



# RCRA Brownfields Prevention Initiative: Targeted Site Efforts

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Brownfields Prevention Initiative is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency effort designed to use opportunities for statutory and regulatory flexibility in the RCRA cleanup program to accelerate site cleanup, facilitate dialogue, and integrate reuse and redevelopment issues, as appropriate, into cleanup decisions. In the longer term, it is EPA's goal that this initiative will help accelerate cleanups at brownfields sites, thus enabling the creation of new jobs, businesses, and green space for communities. The RCRA Targeted Site Efforts (TSEs) are designed to showcase Brownfields and RCRA Cleanup Reforms and emphasize the importance of addressing brownfields issues in RCRA cleanups.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has created this fact sheet to inform the public about eight new RCRA Brownfields Targeted Site Effort (TSE) projects. The primary goal of these projects is to "jump-start" activities at the project sites which will move these sites closer to cleanup and redevelopment. Through the TSE projects, sites with redevelopment potential have been identified and EPA has internally allocated a limited pool of resources to support short-term activities directed at overcoming barriers to cleanup and redevelopment.

The eight TSE projects selected by EPA are:

- **Forestville Industrial Plating, Southington, Connecticut:** Forestville Industrial Plating is a small family-owned metal plating facility located in the potential environmental justice area of Southington. The facility is a "high-priority" RCRA facility. Additional data collection is warranted due to unknown groundwater contaminant sources in the area and the existence of private wells. TSE contractor support is proposed to be used to collect site-specific data needed to evaluate sources of groundwater contamination in the area and clarify if the site will not need to take further action related to this contamination. Assistance through the TSE initiative contributes to RCRA corrective action objectives being met, with the ultimate purpose of keeping the property in productive use while

protecting human health and the environment.

***Forestville Industrial Plating TSE Contacts:***

Edgar Davis, EPA Region 1, (617) 918-1379  
Carolyn Casey, EPA Region 1, (617) 918-1368

- **Gaston Copper Recycling Corp., Gaston, South Carolina:** The Gaston Copper Recycling Corporation facility is a 400-acre, former secondary copper smelting facility located south of Gaston. The facility started reducing operations in January 1995 and is in the last stages of decommissioning. The site is an ideal candidate for redevelopment, with good infrastructure, transportation access, and a nearby labor market. A stakeholder group consisting of the site owner and local elected officials was formed in early 2001 to expedite the cleanup process. TSE contractor support is proposed to be used to enhance the involvement of the public in decisions about the expedited correction action plans and redevelopment of the site. This will help all stakeholders to provide input early in the corrective action process as recommended by the Corrective Action Reforms Initiative.

***Gaston Copper Recycling Corp. TSE Contacts:***

Channing Bennett, EPA Region 4, (404) 562-8474

- **Muskegon Heights-Safety Kleen, Muskegon Heights, Michigan:** The Safety-Kleen facility in

Muskegon Heights, Michigan, has been selected as a RCRA Brownfields Prevention Pilot. The City of Muskegon Heights operated a municipal wastewater treatment plant for 50 years at the site until it was leased in 1974 to a hazardous waste treatment company that treated electroplating wastes. The proposed goals of the Pilot are to use the Michigan Memorandum of Understanding, apply Michigan's non-RCRA risk and land use clean-up criteria, develop a corrective action strategy, negotiate a consent agreement for corrective action implementation, and obtain a comfort letter from EPA to help resolve purchaser liability concerns. The issue of contamination in the water and sediment of the adjacent Little Black Creek has been raised as a concern that may affect the proposed residential redevelopment of the site. Public outreach has been identified as a critical component to ensuring the successful redevelopment of the site. TSE contractor support is proposed to be used to help local residents understand the corrective action process. Since the end goal for the site is residential land use, the community is concerned about public health and the environment, particularly in light of environmental justice concerns in the community.

***Muskegon Heights-Safety Kleen TSE Contacts:***  
Ann Wentz, EPA Region 5, (312) 886-8097

- **Chemical Recovery Corporation, Kansas City, Missouri:** The Chemical Recovery Corporation facility is a former fire station with historical and architectural significance within the community. The site is underused and lies within Blue Valley RCRA Brownfields Pilot study area. Additional investigation of the potential for soil contamination is necessary to determine if further action at this facility is needed prior to redevelopment. TSE contractor support is proposed to be used to conduct the needed additional soils characterization. Provided that chemical constituent levels in soils remain consistent with previously collected data, a "no further action" determination may be made for the site. The site may then be available for reuse, potentially emphasizing its historical significance.

