

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

FLORIDA/Escambia County

EPA's USTfields Initiative funds states and tribes to conduct pilot projects in brownfields communities to assess and clean up petroleum contamination from federally-regulated underground storage tanks (USTs) at idle or abandoned commercial properties. Petroleum contamination has generally been excluded from funding under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and has not, therefore, been covered under EPA's Brownfields Program. In 2002, EPA's Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST) competitively selected 40 state and tribal USTfields Pilots. In each pilot, the state will work with a local community or the tribe will work with its EPA Region to address identified sites. Each pilot is awarded up to \$100,000 of Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust funds to assess and clean up petroleum-contaminated sites; as a result, the sites will be ready for future reuse.

BACKGROUND

The State of Florida will work with Escambia County to assess and clean up three abandoned underground storage tank sites with petroleum contamination. These sites are in the Palafox Corridor and Englewood redevelopment areas, which are included in Brownfields and Superfund redevelopment areas. The Brents Rain Barrell Muffler Shop is a former petroleum retail station that was taken out of service in 1983; a discharge of unleaded gasoline was reported in 1992 based on a closure assessment. The Crooks Auto Parts site, formerly a service station in the 1960s, contains remnants of a concrete fuel dispenser island with no record of registered underground storage tanks. The Strickland Service Station site was a former retail petroleum station from the 1950s; it has four tanks and an old fuel dispenser island. These contaminated sites are surrounded by a mixed use of residential, commercial, and industrial facilities. Escambia County is the recipient of a Brownfields Assessment Pilot and a Revolving Loan Fund grant.

OBJECTIVES

Using USTfields Pilot funds, the State of Florida and Escambia County will work together to assess and clean up petroleum-contaminated properties. Escambia County's long-term goal is to redevelop these sites into commercial and/or light industrial centers surrounded by improving residential neighborhoods. Residents have formed neighborhood committees to encourage the cleanup of the properties for redevelopment as parks and to attract industries for employment.



Applicant Name: State of Florida
Local Partner: Escambia County
Date of Selection: June 2002
Profile: Florida will work with Escambia County to assess and clean up petroleum-contaminated sites that are currently impeding redevelopment.

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