

Charter Films

PUB-RR-901

August 2011

Charter Films

1901 Winter St.
Superior, WI
Douglas County

6.5 Acres

Location: An industrial area of the city of Superior near St. Louis Bay, serviced by rail lines.

A century-old, industrial block of Superior gets primed for a modern future.

company partnered with a developer to purchase adjacent parcels. However, environmental contamination issues needed to be addressed before further expansion could take place.



Charter Films has continued to expand and add jobs in Superior by remediating adjacent properties (photo courtesy DNR).

History

Located in the industrial north end of the city of Superior, the Charter Films site at 1901 Winter Street was originally developed as a small commercial business complex in the late 1880s.

At first, the site included feed and seed warehouses and grain elevators. After 100 years of development, this block was home to a wide variety of businesses: a filling station, a tar and paint storage building, a petroleum bulk storage facility and a wholesale grocer, as well as office spaces and storage buildings.

Later on, Charter Films was one of those businesses who located in the area. The company manufactures extruded thin plastic films for product packaging and other uses. As the successful business expanded, the

Investigation and Cleanup

In 2008, a Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments was conducted on the property identifying the presence of three leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs), a number of transformer containers with residue of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), hazardous waste products, arsenic, and petroleum contaminated soil.

Cleanup and remedial activities on the site included the removal of the LUSTs, along with proper disposal of petroleum impacted soil. In addition, the site is required to remain as an industrial use area. Finally, the existing asphalt pavement cap over the remaining contaminated soil must be maintained to prevent anyone from coming in contact with the residual contaminated soil.



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
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Redevelopment

The property has been expanded multiple times and is still leased by Charter Films.

The company employs approximately 140 people.

Financial, Liability, Technical Assistance

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program provided technical assistance during cleanup of the property.

Additionally, Charter Films entered into the RR Program's Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) process. This exemption provides liability relief for past contamination, when the property owner achieves a state-approved cleanup. In 2010, Charter Films was awarded a Certificate of Completion for completing the VPLE process.

Contacts

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Charter Films utilized the Voluntary Party Liability Exemption to prevent historical contamination issues from impacting their future business (photo courtesy Charter Films, Inc).



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