

State and Tribal Response Program Highlights

EPA Funding Provided to States and Tribes to Address Contaminated Land in their Communities

REGION 1

VERMONT – A 0.17-acre property in the City of Burlington has been transformed into a community garden. The property was first developed in 1941 and was used as an automotive sales and service facility until the mid-1990s. In 2014, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to oversee assessment activities at the property. The assessment indicated that soils on the site contained levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), lead, and arsenic in excess of the residential Vermont Soil Screening Values (SSVs). The City of Burlington enrolled the property in the Vermont DEC's Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act (BRELLA) program in January 2015, and was able to access \$45,000 in support of site cleanup activities from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. During site remediation, approximately 320 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed and disposed of at an appropriate facility. Following removal, a clean soil and filter fabric cap was installed over the entire property surface. In March 2016, the Vermont DEC awarded the City of Burlington with a Certificate of Completion for the property. Over the course of the next year, the city created the Archibald Street Community Gardens. Over 90 community volunteers came together, committing more than 500 hours of service to create the garden. Now complete, the property provides fenced gardening space for 24 households and several youth groups. The remediation and redevelopment of this property has created a space to strengthen community bonds, which will only continue to grow with the garden as residents of all generations learn to produce nutritious food together.



Archibald Street Community Gardens.

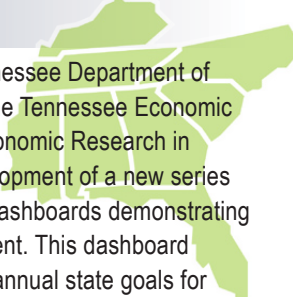
REGION 2

NEW JERSEY – The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to maintain and enhance a brownfields response program that oversees remedial work in many areas, including environmental justice communities. The NJDEP's Office of Brownfield Reuse (OBR) promotes economic growth and protection of the environment through its Brownfield Development Area (BDA) Program, the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (HDSRF) Program, the Community Collaborative Initiative (CCI), and its new initiative to use/restore green infrastructure on brownfield properties. For example, the OBR was involved with the closure and remediation of multiple landfills that were brought back to productive use after being a blight on both the community and the environment. The Anglesea Beach Colony Landfill in North Wildwood was closed and redeveloped into the Tides at Seaboard Point Condominium Complex; a portion of the Industrial Land Reclamation Landfill in Edison was closed, remediated and converted into the Middlesex Logistics Center; and the Dover Town North Sussex Street Landfill was closed and redeveloped into a FedEx distribution facility, a Hilton Homewood Suites Hotel, and a Marriot Suites Hotel. NJDEP landfill redevelopment projects have also led to the creation of hundreds of jobs and new tax revenues for their communities.

REGION 3

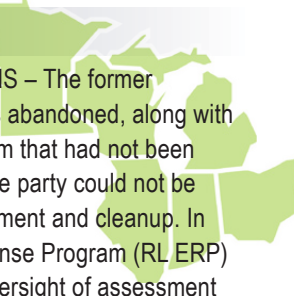
MARYLAND – On October 3-4, 2017, the Maryland Department of Environment's (MDE) Land Restoration Program used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to host a two-day vapor intrusion course. The training course was attended by over 35 people, including project managers with MDE's Oil Control Program and Land Restoration Program, environmental consultants, and federal employees from the Department of Defense. Addressing vapor intrusion issues continues to be a key issue for MDE and the Maryland environmental community. MDE hosted the training course to improve the technical capabilities of its staff and consultants to assess and remediate sites with vapor intrusion issues within the state.

REGION 4



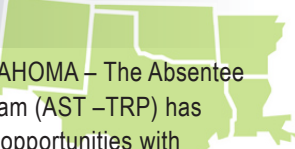
TENNESSEE – In October 2017, the Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Tennessee Economic & Community Development, Center of Economic Research in Tennessee (CERT), collaborated on development of a new series of brownfields program accomplishment dashboards demonstrating program success from about 2011 to current. This dashboard shows not just accomplishments, but the annual state goals for major program metrics including jobs and dollars leveraged, rates of return, payback periods, stakeholder meetings, business development meetings, and foreign investment. In addition to highlighting economic returns, 10-year return on investment (ROI) forecasts are presented in the reports. In support of the data presented in the dashboard, Tennessee DEC used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to develop the “Brownfield Redevelopment in Tennessee” report to demonstrate specifics and highlight case studies. To view the dashboard, visit the following link: <https://www.tn.gov/transparenttn/jobs-economic-development/openecd/tnecd-performance-metrics/openecd-business-development-quick-stats.html>.

REGION 5



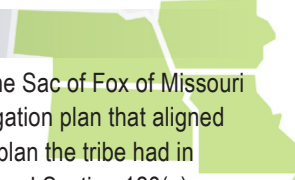
RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS – The former Bigstone Convenience Store property was abandoned, along with an underground storage tank (UST) system that had not been maintained for several years. A responsible party could not be located to be held accountable for assessment and cleanup. In 2017, the Red Lake Environmental Response Program (RL ERP) used Section 128(a) funding to provide oversight of assessment activities at the property. After the assessment confirmed petroleum contamination, the UST system was removed along with the surrounding contaminated soil. The building was subsequently demolished and removed, and the property remains vacant and is ready for reuse. The tribe is providing outreach to the entire community through a Red Lake Department of Natural Resources newsletter article to inform tribal members about the project and reassure the community that there is no further environmental threat. The community is providing feedback as to how the property should be reused, with a focus on protecting the tribe’s treasured resources for generations to come.

