Indiana again ranks high in U.S. EPA brownfield grant awards

For the second year in a row, Indiana grant proposals fared the best among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 5 states for the U.S. EPA 2012 competitive round of Brownfield Assessment, Cleanup, and Revolving Loan Fund (ARC) Grants. Total national figures for the ARC Grants include 219 grants for $59 million. U.S. EPA awarded nationally 133 Assessment Grants totaling nearly $34 million, 73 Cleanup Grants totaling $14.5 million, and 13 RLF Grants totaling $10.5; 26 high-performing Revolving Loan Fund grantees will also receive $10.3 million in supplemental funds to continue making loans and sub-grants for brownfields cleanup. The following statistics illustrate how well Indiana fared within Region 5 for U.S. EPA ARC funding this year:

**Awarded dollars**

- **Indiana**: $4,418,100
- Wisconsin: $3,100,000
- Ohio: $2,800,000
- Michigan: $2,300,000
- Minnesota: $1,850,000
- Illinois: $1,800,000

**Number of awardees**

- **Indiana**: 8
- Wisconsin: 7
- Ohio: 7
- Minnesota: 5
- Illinois: 5
- Ohio: 4
Approximate number of awards

Indiana: 17
Wisconsin: 12
Ohio: 11
Michigan: 8
Illinois: 7
Minnesota: 5

The U.S. EPA announced 17 ARC grant awards in the amounts of $4,218,100 in assessment grants and a $200,000 cleanup grant to the following eight Indiana applicants (6 coalitions, 1 county, 1 city) based on their October 2011 grant proposals:

Clinton County – Assessment
Eastern Indiana Development District – Assessment
Indianapolis, City of – Assessment, Cleanup
Kokomo, City of – Assessment
Logansport, City of – Assessment
Muncie, City of – Assessment
Noblesville, City of – Assessment
Union City – Assessment

The IFA is proud to have supported a total of 28 community grant proposals (42 grants requested) for U.S. EPA ARC funding for brownfield redevelopment efforts statewide, with a 40% success rate. There was a 2.62% increase in the % dollars awarded ($4,418,100) compared to the amount requested ($12,214,100); 36.17% of dollars requested were awarded, which is a slight increase compared to last year.


Potential Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) borrowers may deplete loan monies – ask now if you want a loan to clean up a brownfield

The IFA currently has available approximately $1.5 million to be loaned at below-market (zero-to-low-interest) rates to eligible public, private and nonprofit entities through the Indiana Brownfields Program’s Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) incentive. However, three identified borrowers could utilize the balance of funds for hazardous substances and petroleum cleanups, so contact the Indiana Brownfields Program now if you need a loan to clean up a brownfield in your community to help with your redevelopment efforts and improve your local economy.

For more information or to download an application and guidance, please visit www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm and/or contact Michele Oertel

LUST ARRA update

The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) has been managing $4,039,000 in Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funds for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) whose grant period ended June 30, 2012. The Program has obligated and expended 100% of the grant award which has been utilized for the removal of underground storage tanks (USTs) and any associated soil and groundwater contamination to facilitate a No Further Action (NFA) determination and site redevelopment. In total, 36 sites statewide benefited from the LUST ARRA funding, resulting in the removal of 25,965.5 tons of contaminated soil and 84 USTs. Work has been completed and NFA determinations issued for over nine sites, preparing more than 23 acres for redevelopment.
Leveraging resources for brownfield redevelopment – looking ahead to U.S. EPA’s next brownfield grant round

On the heels of the recent announcement of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) grant awards, it is not too soon to start planning for the next U.S. EPA round. Per the Brownfields FFY13 Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Guidelines Listening Sessions held in May in an effort to solicit public input about the ARC process, the annually revised U.S. EPA proposal guidelines are anticipated to be released in August, so now is a good time to begin preparing for the proposal process. The ARC application deadline for the upcoming grant round is expected as in previous years to be in the fall of 2012.

For those considering applying for one or more U.S. EPA grants, several resources and opportunities will 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.

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 review and recommendations to improve your draft 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 last year, 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 cooperation with Ball State University, is planned for August 8 at the Ball State Indianapolis Center. Other resources for grant writing assistance include regional planning organizations which may serve your community and have such expertise. Contracting with a qualified environmental consulting firm, especially one experienced with writing successful U.S. EPA grant proposals, is another potential resource for applicants. The most successful applications are those where the applicants are actually involved in all aspects of any outsourced grant proposal planning, writing and submittal process.

