

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

INDIANA/South Bend

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 Indiana will work in partnership with the City of South Bend to address multiple abandoned gas station sites containing underground storage tanks and petroleum contamination. South Bend is currently engaged in a revitalization project that includes an examination of the redevelopment potential of abandoned properties located on or near major commercial corridors. This examination was funded by a Brownfields Assessment Pilot grant. Redevelopment challenges include dealing with smaller abandoned gasoline station properties near residential areas.

OBJECTIVES

USTfields Pilot funds will be used by the state and city to perform site assessments at underground storage tank sites, and other funds, both private and public, will be sought for the actual cleanup and redevelopment of these sites. Pilot funds will build upon the Brownfields grant and help leverage additional funding. The city, in partnership with the South Gateway Improvement Association, the Lincoln Way West Steering Committee, the Westside Revitalization Alliance, and the Business District Action Team, will prioritize its USTfields sites based in part on the sites' redevelopment potential.



Applicant Name: State of Indiana

Local Partner: City of South Bend

Date of Selection: June 2002

Profile: Indiana will work with the City of South Bend to assess abandoned gas station sites, which will facilitate the removal of potential environmental barriers to redevelopment.

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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.