



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Everett, WA

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

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. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 150 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Everett for a Brownfields Pilot. Everett is bordered on the east by the Snohomish River. Economic disruption has persisted in parts of Everett since the 1970s. At that time, local base industries began shifting away from forest products and other natural resource industries to technology and aerospace. As this shift occurred, lower-skilled jobs became increasingly scarce, and pulp mills remain idle today. Currently, 21.4% of Everett's population lives below the poverty level.

Two contiguous properties owned by the city and totaling approximately 220 acres along the river will be the target of the Pilot. Together, these properties represent the largest undeveloped site north of Seattle. The first property (approximately 80 acres) was used as a burn dump, scrap metal burial site, and municipal landfill. The second property (approximately 140 acres) was used as a pulp mill, log storage site, and railway car washing site. These sites lay next to sensitive wetlands and a river estuary. Earlier site investigations have revealed the presence of contaminants which may be affecting the river and groundwater.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Everett, Washington

Date of Announcement:
May 1998

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets two city-owned brownfields properties comprising approximately 2,200 acres of waterfront along the Snohomish River.

Contacts:

Department of Planning
and Community
Development
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Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 10
(206) 553-6523

Visit the EPA Region 10 Brownfields web site at:
<http://epainotes1.rtpnc.epa.gov:7777/r10/cleanup.nsf/webpage/Brownfields>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

The city's Pilot objective is part of a larger plan to revitalize the riverfront and restore it to productive economic use consistent with surrounding land uses and long-term development. The Pilot will focus specifically on completing environmental assessments at the two sites. The city will work to educate residents and prospective developers about site characteristics, cleanup measures, and development expectations. One method to achieve this is the formation of a Community Advisory Committee, comprised of local neighborhood representatives as well as representatives from the chamber of commerce and the economic development council. In addition, the city will develop a user-friendly site review procedure that will provide financial, legal, environmental, and technical information to prospective purchasers.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Completing environmental assessments at the sites in order to formulate cleanup and redevelopment plans;
- Facilitating community and business involvement in cleanup and redevelopment planning; and
- Developing a geographic information system (GIS) mapping program consistent with the riverfront redevelopment plan to provide information regarding site characteristics.

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