***Chemical Recovery Corporation TSE Contacts:***  
Stephanie Doolan, EPA Region 7, (913) 551-7719

- **Milt Adams, Inc., Commerce City, Colorado:** Milt Adams, Inc. (Approved Oil Services, Inc.) is a "high-priority" RCRA site and a RCRA Brownfield Pilot located within the Denver metropolitan area in Commerce City. As a result of used oil recycling and transportation operations from 1972 to 1998, the

site's soils have been contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons and other organic contaminants. The site offers good rail and road access and is expected to be redeveloped quickly following completion of corrective action activities. However, the owner of the site is bankrupt, and no cleanup activities are occurring. EPA is working to establish a voluntary cleanup process with the site owner and other companies who managed used oil at the site. TSE contractor support is slated to support outreach to affected residents and other stakeholders

***Milt Adams, Inc. TSE Contacts:***

Bill Rothenmeyer, EPA Region 8, (303) 312-6045  
Carl Daly, EPA Region 8, (303) 312-6416

- **STEDCO Mill, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, Oregon:** The STEDCO mill is an idled lumber mill adjacent to the Yaquina River in Lincoln County, Oregon. The tribes acquired the mill in 1995 for the purpose of economic redevelopment. The previous owner/operator, which no longer exists, did not fully characterize the site prior to its sale. Further site assessment is necessary to identify the extent of contamination in both the surface soil and groundwater. TSE contractor support is proposed to be used to help complete the site assessment on portions of the property not yet investigated. It is hoped that EPA's site assessment support to the tribes will result in both environmental benefit from the control of any releases from the site and economic benefit for the tribe and local community through redevelopment of the property.

***STEDCO Mill, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz TSE Contacts:***

Bruce Long, EPA Region 10 (503) 326-3686  
Mike Slater, EPA Region 10, (503) 326-5872

- **Philip Services Corporation, Seattle, Washington:** The Philips Services Corporation operates a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility located in Georgetown, a mixed residential/industrial district of south Seattle. Releases from the facility have contaminated groundwater, and pose a potential threat to human health. The extent of the contamination currently is being investigated by the facility operators, and the plume apparently extends at least one mile west of the facility towards the Duwamish River. The facility operators are planning interim actions in the near future to control the source of the groundwater contamination. The Georgetown area is experiencing a wave of redevelopment and the community is concerned about the facility's impact on human

health and the environment. TSE contractor support is proposed to facilitate additional community involvement and dialogue between neighbors, the facility operators, EPA, and other agencies to help develop consensus on cleanup and future use decisions for the site and possibly affected areas.

***Philip Services Corporation TSE Contacts:***

Howard Orlean, EPA Region 10, (206) 553-2851

Mike Slater, EPA Region 10, (503) 326-5872

**Note:** The discussion of each TSE in this fact sheet is based on preliminary information on site facts and TSE project goals. It should be noted that EPA will determine the final goals and activities of each project as the workplan for each project is developed.

### **ADDITIONAL INITIATIVE COMPONENTS**

In addition to the Targeted Site Efforts, the RCRA Brownfields Prevention Initiative includes RCRA Brownfields pilots, training and outreach, and streamlining and clarifying the cleanup and reuse process.

EPA has launched nine unfunded RCRA Brownfields Prevention pilot projects to showcase the flexibility in RCRA, and in particular, some of the concepts embodied in RCRA Cleanup Reforms. The goal of this effort is to showcase successes that can help other communities in modeling future innovations for cleanup and redevelopment at RCRA sites. Although these pilots will emphasize flexibility, EPA and the states will continue to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

The Training and Outreach component of the initiative will focus on workshops in each EPA Region. The purposes of the workshops are to: 1) educate RCRA staff about brownfields tools that can help expedite cleanup and redevelopment; 2) educate brownfields staff about the special needs and opportunities of RCRA sites; and 3) promote interaction with stakeholders outside of EPA to incorporate their ideas and address their concerns.

RCRA Corrective Action Reforms are a comprehensive effort to address the key impediments to cleanups, maximize program flexibility, and spur progress towards a set of ambitious national cleanup goals. The RCRA Brownfields Prevention Initiative enhances implementation of the RCRA reforms by clarifying the role of reuse in the cleanup process and streamlining cleanup approaches.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on EPA's Corrective Action Reforms, please visit the RCRA corrective action web site at <http://www.epa.gov/correctiveaction>. For more information about the RCRA Brownfields Initiative pilots and other brownfields program initiatives please visit the brownfields program web site at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>.

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