The RR Program is pleased to announce that all documents and images that are currently visible on BOTW can now be opened and downloaded. Until recently, users could only perform those functions on GIS registry packets.

There are more than 20,000 documents and images available through BOTW, including closure letters, redevelopment assistance letters and department site audits. The program goal is to provide all Voluntary Party Liability Exemption Certificates of Completion, all redevelopment assistance letters and department issued closure letters (for non-GIS Registry sites) issued since 2010, and new closure packets (for non-GIS Registry sites) since 2013. There is also an ongoing effort to provide historical documentation.

These items are available in the Documents and Images section and may also appear linked to corresponding site actions (see image below).

Items that are available through BOTW do not require the use of a department Open Records request form.
Alternative Approach to “Not Applicable” Items in the Case Closure GIS Registry Form is Acceptable

As the RR program continues to evaluate feedback regarding the new Case Closure form; one item receiving a lot of attention is the process of documenting the “Not Applicable” (NA) attachments.

The directions on the form currently indicate that “If any section is not relevant to the case closure request, you must fully explain the reasons why and attach that explanation to the relevant section of the form.” Comments provided to the RR Program suggest that this can be time consuming and creates unnecessary extra pages, thus increasing the size of case closure GIS packets.

Moving forward, the program will now accept a table of contents page as an acceptable alternative (see example below). The program will also continue to accept a separate attachment for each NA item. If using the alternative option, a table of contents must be included for each Attachment section (A-G) and clearly labeled. You must indicate whether or not each sub-section is included and you must include a full explanation for the reasons why a section is not relevant to the case.

For other examples of frequently asked questions related to submitting requests to DNR for case closure of contaminated properties see DNR’s Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): Administrative Completeness Review at Closure, ch. NR 726.

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**EXAMPLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRRTS No.</th>
<th>Activity (Site) Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Attachment B: Maps & Figures**

- B.1. Location Maps
  - B.1.a. Site Location Map
  - B.1.b. Detailed Site Map
  - B.1.c. RR Site Map

- B.2. Soil Figures
  - B.2.a. Pre-Remedial Soil Contamination Map
  - B.2.b. Post Remedial Soil Contamination – No Attachment because there was no remediation at the site
  - B.2.c. Pre/Post Remaining Soil Contamination

- B.3. Groundwater Figures – No Attachment because there was no groundwater investigation other than collection of a sample from a temp well at GP-3

- B.4. Vapor Maps & Other Media – No Attachment because a vapor assessment was not necessary after performing vapor intrusion pathway screening.
**Issues and Trends Webinar: New ASTM Phase I ESA Standard**

Mark your calendar for **Wednesday, April 16 at 1:00 p.m.**, when the next Issues & Trends Webinar, hosted by the RR Program, features a discussion about the new ASTM Phase I ESA Standard. Presenting the topic is Paul Zovic, a Senior Advisor at Endpoint Solutions in Milwaukee, and one of only nine environmental professional selected by ASTM International to teach the ESA standards.

Environmental due diligence is a commonplace element in real estate transactions and in most commercial lending. The ASTM Phase I ESA is widely recognized as the industry standard and is used by businesses, lenders, regulators, attorneys, consultants, and real estate professionals nationwide.

Webinar details, including a link to Live Meeting, can be found on the program’s [training page](#).

**Report to EPA Summarizes RR Program Successes**

The RR Program’s [midyear report to the EPA](#), highlighting program achievements utilizing federal s. 128(a) grant funding, is online. The report provides an overview of accomplishments for the period Sept. 1, 2013 – Feb. 28, 2014.

RR Program highlights in this report include:

- Outreach staff meetings with 50+ communities and groups to discuss brownfields projects;
- Completion of 200+ case closure decisions
- Providing 70 redevelopment assistance actions to help remove disincentives to redeveloping contaminated properties
- Holding 25 workshops and trainings
- Working with public and private partners to declare 740 acres in Wisconsin “ready for reuse”

**Foss Named Bureau Director**

Darsi Foss has been promoted from section chief to bureau director in DNR’s Remediation and Redevelopment program. Darsi has been the Brownfields and Outreach Section chief in the RR program for the past 16 years. Prior to that, she was the team leader for the Land Recycling Team and a policy analyst for the program. Under Darsi’s leadership, Wisconsin’s Brownfields program has gained an outstanding national reputation, receiving several awards for innovative work at former contaminated sites, achieving cleanup of environmental pollution, protection of public health and return of property to productive use for the communities in which they are located.
Brownfield Renewal Accepting Nominations for 2014

Four well deserved winners will be selected for the 2014 Brownfield Renewal Awards. There are four categories that will be considered: environmental impact, social impact, economic impact and sustainability. The deadline to submit nominations is June 27, 2014.

For more information and to submit a nomination please visit [www.brownfieldrenewal.com/renewal-awards-2014.html](http://www.brownfieldrenewal.com/renewal-awards-2014.html).

EPA Brownfields Grant Opportunity

The U.S. EPA is soliciting grant applications to conduct research or provide technical assistance to communities facing brownfields cleanup and revitalization challenges.

Focus areas include:

- technical assistance to environmental workforce development and job training grantees;
- technical assistance on the integration of environmental justice and equitable development for brownfields-impacted communities;
- research on the benefits of brownfields redevelopment; and
- technical assistance on brownfields financing and economic development strategies to brownfields-impacted communities.

Proposals are due by April 18, 2014. For more information see the RFP at [www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-oblr-14-02.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-oblr-14-02.pdf)

Brownfield Financing Legislation Brought to the House

Legislation recently brought to the house called the Brownfield Redevelopment and Economic Development Innovative Financing Act of 2014 (H. R. 4173) would re-establish a loan program for brownfields at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The legislation would offer financing options to communities for redevelopment of blighted, contaminated or abandoned sites. Loan amounts would range from $25,000 to $150,000 and could be used for acquisition, remediation, relocation of facilities and site preparation.

Brownfields News and Notes

Oktoberfest grounds, home to former manufactured gas plant site, gets cleaned up

Wisconsin has the lowest number of plant closings in the last decade

Madison Kipp preparing to pump contaminated groundwater from under east side of plant

Waunakee manure plant asked to increase staff to minimize spills

Online Training Opportunities
Click the links below for more information about upcoming training sessions.


April 22 - Groundwater Statistics for Environmental Project Managers