Remember the 3 Ps: planning (long-term), public participation, and partnerships are keys to success. For site funding, partnerships, or other resource needs for consideration by the Program, please contact Michele Oertel. More specific information about U.S. EPA’s Brownfields ARC Grants may be found at http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm.
Combination of Brownfield and State Revolving Fund loan funding benefits City of Columbus

On December 29, 2011, the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) closed a loan with the City of Columbus (City) for $1.2 million in petroleum Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) funding, including $553,000 in brownfield American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) petroleum funds and $647,000 in Regular RLF petroleum funds to be spent on remediation activities at the Former Columbus Wood Treating Plant located at 705 2nd Street (a.k.a. 53 Lafayette Avenue) in Columbus (Site). With this loan, all of the Indiana Brownfields Program's Brownfields ARRA RLF petroleum and hazardous substances funds are obligated.

This loan was coupled with $600,000 in State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program funds, totaling $1.8 million in loan funding. Additional financial assistance for this Site includes an estimated $1,500,000 in private and public investment and approximately $315,000 in HUD grant funding.

The 1.24-acre Site consists of one parcel of land (Lot 3) and is located east of Lafayette Avenue and north of the railroad tracks in a commercial district. The Site is currently vacant with only trees and grass growing on-site. Operations on the Site included the use of creosote for preservation of wood products. According to previous environmental reports, it appears that coal and coke processing took place at the Site from 1885 to 1903. The wood treating plant began operations at the Site in the 1920s, with the Hoosier Creosoting Co., Interstate Public Service Stock Pens (livestock yard) listed as the first occupants of the Site in 1927. The Site remained as a wood treating/creosote plant until it was completely destroyed in a fire in 1971, since which time it remained undeveloped/vacant.

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RLF loan-funded remediation field activities with Indiana Brownfields Program oversight began in the Spring of 2012 soon after loan closing in December 2011. The funding is facilitating Site reuse as a parking lot for a planned recreational center. Maintenance and management of the redeveloped Site will be provided by the City of Columbus Parks Department. The Program applauds the City’s commitment to using a sustainable landscape as applicable and appropriate in certain areas of the Site, with a focus on the use of native plants in a low-maintenance design.

This project is a part of the overall plan by the City to become a leader and host in amateur sports competitions.

New IDEM Remediation Closure Guide is final

The new IDEM Remediation Closure Guide (RCG) Nonrule Policy Document that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) developed to replace the Risk Integrated System of Closure (RISC) and Remediation Program Guide (RPG) are effective now and are published in the Indiana Register. Under Indiana Code (IC) 13-12-3-2 and IC 13-25-5-8.5, the RCG provides a process for the consistent application of risk-based cleanups in Indiana. The RPG serves as a companion manual which provides guidance related to specific state remediation programs, such as the Voluntary Remediation Program, the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program, etc. (and contains a chapter covering brownfields). Utilizing both the RCG and the RPG provides direction for how to investigate a broad range of sites, how to select and implement a remedy as necessary and move them toward closure. The Program will utilize the final RCG in the same manner in which it has applied RISC to date, and IDEM staff will continue to be available to provide clarification regarding the RCG and the RPG. Future updates to the RCG may be found on the IDEM Risk Services web page at http://www.in.gov/idem/4153.htm.

Indiana Brownfields Program annual ROI Survey

Summer not only brings thoughts of fun and relaxation, but thoughts of the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) annual Return on Investment (ROI) project survey to capture brownfield success stories around the state. Once again, the Program will solicit progress reports from Program participants in an effort to measure the benefits of brownfield redevelopment, such as funds leveraged, jobs created, and businesses created or retained. These surveys allow for information related to the Program’s financial, legal, and technical assistance to be gathered in order to showcase local success stories, as well as to help the Program evaluate and continue to improve its services to brownfield stakeholders.

While Program participants can complete and submit the one-page survey at any time during their redevelopment project, summer is the time for the Program to knock on doors as a concerted effort to ensure we are aware of works in progress and successes.

Note that in addition to survey forms being included with some Program assistance documents, a form can be easily accessed on our Program web site at http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2354.htm.

