

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

PENNSYLVANIA/Philadelphia 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 Pennsylvania will work with Philadelphia County on three abandoned corner gas stations with underground storage tanks located in the City of Philadelphia's Federal Empowerment Zone. These sites are located on corners along struggling commercial corridors in distressed communities and are adjacent to residential communities. One site is a former gas station in an area that serves as a gateway to a Latino community. Another site is within walking distance of a university and is located near low-income housing, a community center, and a school annex. There may be MTBE contamination at these sites. USTfields Pilot funds will be combined with state and local funds as well as private sector resources to fully assess and clean up the sites. Once cleanup is completed, the end result of the redevelopment of these sites will be guided by public meetings convened to discuss proposed end uses of the sites. The City of Philadelphia is a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot and has received a Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund grant as well as a Superfund Redevelopment Pilot grant.

OBJECTIVES

Using USTfields Pilot funds, the state will team with the county and city to assess and clean up three abandoned corner gas stations with petroleum contamination along struggling commercial corridors in distressed communities. Possible uses for these sites include a parking lot, office space, and a service station/mini-mart. This pilot activity fits into larger efforts within Philadelphia County to clean up and redevelop sites within the City of Philadelphia that will aid in the revitalization of these areas.



Applicant Name: State of Pennsylvania

Local Partner: Philadelphia County

Date of Selection: June 2002

Profile: Pennsylvania will work with Philadelphia County to remediate three abandoned corner gas stations in Philadelphia so that it can further its revitalization efforts.

Contacts:

EPA Region 3

Karen Bowen
(215) 814-3382
Jack Hwang
(215) 814-3387

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Charles Swokel
(717) 783-7509

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

EPA USTfields INITIATIVE

EPA has not yet negotiated the Cooperative Agreement with the state or tribe to fund this pilot; therefore, activities are subject to change.

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