



# RR REPORT

Important Updates from the DNR Remediation and Redevelopment Program

October 2, 2015

## October 7, 2015: *Issues & Trends* Webinar– OMM for Vapor Mitigation Systems

Alyssa Sellwood, DNR Hydrogeologist and Vapor Intrusion (VI) Team Leader, will lead a discussion on the operation, monitoring and maintenance (OMM) of sub-slab depressurization systems in residential homes. OMM of VI systems is essential to the protection of human health at sites where a vapor risk exists.

Examples covered in this presentation will highlight the importance of proper commissioning to verify effectiveness and the long-term OMM expectations to maintain protection of human health in the future.

Date: October 7, 2015

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Join by phone: 1-855-947-8255, passcode: 6612 745#

Questions in advance can be sent to [DNRRRComments@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRRRComments@wisconsin.gov)

The presentation and related materials for this teleconference will soon be available on the [RR Program Training Page](#). You can also find a schedule of future *Issues & Trends* events in the [Training Library](#) as well as recordings of previous sessions. The OMM for VI Systems presentation will be available in the library shortly after the conclusion of the teleconference.

## Two Rural Communities Receive State Brownfield Awards

Two rural communities on opposite ends of the state, Spooner and Blanchardville, have received brownfields contractor services awards from DNR totaling approximately \$75,000. The Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) program will help assess the conditions at both of these sites to determine if contamination exists in the soil or groundwater.

The [WAM program](#) provides contractor services for environmental assessment at brownfields sites where closed or closing industrial plants act as impediments to redevelopment. This program is funded through Brownfields Area-Wide Assessment grants to DNR from the U.S. EPA and is administered by the DNR's Remediation & Redevelopment (RR) Program.

See the [DNR news](#) for more information about these awards.

## DNR, Racine Receive Additional EPA Funds to Help Clean Up Sites

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the City of Racine are among 31 communities, agencies, or organizations to receive a portion of \$13.2 million in supplemental Revolving Loan Funds

from the U.S. EPA to help clean up contaminated brownfield sites. The EPA [announced the awards](#) last week.

The City of Racine will receive \$500,000 in supplemental RLF; the DNR will receive \$400,000. DNR has earmarked the additional funds for continued cleanup work at the former Kenosha Engine Plant.

A [full list of RLF supplemental award recipients](#) is available on the EPA's website.

## **Idle Site and Community Development Investment Grant Deadlines**

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) will hold a competitive grant application process for both the [Idle Industrial Sites](#) and [Community Development Investment \(CDI\)](#) Grant Programs. These grants, available only to local units of government or tribal entities, may be used to assist in high-priority redevelopment efforts identified by the communities in which they are located.

### Community Development Investment Grants

The CDI Grant Program will have a single grant competition in which applications are due November 13, 2015. For FY16, grants of up to \$250,000 will be awarded for shovel-ready, high-impact, community-driven development efforts that will likely catalyze additional investment in downtown districts of the community. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded for planning, market analysis or branding efforts that will likely generate additional investment if implemented. A local unit of government or tribal entity must be the applicant. However, they do not need to own the site. Award funds are limited to 25 percent of eligible costs including demolition, rehabilitation, construction, infrastructure or site-specific improvements.

**The deadline for FY16 grant application is Friday, November 13, 2015.**

### Idle Industrial Site Grants

The Idle Industrial Site Grant Program will also have a single grant competition in which applications are due December 11, 2015. For FY16, grants of up to \$500,000 will be awarded for implementation of redevelopment plans for large industrial sites that have been idle, abandoned or underutilized for a period of at least five years. Eligible sites include industrial properties of 5 acres or more or commercial properties of 10 acres. A local unit of government or tribal entity must be the applicant. However, they do not need to own the site. Award funds are limited to 30 percent of project costs including demolition, environmental remediation, infrastructure or site-specific improvements defined in a redevelopment plan to advance the site to shovel-ready status or enhance the site's market attractiveness.

**The deadline for FY16 grant application is December 11, 2015.**

Please contact your [WEDC regional community account manager](#) to discuss the project and obtain an updated copy of the application materials.

## Brownfields in the News

A federal judge rules that a [utility company is responsible for cleanup at the Ashland/ Northern States Power Lakefront Superfund site](#).

The City of Oshkosh has plans for a [new addition to the Oshkosh Riverwalk](#).

## RR Program Staff Updates

**Elizabeth (Liz) Victor, Hydrogeologist** – Liz joins the Northeast Region RR Program as the program's Kewaunee Marsh Hydrogeologist. She started at DNR in Oshkosh as a WI DOT Hydrogeologist (LTE) in 2009. Prior to that, Liz worked as a hydrogeologist in the environmental consulting industry in Florida for 21 years. She is originally from Wisconsin and graduated from UW-Oshkosh in 1985.

**Thomas Foellmi, Environmental Program Associate** – Thomas joined the RR Program's southcentral region team as an Environmental Program Associate to assist with stalled PECFA sites in the area. Thomas has a Master's in Environmental Policy and Management from the University of Adelaide (Australia).

**Kristin Benzing, Environmental Program Associate** – Kristin recently joined the RR Program's Northeast Region as an Environmental Program Associate working out of the Oshkosh Service Center. She also works at DNR as a Customer Service Representative. Kristin graduated from Marian University of Fond du Lac in May 2014 with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology with minors in Environmental Science and Chemistry.

## Upcoming ITRC Training

October 6 - [Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Fundamentals of Screening, Investigation, and Management](#)

October 7 - [Use and Measurement of Mass Flux and Mass Discharge](#)

October 8 - [Remedy Selection for Contaminated Sediments](#)

October 15 - [Integrated DNAPL Site Characterization](#)

October 20 - [Environmental Molecular Diagnostics: New Tools for Better Decisions](#)