

Northwest New Mexico Brownfields Assessment Program

- Looking to purchase property or a building to create a business or housing project;
- Concerned about real or perceived environmental issues;
- Would like to perform a free environmental assessment on property/building before acquiring the liability for cleanup or remediation; and/or
- Want to access and qualify for EPA Brownfield Cleanup funding (up to \$200,000) and other sources to cleanup or remediate a site.

**WELL, BROWNFIELDS
ARE FOR YOU....**



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Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments

“Advancing Northwest New Mexico by serving local governments through regional partnership, since 1968.”

Northwest New Mexico Brownfields Assessment Program



Tel: 505-722-4327

Northwest NM Brownfields Assessment Program:

“Transforming Brown to Green”



COG Background:

In 2005, the Northwest NM Council of Governments (COG) received an award of \$81,000 under the EPA’s “Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE)” to implement a 2-year program to identify, prioritize, and reduce toxic risks in Northwest NM. As part of this initiative, EPA also granted the COG \$50,000 to inventory and assess Brownfields sites in the region. The COG successfully finished utilizing these funds, with assistance from NMED. To date over 120 sites have been identified and included on the Site Inventory list. On May 2009, the COG was awarded another \$1 million in funding from EPA for expansion of the program.

Typical Northwest New Mexico Brownfields

- Older Buildings (Asbestos and Lead Paint)
- Railyards
- Abandoned UST sites (especially along major corridors and Route 66)
- Closed dry cleaners
- Closed landfills and Former agricultural lands
- Illegal Dump Sites
- Abandoned junkyards
- Mine-scarred lands, Ore Processing Facilities, and Tailings sites
- Manufacturing facilities.

Project Need: In May 2009, the COG received \$1,000,000 in “American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (ARRA) stimulus funding for the region to implement a Brownfields Assessment Program and ramp up site assessments in Cibola, McKinley, and San Juan counties.

WHAT ARE BROWNFIELDS?

Brownfields Sites Definitions:

EPA Definition – 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.

COG Definition – Brownfields are any property or building, where development or redevelopment wants to happen or is planned to happen, and there is a real or perceived environmental concern.

In many cases, the land may be perceived as contaminated and this perception may keep the land from being used productively. The Assessment program, initiated by the Northwest NM Council of Governments, was designed to be a start in putting Brownfield sites back into productive use.

Examples of Projects in the Gallup Area:

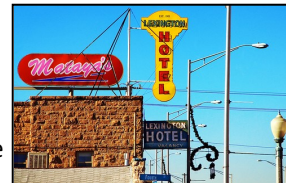
County Property Along 491

(Private owned land, Private Developer) – Phase I Report finalized on former illegal dump site, no further action needed. A developer is currently creating a manufacturing business on this property.



Lexington Hotel (CARE 66, Non-Profit)

– Phase I and Phase II Reports completed on the project – site needs asbestos and lead paint remediation – currently pursuing a EPA Cleanup Grant. CARE 66 has a planned transition housing project slated for this historic building, once remediation has been completed.



NWNMCOG’s Targeted

Brownfields Assessment Services:

Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments

Eligible entities include private individuals, developers, public entities and non profits -

Typical Phase I activities:

- Historic use information
- Research on site or nearby recognized environmental conditions
- Mapping
- Site investigations

Typical Phase II activities:

- Soil sampling/ waste characterization
- Monitoring well installation and ground water sampling
- Geophysical surveys
- Risk assessment
- Soil & gas surveys
- Remediation Planning/cost estimates

Phase II leads to eligibility to apply for an EPA Cleanup Grants, which offer up to \$200,000 for site cleanup activities.

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