

Contacts

For further information about the Kansas State University and its technical assistance to tribal communities, visit www.ksutab.org. To reach KSU, call (785) 532-6519.

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site at www.epa.gov/brownfields or call (202) 566-2777.

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, tribes, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

EPA funds organizations, such as Kansas State University (KSU), that work with a large team and network of partner organizations to provide technical assistance to tribal communities; helping them tackle challenge of assessing, cleaning up and preparing brownfields on tribal land for reuse and redevelopment.

Technical assistance being provided through KSU's Tribal Technical Assistance program helps tribal communities across the country increase their understanding and involvement in brownfields cleanup and revitalization, and moves brownfields sites forward in the process toward cleanup and reuse. KSU will serve as an independent resource assisting tribal communities with community involvement, better understanding the health impacts of brownfield sites, science and technology relating to brownfield site assessment, remediation, and site preparation activities, brownfields finance questions related to tribal land, information on integrated approaches to brownfield cleanup and redevelopment, facilitating stakeholder involvement, identifying sources of brownfields assessment and cleanup funding, understanding and complying with relevant brownfields requirements, facilitating redevelopment activities, and assisting tribes in developing sustainable tribal response programs.

Organization Description

KSU is a public university in Manhattan, Kansas with more than 23,000 students. Under the College of Engineering, the Center for Hazardous Substance Research at KSU conducts research, education, and service pertaining to environmental topics. Through this Center, KSU will provide Tribal Technical Assistance to tribal communities dealing with environmental issues, including tailored support based on specific needs. The program taps the collective experience of team partners who have experience in many facets of brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment on tribal lands.

Technical Assistance Provided

KSU provides technical assistance and education to tribal brownfields communities and guides tribal communities through the entire brownfields revitalization process. KSU often works with tribal program staff and leaders, providing assistance during brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. Among other things, KSU helps identify potential funding sources for revitalization projects on tribal lands; assists with redevelopment planning and tribal community outreach by providing visioning workshops; assists with environmental contractor selection; reviews and summarizes technical documents; serves as a liaison between tribal communities and relevant state and federal agencies; hosts a peer-to-peer network to tribal program staff can learn from each other; and offers workshops, seminars, and trainings on brownfields-related topics. Customized technical assistance is available to address many additional brownfields issues a tribal community might have. Through the Targeted Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) program, the Center also offers two free, online tools: (TAB EZ) to help in preparing EPA Brownfields grant applications (www.tabez.org), and the Brownfields Inventory Tool (BIT, at www.tab-bit.org).