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News Release

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City of Seiling Receives Grant for Environmental Cleanup

A ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, January 21, 2011, to award the city of Seiling a Brownfields cleanup grant from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The event will take place at 315 N. Main, Seiling, Oklahoma.

The city of Seiling lost all its downtown “on street” parking when the highway that runs through the middle of downtown was expanded to four lanes. To solve the parking problem, the city will demolish an old dilapidated building and build a parking lot. The building contains asbestos. The city of Seiling will use its grant to safely remove the asbestos before the building is demolished.

Funding for these grants is from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). DEQ’s Brownfield Program received approximately \$1.9 million to issue grants and loans through its Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. The ARRA Brownfield cleanup grants are meant to finance eligible shovel-ready Brownfield cleanup projects, encourage redevelopment and create and/or preserve local jobs in communities across the state. The funds may be used toward the cleanup of properties contaminated by hazardous chemicals, petroleum or petroleum products, mine-scarred lands, and buildings containing asbestos and lead paint. Local governments and non-profit organizations are eligible for grants and loans; “for-profit” companies are eligible for low-interest loans.

DEQ will hold another Brownfields cleanup grant competition this year. Questions about the ARRA Brownfield cleanup grants and loans can be sent to oklahomabrownfields@deq.ok.gov.

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