

Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services Awarded to Former Solar Paints & Varnishes Site

On March 3, 2014 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) awarded Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) Contractor Services to the Ralos, LLC for site investigation activities at the former Solar Paints & Varnishes facility, located at 5375 S. 9th Street in Milwaukee.

This 6.23 acre property was previously the site of paint manufacturer and recycler Solar Paints & Varnishes. Solar Paints operated on the site from 1956 to 1995, at which time the manufacturer filed for bankruptcy. Several businesses are currently operating within the 53,650 square feet of manufacturing space, including Marshall Erecting and Excel Connection. The WAM award will provide site investigation services to assist the property owner in obtaining its Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) Certificate of Completion, through vapor and groundwater sampling.



Marshall Erecting and a number of other businesses now occupy the space of the former Solar Paints & Varnishes site in Milwaukee, Wis.

The WAM program, administered by DNR's Remediation and Redevelopment Program, provides local governments, closing businesses and potential buyers with no-cost Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at closed or closing industrial sites to help ready them for reuse or redevelopment. These awards are not grants, they are no-cost consulting services to the recipient, and therefore require minimal effort by the awardee. This program is especially useful for small towns because there is no match or project administration involved.

Applications can be submitted for the program at any time. Eligible sites include closed or closing manufacturing plants and vacant land with a history of manufacturing. Gas stations, dry cleaners, salvage yards and agricultural coops are not eligible. For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/wam.html.

For more information on WAM or the Remediation and Redevelopment Program in Wisconsin, contact Darsi Foss, WDNR brownfields section chief, at 608-267-6713.