



RR REPORT

Important Updates from the DNR Remediation and Redevelopment Program

June 22, 2016

PECFA Reimbursement Reminder: 180 Days to Submit Claims

Claimants and consultants planning to seek reimbursement for costs incurred on PECFA-eligible projects are reminded that they have only 180 days from the day the expense was incurred to do so. There is no extension on that deadline and all incurred costs older than 180 days are ineligible for reimbursement.

PECFA – the [Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Award](#) program – reimburses responsible parties for the cost of investigating and cleaning up environmental contamination associated with aboveground and underground petroleum storage systems, usually gas station tanks and home heating oil systems. No new cleanup sites are eligible for PECFA assistance and the program is set to end on June 30, 2020. Any claims submitted after that sunset date will not be reimbursed.

With PECFA ending in four years, all eligible sites should have a plan to achieve closure if reimbursement is being sought. Please work with your assigned DNR Project Manager for assistance meeting the deadline.

PECFA Stakeholders Meeting June 29

The next meeting of the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Award (PECFA) program Stakeholder's group is set for Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at the DNR office building in downtown Madison. The meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon in room G-09.

Program staff will discuss a number of issues including an update on reimbursement backlogs, an initiative to get stalled sites moving forward, an update on the Usual and Customary Cost Schedule and forecasting the amount of time it will take to get a project to closure.

If you plan to attend this meeting, please contact Judy Fassbender, 608-266-7278, or via email at Judy.Fassbender@wi.gov. Attendees will be required to check in with building security prior to attending the meeting.

EPA Area-Wide Brownfields Grants Available

Eligible parties who wish to develop an area-wide plan for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse are encouraged to apply for funding under the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant program for fiscal year 2017. The deadline to submit a proposal to EPA is August 10, 2016.

EPA has a website of [guidelines](#), frequently asked questions ([FAQs](#)) and [tips](#) for submitting a proposal.

The funding is for research or technical assistance activities directed to one or more brownfield sites located in a specific area. Each project funded under these grants must result in an area-wide plan which includes specific plan implementation strategies for assessing, cleaning up and reusing the brownfields

sites, as well as related brownfields and project area revitalization strategies. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 20 projects in total, funded at up to \$200,000 each.

Brownfields Study Group Co-Chair Dave Misky Honored With Public Policy Award

Citing his creative solutions to solving complex redevelopment challenges, the [Public Policy Forum](#) has chosen David Misky, Assistant Executive Director-Secretary for the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee ([RACM](#)) and the Co-Chair of the Wisconsin Brownfields Study Group, as the recipient of the 2016 Norman N. Gill Award for Individual Excellence. The award will be presented at the Forum's "Salute to Local Government" event on June 21, 2016 in Milwaukee.

Misky joined RACM in 2003 and was appointed Assistant Executive Director-Secretary in 2008. He led the agency's redevelopment efforts in the Menomonee Valley, the Villard Library project, the 440th Local Redevelopment Plan and on efforts at Century City and the Harbor District. Under his leadership, RACM has been a national leader in securing federal brownfield grants and Milwaukee has become an EPA "showcase community." He also helped to organize a unique Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund and has played a leading role in the city's efforts to aggressively address tax delinquent and blighted properties.

Established in 1913 as a good government watchdog, the Public Policy Forum is a private, non-profit, independent research organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of public policy decision-making in southeast Wisconsin.

As Co-Chair of the [Brownfields Study Group](#), Misky helps lead a wide-ranging group of professionals evaluating the state's current brownfields policies and, where necessary, recommending changes and proposing additional incentives for the cleanup and reuse of abandoned or underused properties with real or perceived contamination.

DNR Brownfields Program Releases New Video Highlighting Cleanup and Redevelopment Successes

The DNR brownfields program is pleased to present "[Beans & Brew](#)," a seven-minute video highlighting the remediation and redevelopment efforts undertaken by Milwaukee's Colectivo Coffee and the Potosi Brewery. These two stories highlight the impressive impact of collaboration between private industry, local public sector supporters and the DNR.

Over 20 years of experience has shown that cleanups are both possible and profitable. The environment and the economy can benefit together, as confirmed by [a recent UW-Whitewater study](#).

Beans & Brew is the brownfields program's most recent video to highlight a successful cleanup and redevelopment project in Wisconsin. Other videos can be seen on the agency's [YouTube channel](#). Write-ups on these and 101 additional successful redevelopment stories are available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/Success.html>.

Reminder: No *Issues & Trends* Conference Call in July

The RR Program is taking a summer break from the *Issues & Trends* schedule in July. The popular outreach event will return on August 3, 2016 with a presentation titled “Calculating Background Levels for Common Soil Contaminants.” That conference call will be led by Judy Fassbender, Chief of the program’s Policy and Technical Resources section.

Look for more information on that presentation in the coming weeks on our [RR Program Training Page](#). Recordings and copies of previous presentations, along with a [schedule of future *Issues & Trends* events](#), can be found in the [Training Library](#).

RR Program Staff Updates

Patrick Dowd, Hydrogeologist - Patrick will be helping manage PECFA-eligible contaminated sites out of the Fitchburg office. He has been attending UW-Madison since fall 2012, majoring in civil and environmental engineering and environmental studies, and will be graduating spring 2017. Patrick is the President of the University of Wisconsin's chapter of Engineers without Borders, a student organization that works to provide engineering services to communities around the world who otherwise wouldn't have access to them. Last summer he worked as a field technician studying aquatic biogeochemistry at UW's Trout Lake Research Station in Boulder Junction.

Upcoming ITRC Training

July 14 - [Issues and Options in Human Health Risk Assessment – A Resource When Alternatives to Default Parameters and Scenarios are Proposed](#)

July 19 - [Integrated DNAPL Site Strategy](#)