We thank you in advance for complying with our request for information and appreciate all of your past responses.
New resource documents for brownfield stakeholders

The following are new resources available to help with the multi-faceted issues facing brownfield stakeholders. Additional new resources may be found at our Program web site at http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2353.htm:

- The IDEM Remediation Closure Guide Nonrule Policy Document and Remediation Program Guide (RPG) – documents are effective now and are published in the Indiana register and available through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the Indiana Brownfields Program.

- The Manufacturing Alliance of Communities (formerly Mayor’s Action Coalition, aka MAC) Roadmap for Auto Community Revitalization - comprehensive toolkit aimed to help local governments clean up auto brownfields and obtain resources for auto community revitalization. MAC http://autocommunities.us/ is a national group of local governments that seek federal support for the U.S. automotive sector, including Indiana communities where plants have closed. Coalition representatives include local elected and appointed officials in communities with American automotive manufacturing, supplier, assembly, and related automotive entities. The MAC’s mission is to help rebuild idled automotive communities through job training and grants to local governments for reusing closed plants. Founding MAC Member Communities in Indiana include the Cities of Anderson, Bedford, and Connersville.

- Repurposing Former Automotive Manufacturing Sites – a report on closed auto manufacturing facilities in the United States describing what communities have done to repurpose the sites. This November 2011 report can be found at http://www.cargroup.org/assets/files/repurposing.pdf

- Brownfields Road Map to Understanding Options for Site Investigation and Cleanup, Fifth Edition (EPA 542-R-12-001) - the new Brownfields Road Map publication and companion website provide a general outline of how to assess and clean up a brownfield site and introduce stakeholders to a range of technology options and available resources. Targeted for non-technical stakeholders and technical professionals, the Brownfields Road Map website provides direct access to technical resources. View or download at http://www.brownfieldstsc.org/.

- New Green Remediation Focus RSS Feed - CLU-IN visitors have been notified when new content is posted by subscribing to the RSS feeds since 2005. A new targeted RSS feed has been added for the Green Remediation Focus area. RSS is a form of web syndication and information aggregation. Instead of having to repeatedly browse websites for information of interest, this information is sent directly to you. CLU-IN's RSS feeds provide headlines and short descriptions of new CLU-IN content with links to the full version. This happens when new content is loaded onto the site. For more information and to subscribe, visit http://clu-in.org/rss/about/ or http://clu-in.org/greenremediation/.

- Technology News and Trends (EPA 542-N-12-001) - this issue highlights strategies being used to remediate contaminated soil, sediment, or groundwater while restoring a site's ecological system. The strategies involve constructed wetlands, phytotechnologies, and soil amendments (February 2012, 6 pages). View or download at http://clu-in.org/techpubs.htm.

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Smart Growth America From Vacancy to Vibrancy - focuses on underground storage tank (UST) sites, properties with buried or partially buried tanks that have been used to store petroleum or other hazardous substances. When gas stations, auto body shops, industrial facilities or other types of development close down, these tanks are often left behind. As they age, the tanks are prone to leakage and can contaminate both soil and groundwater, posing a serious environmental threat. The new guide provides an overview of the tools and strategies available to leaders who want to transform vacant properties with USTs into economic and community assets. The guide also includes information about state and federal brownfield program requirements, brownfield redevelopment financing strategies, and multi-state planning techniques. For the full report, visit the SGA website. For more information, contact Colleen Cain, Senior Policy Analyst at NEMWI.

U.S. EPA Region 5 Superfund Greener Cleanup Implementation Strategy - Region 5 issued its Interim Greener Cleanup (GC) Policy on November 12, 2009, and the final policy was signed on March 16, 2012. The Superfund Greener Cleanup Implementation Strategy (the Strategy) summarizes the steps that will be taken by the Region 5 Superfund program to implement the Interim GC Policy in its cleanup programs. The Strategy is broken into five sections: Overarching Greener Cleanup Activities Brownfields Program; Removal Program; Remedial Program and Best Management Practices (BMPs). In the Region 5 Brownfields program, four GC actions will be taken: reporting of energy, water, and materials usage by grantees, inclusion of GC factors in the Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) documents, insertion of specific language in the “Congratulations” letter sent to all new grantees, and coordination with Region 5 states to include GC language and use of BMPs in their voluntary cleanup programs. View or download at www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields.

