



# Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, WA*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, 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. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in Pierce County (population 745,411), the City of Tacoma is a federally designated Renewal Community. The area targeted for brownfields assessments includes 88 percent of the area's 736 former gas station brownfields. Centered roughly in south central Tacoma, this area includes about 32 percent of the county's population, of whom 41 percent are minorities. The unemployment rates for Pierce County and the City of Tacoma are above the state and national



New  
2006

### Assessment Grant

**\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department for a brownfields assessment grant. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform from six to 15 Phase I and II environmental site assessments, and conduct community outreach and education. Grant funds will focus on the elimination of hazards from former gas stations.

### Contacts

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](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team  
206-553-2100

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/bf>

Grant Recipient: Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, WA  
253-798-4784

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

averages, and poverty rates range from 9.8 to 14.8 percent. Tank removal or site cleanup documentation for these sites does not exist, so the health and environmental risks posed by these sites are unknown. Potential contamination at these former gas station sites also makes them unattractive for redevelopment. Brownfields assessments, eventual cleanup, and redevelopment will assist the community's effort to reduce environmental uncertainties surrounding these former gas stations, focus on building a commitment to green construction and energy efficiency, and promote a vibrant community through further redevelopment of underutilized commercial properties.