



Petroleum Orphan Sites Initiative

Introduction

The Indiana Brownfields Program (Program) has established a Petroleum Orphan Sites Initiative (POSI) to help Indiana communities address petroleum contamination on brownfield sites resulting from leaking underground storage tanks (USTs) that cannot be addressed by the party responsible for cleanup as a result of an inability-to-pay, bankruptcy, or other factors. To facilitate redevelopment of such orphan properties which are hindered by known or suspected environmental contamination, the Program will provide site assessment, UST removal, and remediation to close environmental conditions on the site under the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)'s Risk-based Closure Guide. Hazardous substances or petroleum contamination from other on-site sources (e.g., hydraulic lifts, etc.) will also be addressed if funding is available. It will be a goal of the Program for a No Further Action letter to be issued by IDEM at the end of remediation. An award under this initiative will be for professional services to be provided by the Program and not a grant of funds.

What sites will be addressed through the POSI?

Sites to be funded will primarily be identified to the Program by the Enforcement Section of IDEM's Office of Land Quality (Enforcement) and the Leaking UST program. However, if a political subdivision has concerns about an abandoned petroleum UST site in its community, it can contact the Program to request an evaluation of the site for potential funding.

What types of sites are eligible for funding?

The following sites are eligible for POSI funding:

- Sites with no viable responsible party due to dissolution, being defunct or bankrupt, or having demonstrated an inability-to-pay verified by IDEM
- Sites that are effectively abandoned due to tax delinquency or for which there is no known responsible party
- Sites with a responsible party solely based on current ownership (e.g., inheritance), but the owner did not cause or contribute to the historic contamination or own and/or operate at the site at the time of the disposal or release

Who will conduct the work under the POSI?

The Program will solicit bids for site work under the POSI from the sixteen consultants previously qualified by the Program for site assessment and remediation activities the Program awards as professional services.

How will sites be funded?

The funding source for the POSI includes transfers from the IDEM Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF) in State Fiscal Years (SFYs) 2014 through 2025.

At a Glance:

The **Petroleum Orphan Sites Initiative** assists political subdivisions by investigating and undertaking corrective action at sites contaminated with petroleum from a release from an underground storage tank for which there is no viable responsible party to conduct tank removal and cleanup.

What is a Brownfield?

A brownfield is an underutilized property where redevelopment or reuse is complicated due to actual or potential environmental contamination.

For More Information

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