REGION 6



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA – The Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Tribal Response Program (AST –TRP) has built a close relationship and partnering opportunities with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) Brownfields Program. Oklahoma DEQ has provided assistance by completing two simultaneous environmental assessments on tribally owned properties. This beneficial partnership was essential because the two properties are located on “Fee Land” (an individual Indian holds legal title but with legal restrictions), not Tribal Trust land. The first property is a two-story motel that has been idle for over a decade. The assessment activities determined the presence of asbestos throughout the motel. The second property, the Tecumseh Department Store building, has been idle for several years. The Tecumseh Department Store was part of a part of a larger shopping area formally named Tecumseh Square. While the shopping center strip mall building was demolished years ago to make room for future development, the department store building has sat in disrepair. The assessment activities determined that there is asbestos present throughout the building. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe would like to redevelop the department store to revitalize the area and create a focal point that can be a source of pride for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, the City of Tecumseh, and the surrounding community. Partnering with Oklahoma DEQ’s Brownfield Program has enabled the AST-TRP to focus Section 128(a) Response Program funding towards preparing the next step of cleanup activities and redevelopment planning for both properties.

REGION 7



SAC OF FOX OF MISSOURI TRIBE – The Sac of Fox of Missouri Tribe was interested in developing a mitigation plan that aligned closely to the draft emergency response plan the tribe had in place. The Sac of Fox of Missouri Tribe used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to develop a disaster response and mitigation plan and standard operating procedures (SOPs) that have been submitted to and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The SOPs were developed to reflect past experiences and best practices combined with available resources. Part of the mitigation plan included staff training. All four members of the Sac of Fox environmental department are 40-hour HAZWOPER certified and attend both regular annual trainings for Pipeline, Rail, and Nuclear emergency Preparedness; Storm Spotting; GIS; and Underground Storage Tanks; and additional emergency response training addressed at the Region 7 Response Team’s semi-annual meetings. The Sac and Fox tribe and its staff are trained and prepared to conduct the proper procedures when an incident occurs.

REGION 8

FORT PECK TRIBES – The former Fort Peck airport in Poplar, Montana, had been used by local farmers for fueling, loading, and storing crop-dusting planes before operating as a County airport for 40 years. Upon its closure in 2011, a legacy of contamination remained and prevented its reuse. Petroleum had leaked into the subsurface from underground storage tanks and from runoff associated with fueling activities. The Fort Peck Tribes used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to conduct oversight of assessment and cleanup activities, and an EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant to conduct cleanup activities, which included the removal and proper disposal of gasoline- and lead-impacted soils. Today, the former airport is being revitalized into a new Sustainable Village development. Some of the contaminated soils were landfarmed (treated) and reused on site. Twenty sustainable homes for tribal housing have since been built. Tribal roads have been constructed on the property, green infrastructure techniques have been used to daylight stormwater runoff channels for long-term maintenance, and a Wellness Center is being proposed.



Burton Elementary School Students.

REGION 9

CALIFORNIA – A 12.59-acre property in Porterville, Tulare County, is the future home of a K-8 school for the Burton School District. The property was historically used for agricultural purposes, dating back to the 1930s. From approximately 1950 to 2004, the property was used as a drive-in movie theater. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) Targeted Site Investigation (TSI) Program used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to conduct a preliminary environmental assessment. Assessment activities evaluated the potential presence of chemicals associated with the site's former agricultural use, parking lot and structures

associated with the former drive-in theater, existing pole-mounted transformers, and naturally-occurring asbestos. Based on the results of soil sampling and a human health screening evaluation, DTSC determined on April 27, 2017 that no further action was required for the property. This determination allowed the District to move forward with development of the property as an elementary school with approximately 28 classrooms that will accommodate approximately 500 students.



Attendees at the 2017 ATCEM.

REGION 10

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM (ANTHC) – Five hundred attendees, representing all but two of Alaska's 29 tribal response programs (TRPs), participated in the annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (ATCEM) from November 14-17, 2017. This was a highly successful turnout, as most of the TRPs are in rural areas and must fly to Anchorage for the conference. For the third consecutive year, there was a Brownfields track. The ANTHC TRP used Section 128(a) Response Program funding to plan the event, including the coordination of preliminary planning meetings with many other Alaska TRPs. As a result, a variety of perspectives were represented in the 15 sessions that comprised the track. This year also included a 'TRP Hour' facilitated by EPA Region 10, providing an opportunity for TRP coordinators to interface directly with EPA staff. In addition, Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski addressed a plenary via video broadcast. Hosting this annual event is a vital component of ANTHC's brownfields outreach, as the ATCEM provides meaningful opportunities for public participation.