

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# Underground Storage Tanks And Brownfields Sites

## WASHINGTON/Seattle

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 Washington will work with the City of Seattle and King County to assess and clean up three different petroleum-contaminated sites in the city and county. The King County sites include Rainier Court, which has two underground storage tanks on a site formerly used as a dump truck operation and maintenance facility, and a former gas station site adjacent to the Museum of Flight. Both of these sites are in low-income, ethnically diverse communities in south Seattle. The third site, Olympic Sculpture Park, located in the north end of downtown Seattle, has a parcel that was used for welding and/or automobile service purposes and had several underground storage tanks. Recent sampling there has revealed elevated concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons in the soil and groundwater. King County/Seattle is a Brownfields Showcase Community.

### OBJECTIVES

Using USTfields Pilot funds, the State of Washington will team with the City of Seattle and King County to assess and clean up three sites adjacent to schools and residential neighborhoods. Cleanup and reuse of these sites will allow for significant community benefits, including housing and retail development at the Rainier Court site, green space and cultural resources on Seattle's fast-developing waterfront at the Olympic Sculpture Park site, and educational and cultural projects at the Museum of Flight site.



**Applicant Name:** State of Washington

**Local Partners:** City of Seattle and King County

**Date of Selection:** June 2002

**Profile:** The State of Washington will work with the City of Seattle and King County to assess and clean up petroleum contamination at three tank sites.

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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.

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