



Brownfields Bulletin

"Bridging Economic Development and Environmental Protection"

November 2006

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What's New?

Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program

Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) services for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 states (including Indiana), formally provided by Purdue University, are now being offered by the Center for Hazardous Substances Research (CHSR) at Kansas State University. Another tool to facilitate brownfields redevelopment, the TAB program offers free services such as brownfield workshops, technical document review, and general advice about the brownfields redevelopment process. The TAB program is also available to review U.S. EPA grant proposals. For more information about TAB, please visit www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/outreach/tab/ or contact the TAB coordinator, Sabine E. Martin, Ph.D., P.G., at (785) 532-6519 or smartin1@ksu.edu.

New Project Manager Comes to the Indiana Brownfields Program

Ken Coad, formerly with the City of Indianapolis, has joined the Indiana Brownfields Program as a Project Manager. Ken has 20 years of environmental experience dealing in site investigation, remediation, brownfields, and wellhead protection.

Program Update:

State of Indiana Seeking Public Comment for its Federal Brownfield Grant Proposals

The State of Indiana is in the process of applying to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for two grants to facilitate brownfield redevelopment in Indiana communities. One grant proposal is to capitalize a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) for the cleanup of brownfield sites throughout Indiana. The Indiana Finance Authority will partner with a coalition of regional planning and development commissions and other entities for the purpose of this grant. The RLF will provide *zero-interest* loans and subgrants for the cleanup of eligible brownfield sites.

The other grant proposal is for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to establish the Indiana Brownfields Trails and Parks Initiative. This initiative will offer environmental site assessments for eligible political subdivisions and non-profit entities for the purpose of developing trails and parks on brownfields throughout Indiana, with a special focus on rails-to-trails projects.

The Indiana Brownfields Program seeks public comment regarding these proposals. Please visit the Indiana Brownfields Program's Web site to view the draft proposals. Comments can be submitted before December 8, 2006, to Susan Tynes Harrington by mail, email, fax, or phone. See contact information on Page 3 of this newsletter.

REMINDER:

**NEXT INDIANA BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM
STIPULATED ASSESSMENT GRANT & STIPULATED
REMEDIATION GRANT APPLICATION
DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2007**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

December 5-7, 2006

ASTM International Phase I & Phase II Environmental Site Assessment Training, Indianapolis, IN Learn more about the new Phase I standard that meets U.S. EPA & Indiana Brownfields Program requirements for conducting "All Appropriate Inquiry."

www.brownfields.IN.gov

December 8, 2006

U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant Proposal Deadline

www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-obcr-07-01.pdf

April 1, 2007

Indiana Brownfields Program Stipulated Assessment and Remediation Grants Application Deadline www.brownfields.IN.gov

Brownfields Nuts and Bolts Training Coming Soon to Indianapolis

The Nuts and Bolts of Brownfield Redevelopment for Local Governments training course, conducted in cooperation with U.S. EPA, will be held in Indianapolis in the late summer or early fall of 2007. Those who have been fortunate enough to attend a Nuts and Bolts course in the past have expressed that it is an excellent opportunity to learn about the particulars of brownfield redevelopment. It is a very thorough 3-day course that covers topics such as brownfield site identification strategies, economics of brownfields redevelopment, environmental insurance, risk assessment, and sustainable redevelopment, just to name a few. Case studies, interactive exercises, and trips to area brownfield sites are also incorporated into the course. More details will be available in future Brownfields Bulletin newsletters and email listserv postings.

Time is Running Out to Take Advantage of the Voluntary Remediation Tax Credit

The Voluntary Remediation Tax Credit (VRTC) was established by the Indiana General Assembly in 2001 to reward eligible taxpayers who conduct voluntary remediation activities at brownfield sites. This incentive is currently set to expire on December 31, 2007. If you are interested in this opportunity, please visit www.brownfields.in.gov for more information.

Site Highlight: Ground Breaking Ceremony Marks a New Beginning for Scribner Place in New Albany

A ground breaking ceremony for the Scribner Place project was held on November 6, 2006. The 6.5-acre Scribner Place property, located along the Ohio River in New Albany, has been an eyesore for decades. The site consists of eight contiguous parcels that extend along Main Street and is currently owned by the City. Former operations as far back as the 1800s include machine shops, foundries, coal yards, automotive service stations, boiler manufacturers, and warehouses.

Thanks in part to a variety of public and private assistance at the local, state, and federal levels, this property will no longer be an eyesore. The City is well underway with plans for a \$23 million redevelopment of a 3-acre portion of the site into a YMCA and Aquatic Center. This redevelopment is primarily funded by a \$20 million grant from the Caesar's Riverboat Foundation of Floyd County, YMCA funds, as well as local revenues from the City of New Albany and Floyd County.

Assessment and cleanup of the contamination on this part of the site were completed with oversight from the Indiana Brownfields Program, and the City has received an Indiana Department of Environmental Management Site Status Letter for the project indicating that no further response actions are necessary on this portion of the site and that the site can be redeveloped as planned.

The environmental work for the project was funded by several sources. The site, which had been contaminated with heavy metals, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and volatile organic compounds, was assessed, in part, using approximately \$39,000 in state brownfield grants and matching local funds, and was remediated using \$400,000 in cleanup grants from the U.S. EPA Brownfields Program. This redevelopment project is a great example of leveraging state, federal, local, and private funding to bring a downtown revitalization project to successful completion. It was recognized as such at the 2006 National Brownfields Conference in Boston this month. The project was one of six that received certificates of appreciation from U.S. EPA Region 5 Administrator Mary Gade at the conference.



The ground breaking ceremony for the Scribner Place project was held on November 6, 2006.

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The Indiana Brownfields Program offers financial, technical, legal, and educational 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.