

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

State and Tribal Response Program Highlights

EPA Funding Provided to States and Tribes to Address Contaminated Land in their Communities

REGION 1

MAINE – The Town of Lisbon is located along the banks of the Sabattus and Androscoggin Rivers which supported the town's early industry and farming. In 2009 the town began researching possibilities for the reuse of a former schoolhouse property which had been unoccupied for seven years. The Brunswick Housing Authority, a nonprofit agency, whose goal is to provide safe, quality and affordable housing for eligible persons in need of assistance, was approached about redeveloping this property into housing. The town submitted a Brownfields Assessment application to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP). Through this program, Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments were completed with funding from an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant. The results of the investigations determined that asbestos, lead based paint and numerous containers of chemicals were located throughout the building. After the assessment phase was completed, the property was entered into the MEDEP Voluntary Response Action Program (VRAP) and MEDEP provided cleanup funding through its Section 128(a) Response Program grant to remove the hazardous materials from the property. Through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program the town secured \$2.4 million to assist in the construction and redevelopment of the building. The building will be redeveloped into a 12-unit senior housing facility with two community rooms and a laundry room while keeping the historic nature of the building. .



Artist's rendition of the Red Bull Soccer Arena.

REGION 3

WASHINGTON D.C. – How often do over forty thousand people and the President of the United States attend the grand opening of a completed voluntary cleanup project? It happened at the opening day ceremonies for the 2008 Washington Nationals baseball season on March 30, 2008. Nationals Park, the nation's first Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certified professional sports stadium, is the largest voluntary cleanup project in the District of Columbia. With oversight from the District Department of the Environment (DDOE), a Section 128(a) Response Program grantee, over 350,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed from the former industrial area. Ground water filtration and treatment will continue into the future through a state-of-the-art ground water collection system operating beneath the stadium.



March 30, 2008 - Opening Day Ceremonies at Nationals Park.

REGION 2

NEW JERSEY – The Town of Harrison in Hudson County took a huge step toward its revitalization goals with the opening of the Red Bull Arena. This world-class soccer venue was made possible in large part by the efforts of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The 25,000-seat Red Bull Arena is the cornerstone of a massive commercial, retail and residential waterfront redevelopment project that is being coordinated with the help of the NJDEP's Brownfield Development Area program, which is funded through its Section 128(a) Response Program grant. The Harrison waterfront was once home to industry along the Passaic River, but over the decades the waterfront disintegrated into a collapsing collection of abandoned factories and warehouses. With help from NJDEP, the structures were demolished and contaminated soil was removed, clearing the way for one of the largest mixed-use redevelopments projects in New Jersey. NJDEP engaged various stakeholders, including owners of contaminated properties, potentially responsible parties, developers, community groups, and local governments to participate in developing the cleanup and revitalization strategies.

REGION 4

GEORGIA – Located in the heart of Midtown Atlanta, the Loews Atlanta Hotel opened April 1, 2010 as the anchor of the 12th and Midtown urban mixed-use development project. The property underwent environmental investigation through Georgia's Section 128(a) Response Program and was certified to be in compliance with residential risk reduction standards. The \$1.2 billion 12th and Midtown project was assembled from numerous individual parcels, many of which are also enrolled in Georgia's Brownfields Program. According to the Atlanta Business Chronicle, opening of the Loews Atlanta Hotel created 220 jobs. Loews Atlanta Hotel is within walking distance to many of the city's Fortune 500 companies, leading law firms and world-renowned cultural venues including the Woodruff Arts Center, the High Museum of Art, the Fox Theatre, Atlanta Botanical Gardens and Piedmont Park. Loews Atlanta Hotel features 414 guest rooms, more than 25,000 square feet of meeting space, and a spa and fitness center.



The Loews Atlanta Hotel, the anchor of the 12th and Midtown mixed-use redevelopment project.

REGION 5

RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS – The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funds to provide Hazardous Materials Technician training to approximately 20 tribal responders from June 28 - July 2, 2010. The tribe hosted the training for environmental, fire, emergency medical services, and police staff from Red Lake and three other EPA Region 5 tribes. Tribes realize that when their reservation is located far from emergency response resources they need more local staff trained and ready to act in the face of a spill or release incident. The course involved two exercises focused on stopping leaks and emergency containment. The Center for Labor Education and Research/Workplace Safety Training Program at Jefferson State Community College delivered the training under a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) in partnership with the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society.

