

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

ILLINOIS/Waukegan

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 Waukegan to assess and clean up petroleum contamination at underground storage tank sites on industrial and underutilized properties in the downtown area and along a lakefront. The city will initially address an abandoned service station with underground storage tanks and MTBE contamination. City officials report that challenges may exist at this site due to its location and to the fact that the tanks have been abandoned for nearly two decades. The City of Waukegan was awarded a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot and an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Redevelopment grant.

OBJECTIVES

USTfields Pilot funds will allow the State of Illinois to work with the City of Waukegan and other entities to assess and clean up petroleum and MTBE contamination at an underground storage tank site in the city. The cleaned up site will be added to a larger parcel of property owned by the city to further its housing initiatives.



Applicant Name: State of Illinois
Local Partner: City of Waukegan
Date of Selection: June 2002
Profile: Illinois will work with the City of Waukegan to assess and clean up a contaminated underground storage tank site to remove this obstacle to the city's redevelopment efforts.

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For further information, go to www.epa.gov/oust/

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