Brownfields No Further Action Letter helps the Lawrence Village Senior Residence redevelopment in Marion County

The vacant 1.53-acre brownfield site located in an area of redevelopment on the former Fort Benjamin Harrison military base at Birtz Road and Hawkins Avenue in Lawrence, Marion County (Site), owned by Lawrence Village Senior Residence, LLC (Lawrence Village) – a division of the Miller-Valentine Group, was slated for affordable senior housing and has become a reality thanks in part to the Indiana Brownfields Program (Program). The Program was consulted for the purposes of this real estate transaction, financing, and due diligence. The Program determined that both a Comfort Letter and a No Further Action (NFA) Letter would satisfy the needs of several lending institutions and the developer to facilitate redevelopment.

Lawrence Village Senior Residence — before

Lawrence Village Senior Residence — during

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The Site was formerly owned and operated by the United States Army (U.S. Army) beginning in 1904 as a base gas station from approximately 1970 to 1995 when the base closed. The U.S. Army conducted a removal and closure of all known underground storage tanks (USTs) at the Site in 1995 which included gasoline, fuel oil and waste oil tanks of various sizes. The Fort Harrison Reuse Authority acquired the Site in 1995. Lawrence Village acquired the Site from the Fort Harrison Reuse Authority in December 2010.

The Program issued a Comfort Letter to project lenders on December 8, 2010, to clarify their liability with regard to the on-Site petroleum contamination. The Program worked cooperatively with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program to address petroleum-contaminated soil and groundwater identified on the Site. Following additional assessment activities and contaminated soil removal and remediation activities, a NFA determination was warranted as there is no completed exposure pathway to groundwater contamination because drinking water is municipally-supplied and groundwater access can be controlled through land use controls (restricting groundwater use). Based on the information on known contaminant levels, IDEM concluded that current Site conditions did not warrant a response action and that the Agency does not plan to take a response action at the Site at this time as documented in the May 12, 2011, NFA letter.

The NFA Letter helped the developer move forward with its venture, which includes 45 housing units and a small park. Program staff attended the June 14, 2012, grand opening of One Penrose Place where the Miller-Valentine Group performed the official ribbon cutting along with residents.
Limited funds remain for Indiana Brownfields Program Auto Sector Initiative

With funds running low, only one or two more sites may be able to benefit from the Indiana Brownfields Program’s Auto Sector Brownfields Assessment Initiative (Auto Sector Initiative) to address environmental issues associated with facilities that closed as a result of the downsizing of the automotive manufacturing sector. Eligible activities include Phase I & Phase II environmental site assessments and other environmental activities (excluding remediation), such as asbestos-containing material & lead-based paint surveys, remediation work plan development, limited demolition, site stabilization, and controlling site access/site security at eligible brownfields. This funding is available to benefit former parts/supplier-assembly-manufacturing plants and auto dealerships for which redevelopment is hindered by actual or potential environmental contamination.

The following five sites have been awarded financial and technical assistance through this initiative:

City of Columbia City, **Former Dana Weatherhead Facility** ($110,004)
643 W. Ellsworth Street
Columbia City, IN, 46725, Whitley County

Fort Wayne Metals Research Products Corp., **Former Ft. Wayne Foundry**, Columbia City ($95,000)
2300 East Cardinal Drive
Columbia City, IN, 46725, Whitley County

Madison County Corporation for Economic Development, **Plastech**, Elwood ($38,829)
11700 N. St. Rd. 37
Elwood, IN, 46036, Madison County

R3 Indiana, LLC, **Former Meridian Automotive**, Grabill ($87,000)
14123 Roth Road
Grabill, IN, 46741, Allen County

Saran Industries, **Former Meridian Automotive**, Shelbyville ($99,300)
501 Northridge
Shelbyville, IN, 46176, Shelby County

Since the Winter 2011 Brownfields Bulletin issue when the Former Dana Weatherhead/CF Gomma site was featured, the site located at 643 West Ellsworth Street in Columbia City has been on the road to redevelopment. The $110,004 in funding provided by the Auto Sector Initiative was crucial for site stabilization, removal of containerized materials, Phase I and some Phase II site investigation work (including asbestos and lead-based paint surveys). A Brownfields Comfort Letter dated September 27, 2011 was issued with an Environmental Restrictive Covenant recorded October 4, 2011.

