

#### **Revitalization through TCEQ Brownfields**

Ariana Nehrbass, TCEQ



- What are Brownfields?
- How to apply for the program
- Program timeline
- Brownfields success stories



#### WHAT ARE BROWNFIELDS?

#### ANY PROPERTY where redevelopment is hindered due to ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS (real or perceived)



#### BROWNFIELDS

#### What might a BROWNFIELD look like in YOUR COMMUNITY?



#### ABANDONED BUILDINGS



#### ABANDONED GAS STATIONS





#### VACANT FIELDS





#### **BROWNFIELDS REVITALIZATION**

# What can you do with these **BROWNFIELDS?**

#### HOUSING





#### TRANSPORTATION





#### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**





#### **GETTING STARTED**

#### I have the perfect site!

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### Now what?





#### ABOUT TCEQ BROWNFIELDS

- When you enter a qualifying site, we provide:
  - FREE Environmental Site Assessment reports
  - Limited contaminant removal
  - Other technical assistance

- Funded by EPA grant
  - Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act
- Available to nonprofits & local governments









#### WHO CAN APPLY?

# Corporations

#### Governmental Entity or Nonprofit

Redevelopment Agencies

Economic Development

Federally Recognized Tribes

Cities/Towns/Local Governments



#### PROPERTIES WE CAN'T ACCEPT:

#### Federal property

- Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) grant-funded sites
- Sites subject to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Correction Action
- Listed or proposed for the National Priority List (NPL)
  - Superfund sites

orders

Sites subject to Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or other enforcement



# APPLY BEFORE YOU BUY!



#### **BROWNFIELDS PROCESS**

### BROWNFIELDS PROJECTTIMELINE





#### **BROWNFIELDS PROCESS: PLANNING & APPLICATION**



#### APPLY ON OUR WEBSITE!



Publications highlighting the Brownfields Program



#### **APPLICATION FORM**

#### First 4 pages: Program Information

#### Last 8 pages: Actual Application





#### **APPLICATION INFO**

#### You will need:

- Site name
- Site address
- Property owner
- Access agreement
- Historical use of property
- Redevelopment plan



https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/bsa

### APPLY



#### **BROWNFIELDS PROCESS: PHASE I ESA**



### PHASE I ESA

- Property research
  - Interviews
  - Site inspection
  - Records search
- Looking for Recognized
  Environmental Conditions (RECs)

Performed by TCEQ contractors

AFTER PHASE I ESA IS COMPLETE





#### **BROWNFIELDS PROCESS: PHASE II ESA**





#### PHASE II ESA



- If we find any Environmental Concerns in Phase I...
- Now's our chance to address it!
  - Sample Soil & Groundwater
  - Assess Contamination
  - Geophysical Survey
  - Water Well Survey
  - Cost estimate for cleanup
- Performed by TCEQ contractor.



#### WHAT DO WE DO?





#### WHAT WE DON'T DO





#### **BROWNFIELDS PROCESS: CLEANUP & REDEVELOPMENT**





#### **CLEANUP PLANNING**

- TCEQ works with partners to facilitate cleanup and revitalization:
  - EPA
  - Texas Railroad Commission (RRC)
  - Federal & state entities
  - Local redevelopment agencies
- Community Involvement
- Grant support letters









#### CLEANUP PLANNING CONT.

#### Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP)

- You do the cleanup
- Certificate of Completion releases your liability
- Fee & oversight costs waived
  - Normally \$1000
- More info:
- <u>https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rem</u> <u>ediation/vcp/vcp.html</u>



Source: Wiki Commons



#### **BROWNFIELD REVITALIZATION**

### **Success Stories**



# Seaholm Power Plant, Austin

2002



2020's

# Seaholm Power Plant, Austin

#### **Applicant:** City of Austin

- **Phase I:** Former railyard operations, buried debris
  - **Phase II:** TCEQ sampled soil & groundwater
  - Cleanup: Excavated 20,000 yd<sup>3</sup> contaminated soil



# Foremost Dairy, El Campo



# Foremost Dairy, El Campo (cont.)

#### **Applicant:** City of El Campo

- Phase I: Old dairy plant, possible chemical processing
  - **Phase II:** TCEQ sampled soil & groundwater

**Cleanup:** None needed. City used additional funds for further cleanup.



# Lost Pines Art Center, Bastrop



# Lost Pines Art Center, Bastrop (cont.)

- Applicant: Lost Pines Art League of Bastrop
- Phase I: Former cottonseed mill
  & auto repair yard.
  - **Phase II:** TCEQ sampled soil & groundwater
  - **Cleanup:** Silos were left in place to act as caps over contamination.









#### **CONTACT US!**

#### Ariana Nehrbass Brownfields Outreach Coordinator

Ariana.Nehrbass@TCEQ.texas.gov 512-239-5061 TCEQ Brownfields Program www.TCEQ.texas.gov/remediation/bsa

Brownfields@TCEQ.texas.gov I-833-436-3271





# **Useful Links:**

- <u>https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/remediation/brownfields/success/gi-468.pdf</u>
- <u>https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapTour/index.html?appid=7477e68d82d34f32a68d</u> ba34f394c8e6
- https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/bsa
- <u>https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-</u> 05/documents/festival\_beach\_food\_forest.pdf

