useful for local governments that seek working with partners in federally- and state-mandated community engagement programs. For more information, see Smart Growth America's website or contact Colleen Cain, Senior Policy Analyst at the Northeast-Midwest Institute.

Sustainable Redevelopment Best Management Practices - The Sustainable Brownfields Consortium, based at the University of Illinois at Chicago and including researchers and technical advisors from UIC, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Resources for the Future, Ryerson University, and Kandiyo, has posted numerous case studies and research reports from work under a U.S. EPA Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance grant on best management practices and benefits of sustainable redevelopment of brownfield sites. The research can be found at: http://www.uic.edu/orgs/brownfields/research-results/.

State Brownfields and Voluntary Response Programs Report - The U.S. EPA updated this report which illustrates the evolving state environmental, financial and technical programs that are designed to promote and address the diverse challenges of brownfield cleanup and reuse. This report provides a concise summary of the tools that are available through state programs, which continue to be at the forefront of brownfield redevelopment endeavors. The information contained in this report was gathered from state response program contacts and state response program Web sites.

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Contained-In Policy Guidance for the Resource Conversation and Recovery Act (RCRA) - This nonrule policy document is intended solely as guidance and does not have the effect of law or represent formal IDEM decisions or final actions. This guidance is intended to clarify the application of RCRA hazardous waste regulations to environmental media (i.e., soil and groundwater). The U.S. EPA “contained-in policy” states that soil and groundwater which does not contain “listed” RCRA hazardous waste, and which is not otherwise hazardous, is not subject to RCRA regulation. U.S. EPA Regions and authorized states, including Indiana, may apply the contained-in policy to determine site-specific, media-specific and contaminant-specific health-based levels, such that if the concentrations of the hazardous constituents in the environmental media fall below the specified health-based levels, then the environmental media may be determined to no longer contain hazardous waste. A “contained-in” determination must be obtained from IDEM. Implementation issues and background are discussed in this nonrule policy. Click here for more information.

U.S. EPA Managing Your Hazardous Waste: A Guide for Small Businesses - This handbook is designed to help small-business owners and operators understand how best to comply with federal hazardous waste management regulations. It provides an overview of the regulations to give a basic understanding of business owners’ responsibilities. It should not be used as a substitute for the actual requirements. All of the federal hazardous waste regulations are located in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 260 to 299 (www.epa.gov/epacfr40). Any questions about any part of this book, or the federal hazardous waste regulations, should be directed to the RCRA Call Center at 800-424-9346 or TDD 800 533-7672 outside of the Washington, DC, area. Click here for more information.

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News you can use (Continued from Page 5)

U.S. EPA Notification of Regulated Waste Activity - This booklet is designed to help determine if a company is subject to requirements under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) for notifying the U.S. EPA of regulated waste activities. Click [here](#) for more information.

Welcome aboard!

The Indiana Brownfields Program hired Tracey Michael as a Project Manager in early 2013. Tracey comes to us from the consulting world where she spent 12 years completing field work at UST sites, former MGPs, and old industrial facilities. Her technical expertise is a valuable addition to the Program.

Brownfields financial and technical assistance makes a difference in Columbia City

One of the successful sites that benefited from the Indiana Brownfields Program Auto Sector Initiative is the former Fort Wayne Foundry Facility located at 2300 East Cardinal Drive in Columbia City in Whitley County, Indiana. This facility manufactured aluminum sand castings for automotive engine components, particularly General Motors Corporation, from 1989 to 2009. Since that time, the site had been an underutilized community asset.

Fort Wayne Metals of Fort Wayne, Indiana, applied for and ultimately received a total award of $97,701 for site security and stabilization activities, which included the removal of oil-impacted sand and disposal of various chemicals throughout the former Fort Wayne Foundry Facility and property. Fort Wayne Metals also received a Brownfields Comfort Letter from the Program to address liability concerns associated with acquiring the former foundry.

Redeveloping the facility has given the company room to expand its production of wire for medical devices and to add new capabilities; the Columbia City location now houses the world’s only facility dedicated to melting specialty alloys exclusively for the medical device industry. The Columbia City facility currently has 20 employees with plans for additional hires as production increases. Furthermore, the new Columbia City operations may well create additional jobs for Fort Wayne Metals of Fort Wayne.

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Fort Wayne Metals has grown from a small wire mill in the 1970s to a leading manufacturer of medical grade materials. The company currently serves the following market segments worldwide: Cardiac Rhythm Management, Dental Implant, Endoscopy, Neuro, Orthodontic, Orthopaedics, and Vascular Therapy.

By deciding to redevelop a brownfield for its operations, Fort Wayne Metals proved its commitment of protecting the environment. Furthermore, the business has indicated that by integrating environmentally responsible practices into all aspects of its operations (e.g., prevention, compliance), it can reduce hazards and risks, conserve resources, and ultimately support environmental stewardship with its economic development.

Indiana Brownfields Program staff were invited to attend the June 24, 2013, Open House and Facility Tour.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For up-to-date information about events relevant to brownfield redevelopment, please visit the Indiana Brownfields Program Web site: www.brownfields.IN.gov

August 27, 2013
Ball State University Economic Redevelopment Resources for Blighted Properties Workshop
Indianapolis, IN
Workshop information will be available at www.brownfields.in.gov

August 28, 2013
U.S. EPA Brownfield Grant Proposal Writing Strategies Workshop
Indianapolis, IN
Workshop information will be available at www.brownfields.in.gov

September 12, 2013
American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Indiana Seminar
Brownfields Session
Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN

September 25-26, 2013
2013 Annual Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show
Plainfield, IN
Visit http://www.in.gov/idem/ppp/2334.htm for more details

October 6-8, 2013
IACT Annual Conference & Exhibition
JW Marriott
Downtown Indianapolis, IN
Visit http://www.citiesandtowns.org/ for more details

Fall 2013
Indiana Brownfields and Office of Community and Rural Affairs Comprehensive Brownfield Redevelopment Program (CBRP) launch anticipated
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

Fall 2013
DEADLINE for U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant Proposals
http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/

Annual ROI Summer Survey – where are they now

Summer is not the time to rest on your laurels. On the contrary, it is the time to celebrate them. To help with that celebration, the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) wants to hear from you. This is the time of year the Program attempts to capture brownfield redevelopment stories from all reaches of the State through its annual Return on Investment (ROI) project survey. In addition to showcasing local successes, the completed surveys allow for the Program to process information related to its investment of financial, legal, and technical services to help it evaluate and continue to improve Program services to brownfield stakeholders seeking assistance. The Program focuses on public/private funds leveraged, businesses and jobs retained or created, as well as green space reuse and other successful activities.

As in past years, the Program is soliciting ROI survey responses from Program participants in a concerted effort to realize progress updates on brownfield projects, even though Program participants can complete and submit the one-page survey at any time during their redevelopment efforts. For convenience, the Program includes survey forms with some Program assistance documents and makes the form easily accessible on the Program Web site at http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2354.htm. We appreciate all of your responses to date and thank you in advance for accommodating our survey solicitation.
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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.