The building was purchased by Novae Corporation (Novae) which was founded in 1995 and is based in Markle, Indiana. The company offers trailers, custom tool storage products, and lawn mowers and provides liquid and powder coating services, specializing in massive parts and equipment. Novae set up its Cardinal Grain operations in the west end of the building. Operations have been ongoing while remediation efforts with federal and state oversight have been undertaken at the site. Novae has also injected private capital in the renovation of the offices and west end of the facility.

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Furthermore, a grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) provided funds for the purchase of several pieces of equipment for Novae, which has created 14 new jobs. Novae, through the Whitley County Economic Development Corporation, was also able to take advantage of the tax credits available through the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) Industrial Recovery Tax Credit (Dinosaur Building).

At the end of March, total Auto Sector Initiative awards obligated 83% of available funds ($528,880) and a total of $125,233 is currently available to be awarded. On June 5, the Indiana Brownfields Program received an Auto Sector Initiative application requesting $99,999 which is under evaluation for funding. The Program will continue to accept applications on a rolling basis until the funding is depleted. As a reminder, eligible political subdivisions or private applicants will be awarded professional services to be performed by environmental consultants retained by the Program; an award of services made to a private applicant will require a match of a percentage of the award amount, which will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Details regarding applicant and site eligibility criteria are included in the Auto Sector Initiative guidelines and the application located at the Program web site at: http://www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm. For more information or questions, please contact Michele Oertel.

Please visit Indiana Brownfields Program website at http://www.brownfields.in.gov
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.

July 15-September 30, 2012
DEADLINE: Regular Registration for NBA’s The Big Deal
http://brownfieldassociation.org/Events/NBABigDeal2012.aspx

July 24, 2012
Local Officials CDBG Training
Bedford, IN
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

July 26
ITRC Project Risk Management Internet Training
http://www.itrcweb.org/ibt.asp#ProRiskMan

July 27, 2012
Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) Main Street Revitalization Program Awards Announced
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

July 27, 2012
OCRA DR2 Competitive Clearance Program Round 1 Awards Announced
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

August 3, 2012
DEADLINE: The Brownfields 2013 Call for Ideas
http://www.brownfieldsconference.org/en/Article/83/The_Brownfields_2013_Call_for_Ideas_is_Now_Open?pub=1&issue=issue+2

August 7, 2012
Ball State University Economic Redevelopment Resources for Blighted Properties Workshop Indianapolis, IN
Workshop information will be available at
www.brownfields.in.gov

August 8, 2011
U.S. EPA Brownfield Grant Proposal Writing Strategies Workshop
Indianapolis, IN
Workshop information will be available at
www.brownfields.in.gov

August 23, 2012
CDBG Economic Development Training
Indiana Government Center South
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

August 30, 2012
Local Officials CDBG Training
Waterloo, IN
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

August 31, 2012
OCRA Community Focus Fund Awards Announced
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm
CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONTINUED)

September 14, 2012
Contact EDA for help in preparing your application. For more information, click here.

September 28, 2012
DEADLINE: OCRA DR2 Competitive Clearance Program Round 2 Applications
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

October 3-4, 2012
NBA's The Big Deal – Rebuilding Your Brownfield Network
Chicago, IL
www.brownfieldassociation.org
Click here for more information on the The Big Deal.

October 4, 2012
Local Officials CDBG Training
Evansville, IN
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

October 10-11, 2012
Indiana Main Street Annual Conference
Downtown Kokomo, IN
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

October 25, 2012
Local Officials CDBG Training
Rushville, IN
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

November 7, 2012
CDBG Economic Development Training
Indiana Government Center South
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

November 30, 2012
OCRA DR2 Competitive Clearance Program Round 2 Awards Announced
http://www.in.gov/ocra/2307.htm

Fall 2012
DEADLINE for U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant Proposals
http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/

December 11, 2012
ITRC Project Risk Management Internet Training
http://www.itrcweb.org/ibt.asp#ProRiskMan

May 15-17, 2013
Brownfields 2013
Atlanta, GA
http://www.brownfieldconference.org/en/home
Indiana Brownfields Program
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room 1275
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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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.