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Fact Sheet | August 2011

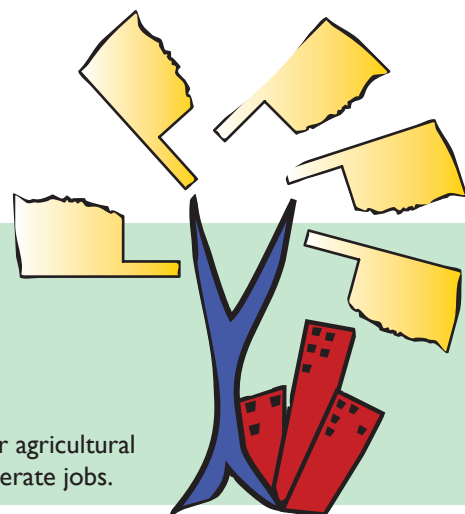
Brownfields Financial Incentives

What is a Brownfield?

Brownfields are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

About the Oklahoma Brownfields Program:

The program encourages the redevelopment of abandoned industrial, commercial or agricultural sites so that they can be returned to being useful, tax producing properties that generate jobs.



Oklahoma Quality Jobs Act

The Oklahoma Quality Jobs Act was amended to apply to basic industries that locate their principal business activities on contaminated properties of at least ten acres in size which qualify as 1) a federal Superfund removal site, 2) National Priorities List (NPL or Superfund site), 3) a site formally deferred to the state in lieu of NPL listing, or 4) a site that was remediated pursuant to an order of the Oklahoma Department of Environment Quality. These companies may be eligible for the Quality Jobs Program incentive payments irrespective of their actual gross payroll or the number of full-time-equivalent employees in new direct jobs.

Oklahoma Sales Tax Code Exemptions

The Oklahoma Sales Tax Code allows an exemption for machinery, equipment, fuels, and chemicals incorporated into the treatment process to substantially reduce the volume or harmful properties of hazardous waste at facilities approved by the ODEQ for the cleanup of a site of contamination.

Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund

Brownfield sites located within permitted urban storm water areas may be eligible for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan program was established by the 1987 amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act. Funds can be used to implement a variety of structural and nonstructural best management practices, stormwater runoff controls, green infrastructure, and brownfield remediation projects. Proposed projects must participate in the Oklahoma Brownfields Program. Private entities are not eligible for this program. Brownfield projects that may be eligible for funding include:

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- Phase I, II, and III site assessments (for brownfields with water quality impacts)
- Excavation and disposal of underground storage tanks
- Excavation, removal, and disposal of contaminated soils or sediments
- Capping of wells and well abandonment
- Construction of wetlands
- Monitoring of groundwater or surface water for brownfield contaminants

Oklahoma Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund

This fund provides low interest loans to private industry, local governments, and tribes for the cleanup of properties contaminated by hazardous substances. Repayment of the loans that have previously been made is expected to occur in 2015 and 2019, respectively. Once these loans are repaid, the Oklahoma Department of Environment Quality will have more money to lend to eligible brownfield projects.

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Brownfields Cleanup Sub-Grants

In December 2009, the Oklahoma Department of Environment Quality's Brownfield Program received \$1.9 million through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (\$1,350,000 for hazardous substances & \$605,580 for petroleum). The funds are intended to finance the cleanup of shovel-ready brownfield projects thereby encouraging redevelopment and creating local jobs in communities across the state. The funds are available to eligible entities through ODEQ's existing Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Program in the form of loans and sub-grants. Local governments and non-profit organizations are eligible for the sub-grants; for profit companies may apply for low interest loans.



DEQ Land Protection Division Brownfields Program: <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/lpdnew/brownfindex.html>

Oklahoma Brownfields Conference: oklahombrownfields.com