



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Tarrant County, TX

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. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs 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 Tarrant County for a Brownfields Pilot. The Dallas/Fort Worth metro area is known as the "Metroplex" and is the eighth-largest metro area in the country with 4.3 million people. This area was historically the center of a large meatpacking and oil drilling supply industry. The 1980s saw a 20 percent increase in the county's population; however, the subsequent suburban economic expansion bypassed small communities such as Everman (population 5,872) and Kennedale (population 5,605). As a result, the flight to greenfields has left behind dilapidated and abandoned buildings, inappropriate zoning and land use patterns, stagnated growth and potentially hazardous contamination.

The Pilot targets sites in two predominantly minority neighborhoods within Everman and Kennedale that are economically impacted by high unemployment rates, high poverty rates and low incomes. Identification and assessment of brownfields in these areas are particularly important because of the potential health and safety hazards associated with ground water contamination from the targeted sites transferring into nearby Chambers Creek, Village Creek, and subsequently into Lake Arlington and the Trinity River watershed. The lake is a recreational

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Tarrant County, Texas

Date of Announcement:
June 1999

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets
two brownfields in the Cities
of Everman and Kennedale.

Contacts:

County of Tarrant
Community Development
(817) 338-9129

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 6
(214) 665-6736

Visit the EPA Region 6 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/bfpages/sfbfhome.htm>

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/>

area, and also serves as the source of drinking water for a half-million county residents.

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot's objective is to assist in the revitalization of the Cities of Everman and Kennedale by conducting environmental assessments, developing a cleanup and redevelopment plan for the targeted sites, and involving the community and stakeholders in the cleanup and redevelopment process. In addition to the Pilot activities, the county and these cities will encourage brownfields redevelopment by creating tax increment financing districts and by using innovative financing to fund infrastructure improvements. The county hopes the Pilot will provide a model for small cities to identify brownfields and integrate community representatives in the cleanup and redevelopment process.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting Phase I and Phase II assessments, including a risk assessment, at the two targeted sites;
- Designing a cleanup and redevelopment plan; and
- Developing and implementing a community outreach program.

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