Decatur, Nebraska
Burt County

Total Recovery Act Investment – $318,110

Jobs Created By Recovery Act – Environmental contractors, remediation equipment supply businesses, excavation companies, testing laboratories, hauling companies, and landfill operators will be employed during this underground storage tank cleanup.

Community Background
In August 2009, a Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality underground storage tank contractor began work at the BJ's Mini Mart site, located at 702 Broadway Street in Decatur, Burt County, Nebraska to address soil and groundwater contamination at the facility. A groundwater contamination plume extends approximately 12,000 square feet. Site work includes installing and operating a soil vapor extraction/air sparge remediation system as well as conducting air monitoring.

This facility is currently serving as a gas station and convenience store, with four underground storage tanks (USTs) – one 6,000 gallon diesel; two 6,000 gallon gasoline; and one 10,000 gallon gasoline – in operation. In the late 1990s when the facility was owned by Beck Oil Company, three dispensers and a short length of product line were removed, as well as two 4,000 gallon gasoline tanks and one 2,000 gallon diesel tank. During the removal, a release which had caused soil and groundwater contamination in the vicinity of the UST system was discovered. Subsequent investigations revealed that the extent of contamination was mostly contained on the convenience store property. Although free product has not been detected at the site since 2000, high levels of dissolved contamination of a monitoring well suggests free product may reappear when groundwater conditions change.

Approximately 550 people live in Decatur, which is comprised of 0.91 square miles. Decatur is about 1 hour northeast of Omaha.

Recovery Overview
EPA provided Nebraska's Department of Environmental Quality with $2.27 million to assess and clean up contamination released from federally-regulated underground storage tanks. Nebraska identified approximately 60 eligible sites where site investigation and cleanup work will be performed with Recovery Act money.

Protecting Our Environment
Cleaning up BJ's Mini Mart will remove persistent soil and groundwater contamination at this facility. Although the contamination is primarily on site, this cleanup will ensure contamination does not continue to migrate and threaten adjacent properties.

Protecting Our Health
Cleaning up underground storage tank releases protects human health and our environment. Underground storage tanks are a leading source of groundwater contamination in our country. Even a small amount of petroleum can contaminate groundwater, the source of drinking water for nearly half of all Americans and 99 percent of citizens in rural areas.

For More Information
Nebraska LUST Program
EPA Region 7 UST Program

BJ's Mini Mart in Decatur, NE

Remediation workers on site in Decatur, NE