

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

ILLINOIS/Freeport

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 Illinois will work with the City of Freeport to assess and clean up abandoned underground storage tank sites in a former industrial area that includes a rail yard and a petroleum storage facility. The sites are located near the Pecatonica River. The target sites are in a state of disrepair, are suspected of containing petroleum and MTBE contamination, and are located near a proposed riverwalk park and navigable waters. The City of Freeport is a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot, and one of the properties chosen for the USTfields Pilot project is a Targeted Brownfields Assessment site.

OBJECTIVES

USTfields Pilot funds will allow the State of Illinois to work with the City of Freeport and other entities to assess and clean up petroleum-contaminated tank sites. As part of the state's Grand Illinois Trail Project, some sites will be reused for recreational trails. Other sites will be marketed for redevelopment combining recreational and riverfront access to draw people to the downtown Freeport area.



Applicant Name: State of Illinois

Local Partner: City of Freeport

Date of Selection: June 2002

Profile: Illinois will work with the City of Freeport to assess and clean up contamination at multiple underground storage tank sites to assist the city's redevelopment efforts.

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For further information, go to 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.