Cheyenne River Indian Reservation
Lantry, South Dakota

Total Recovery Act Investment – $249,881

Jobs Created By Recovery Act – The cleanup is creating several jobs in Lantry, a small community located on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

Community Background
On the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota, EPA Region 8's UST program is working in partnership with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe to use LUST Recovery Act money to clean up the Lantry Oil site. Work includes operating and maintaining an air sparge/soil vapor extraction system, conducting two injection events of in-situ chemical oxidation, and reducing the dissolved groundwater plume by over 60 percent. Originally a mixed-use property which housed a gas station, auto repair facility, and plumbing business, the Lantry Oil site was abandoned approximately six years ago. The remediation activities, paid for by LUST Recovery Act money, are instrumental in helping facilitate a property transfer of this site, which in turn will foster productive reuse of the property. In addition, the cleanup is creating several jobs in Lantry, a small community located on the reservation.

In 1993, state inspectors documented petroleum odors and found soil contamination at the bottom of the pit when underground storage tanks were removed. Site samples indicated contamination of benzene, toluene, ethylbenenze, xylenes (BTEX); naphthalene; and total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH). Beginning in 1997 when the site was eligible for federal LUST money, monitoring wells determined the extent of contamination, exposure pathways, and risk receptors. After evaluating remediation options, EPA chose a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system as the most viable option because it specifically targets residual hydrocarbons from the vadose zone. Contaminant impacts to groundwater will also be mitigated over time as the contributing source of hydrocarbons in the soil is reduced.

With over 4,200 square miles, the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation is the fourth largest in land area in the U.S. Approximately 14,000 people live on this reservation. The Cheyenne River Indian Reservation is just one example of where EPA is investing LUST Recovery Act money to assess and clean up eligible tank releases in Indian country.

Recovery Overview
EPA is using $6.3 million to assess and clean up contamination released from federally-regulated underground storage tanks on Indian country. This work will be done under existing EPA in-house contracts.

Protecting Our Environment
Cleaning up the Lantry Oil site will remove soil contamination and make this property available for reuse possibilities on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

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
EPA Region 8 UST Program

Remediation work on Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, SD