

Marshfield Oil Bulk Plant

PUB-RR-832

March, 2009

Marshfield Oil Bulk Plant

217 West 16th Street
Marshfield, WI
Wood County

.72 Acres

Location: A mixed industrial and residential area of southwest Marshfield, adjacent to several residential properties.

A Brownfields Site Assessment Grant from the Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program helps Wood County put a formerly delinquent property back on the tax roles.

History

The Marshfield Oil Company bulk plant kept the city of Marshfield powered with oil and gas for decades. However, when the fuel trucks went silent, there was little to be done with the property. The history of petroleum product storage at the property indicated a strong potential for environmental contamination—making it unattractive to any future buyers.

When tax bills began to go unpaid, Wood County officials decided to apply for a Brownfields Site Assessment Grant from the RR Program. The 20% required match would be met by the delinquent taxes, if the county took ownership of the property during the grant period. The county was awarded a \$30,000 grant to analyze contamination at the former bulk plant.

Investigation and Cleanup

Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) were conducted at the site. Evidence showed that above-ground storage tanks were used at the bulk plant for years, and likely leaked.

In order to test soil around the property, a concrete slab, footings, ramp and loading dock were demolished. Nine soil borings and four groundwater monitoring wells were drilled for testing. The results revealed petroleum volatile organic compounds (PVOCs) in the soil exceeding state standards. In addition, five barrels of gas sludge were removed from the site.



Discarded barrels left on the former Marshfield Oil property (photo courtesy Northern Environmental).



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr>



Redevelopment

With Phase I & II ESAs and demolition complete, the property was bought by a construction company. The company not only completed the cleanup, but still uses the property. The county now receives tax revenue for the formally blighted and environmentally hazardous property.

Financial, Liability, Technical Assistance

In addition to cleanup oversight, the RR Program awarded a \$30,000 Brownfields Site Assessment Grant to Wood County for investigation of contamination on the property.

Praise for the RR Program:

“Wood County had a great experience working with the Remediation and Redevelopment Program. Without this program, the county would not have done this site assessment and in turn sold this property. The property is now back on the tax roll... which benefits all taxing jurisdictions.”

*Karen J. Kubisiak
Wood County Treasurer*

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