

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

## FLORIDA/St. Petersburg

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 the City of St. Petersburg to assess and clean up two properties with underground storage tanks in the city: the former Atherton Oil Company site and the Blue Star Cab facility. The Atherton Oil site, located in the Dome Industrial Park, was used to store and distribute petroleum products. One underground storage tank remains on the property. The former Blue Star Cab facility, which was a taxi dispatch operation and former service station, contains four tanks. Contamination from these tanks migrated beneath Mercy Hospital, which served as an African-American hospital until 1966 and has been designated a historic property. MTBE contamination may be present at the Blue Star Cab site due to its years of operation. These properties are unique because of their location in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street South District, which historically was a cultural, entertainment, and retail area of the African-American community of St. Petersburg.

### OBJECTIVES

Using USTfields Pilot funds, Florida and St. Petersburg will clean up petroleum and MTBE contamination at tank sites in a historic area to ready them for reuse. In addition to USTfields Pilot funding, the city has received funds from other federal, state and local sources. The City of St. Petersburg would like to redevelop these properties for commercial or light industrial use in accordance with its 1993 Dome Industrial Park Plan.



**Applicant Name:** State of Florida

**Local Partner:** City of St. Petersburg

**Date of Selection:** June 2002

**Profile:** Florida will work with St. Petersburg to assess and clean up two petroleum-contaminated properties in the city's historic district to remove environmental barriers to redevelopment.

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For further information, go to [www.epa.gov/oust/](http://www.epa.gov/oust/)

### EPA USTfields INITIATIVE

EPA has not yet negotiated the Cooperative Agreements with states and tribes to fund these pilots; therefore, activities are subject to change.