REGION 6

TEXAS – Crestview Station in Austin was a former chemical research facility that processed components for soaps, foams and glues from 1949 until 2005. The property was identified as a prime location for a high-density, mixed use project and transit-oriented development. In 2005, the property applied to Texas' Voluntary Cleanup Program—funded by a Section 128(a) Response Program grant—to facilitate the assessment and cleanup of known and suspected areas where waste materials were buried. Cleanup consisted of the excavation and disposal of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of buried waste products and impacted soils, and ground water monitoring and an institutional control addressed a benzene plume in one small area of the property. The 71-acre Crestview Station redevelopment project includes over 500 single-family homes, 600 apartments, recreational fields, and 150,000 square feet of retail and office space built around a Capitol Metro rail stop. Property values have increased significantly and several new jobs were created as a result of the redevelopment. Crestview Station is a key component to the city's plan to connect Austin through future expansion of the public transportation system.



The Crestview Station redevelopment project and the adjacent Capitol Metro rail stop.

REGION 7

IOWA – The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) developed an innovative and valuable database of historic aerial photos of the entire state, designed to assist potential purchasers, developers and others interested in past site activities and the environmental history of properties. Historic aerial photos are an extremely valuable key to understanding what potential environmental conditions may exist at a property. Beginning in 2004, DNR used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funding to begin acquiring copies of aerial photos from known sources including accessing scattered collections in state and federal archives. DNR then converted the photos into electronic images, rectifying the electronic images for accurate inclusion in geographic information systems (GIS), and loading the converted electronic photomaps into an easy-to-use, web-based, publicly accessible GIS. DNR completed the photo conversion and integration of more than 12,000 historic prints, creating a complete mosaic of GIS images of the state of Iowa. The historic aerial photo database is an integral part of environmental due diligence research in Iowa and notably improved the public's ability to find and access records of value for environmental assessment and cleanup decision making, particularly in small, rural and environmental justice communities.

REGION 8

WIND RIVER RESERVATION – Over the last three years, the Wind River Environmental Quality Commission (WREQC) used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funding to develop an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) and a Solid Waste Management Regulation (SWMR). WREQC worked with tribal environmental programs to create supporting regulations and with tribal councils (Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes) to receive approval. The Midwest Assistance Program (MAP) provided technical assistance and support for the development of the technical documents. In addition, a Penalty Matrix and enforcement procedures are being considered and the tribe is working to ensure that the Tribal ISWMP and SWMR can be used collaboratively within the Reservation boundaries to manage waste concerns.

REGION 9

YUROK TRIBE – The Yurok Tribe Environmental Program (YTEP) is creating capacity to perform Phase I environmental assessments using tribal staff. Prior to 2010, YTEP lacked the capacity to conduct and write assessment reports for its own lands, and relied on outside environmental contractors to perform assessments. During 2009, YTEP used an environmental contractor to conduct four Phase I assessments on the Yurok Reservation. As part of that contract, YTEP received training and professional expertise on how to conduct Phase I assessments using American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards. YTEP used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funding to attend and complete the ASTM International training class: Phase I-II Environmental Site Assessments for Commercial Real Estate. During the course, YTEP staff met and networked with other environmental professionals. YTEP used these network resources during the development and review process of its first Phase I assessment, which is currently under review by EPA Region 9 staff.

REGION 10

IDAHO – The Cascade Mill employed 72 full-time workers on the 120-acre property until it was closed in 2001. The mill closure was an economic blow to Cascade, a scenic west central Idaho community, nestled among mountains, Cascade Lake and the Payette River. Thanks to the efforts of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) response program, Cascade Mill is now home to a whitewater park and interpretive museum. In 2004, IDEQ used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funding to collect samples to determine if there were measurable levels of contamination on the property. The sample results indicated that the contamination was below maximum concentration levels and it was determined that environmental cleanup was not required as long as shallow ground water was not used for drinking water. IDEQ provided technical assistance to complete the assessment and timely oversight to complete the project. IDEQ received a public commendation from the Governor's office for its work on this property.