DEC Reuse & Redevelopment
Community Opportunities

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DEC Reuse & Redevelopment Program

Alaska Conference on Environmental Management
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Anchorage, Alaska
What defines an Alaska brownfield site?

State & Tribal Response Programs in Alaska
  - DEC’s Reuse and Redevelopment Program
  - Tribal Response Programs

What makes a good brownfield project
Many sites are ‘brownfields’

- Many, many sites are viewed as potential environmental concerns.
- Many sites impact the use of that property, and even the use of adjacent properties.
- Many sites impact the value of property surrounding it.
- Many sites are prone to cause health concerns related to property in question.
- Many sites are not abandoned, but are ignored due to concerns about the cost of cleanup.
State & Tribal Response Program

What we are working toward
DEC’s Reuse & Redevelopment Program

- Located and staffed in Fairbanks
  - Sonja Benson: TRP Coordinator and Outreach Specialist
  - Melinda Brunner: Projects and Development Specialist
  - John Carnahan: Brownfield Coordinator

- R&R or Brownfield Program since 2004
- Funded annually by EPA Brownfield Program
- The R&R Program understands the importance of economic development
Twenty-one Alaska Programs

Alaska State & Tribal Response Programs

DEC's Reuse & Redevelopment Program

Native Village of St. Michael
Nelson Island Consortium
Bristol Bay Native Association
Port Heiden Native Council
Graying, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross Consortium (GASH)
Kuskokwim River Watershed Council
Orutsararmiut Nation Council
Tangirnaq Native Village aka Woody Island

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council
DEC Brownfield Program - Fairbanks
Tetlin Village Council
Southeastern Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)
Interior Village of Ivak

Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
Douglas Indian Association
Central Council of Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CTHITA)
Kasaan, Organized Village
Craig Tribal Association
Hydaburg Cooperative Association
Metlakatla Indian Community
What do we do?

- Coordinate with state/federal agencies, units of government, tribes, Corps.
- Help clarify the world of Alaska brownfield-type R&R opportunities
- Seek/attempt to obtain resources for R&R projects
- Facilitate & oversee assessments and cleanups
- Provide training and outreach
- Support DEC’s Contaminated Sites Program

Act as resource to all
Accomplishments

- Increased funding for our program and for Alaska
- Outreach:
  - Handbook
  - Web pages
  - Newsletter
- Training and Education
  - Annual Alaska Brownfield Tribal Response Program Workshop
  - DEC training rural workshop
DEC’s Alaska Brownfield Program

Newsletter

Online STRP Brownfield Handbook

Site summary information

Grant and assistance information

Alaska specific information – links to other sites
CSP Online Database

Searchable database

Provides cleanup chronology and closure details, as applicable

Fairly easy interface from the public side

Search criteria help you to narrow down what you are looking for.
Web Map of Contaminated Sites

http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=315240bfba84a0b8272ad1ce53ca3d3

ArcGIS - Alaska DEC Contaminated Sites

Alaska DEC Contaminated Sites

Contaminated Site Locations with Cleanup Chronology Reports from Alaska DEC

[Map of contaminated sites with various markers indicating different hazardous sites]

DEC's Reuse & Redevelopment Program
DEC R&R Training - Bethel

Discuss the Cleanup Process for contaminated sites

Review brownfield issues and concerns

Discuss spill prevention and response

Discuss available resources and tools

Mapping exercises

DEC Brownfield Training in Bethel
Accomplishments cont.

- Assist with applications for EPA BF grants/services
  - Targeted Brownfield Assessments
  - Assessment and cleanup grants
  - Job training grants
- Resource for other programs within DEC
  - Help ensure that reuse benefit is emphasized when beneficial to project.
  - Help maintain data and program tools
- Project facilitation, coordination and oversight

Varying levels of assessment services
Example:
Audits and Analysis

Former Golovin dumpsite DBA

DBA documents history of actions (and inaction)

Led to Eroding Dumpsite Policy Evaluation

Is this a brownfield concern?

Forwarded to eroding dumps work group
Example: Regional Surveys

Development area analyses of environmental concerns

Expanded ‘Phase I’ ESA

Tool to help potential purchasers understand environmental liabilities
Example: Property Assessment and Cleanup Planning

In 2011 we began our first cleanup projects focusing on continuing project rather than new assessments.

Elim AVEC Tank Farm
Example: Full Site Characterization

Site characterizations or release investigations

This level of assessment can be costly

Need well thought out plan to make worthwhile....

The rest is usually up to the community!

Gulkana Airport release investigation
Types of sites in Alaska

- Commercial Properties (mostly urban)
- Econ. Development areas (i.e., Mountain View)
- Abandoned school sites (mostly rural)
- Old industrial sites – canneries, logging companies (urban and rural)
- Old/abandoned dumps (urban and rural)
- Tank farms (urban and rural)
- Formerly used Defense sites (mostly rural)
- Airport commercial properties (urban and rural)
Current focus - new developments

- First time for cleanups this past year with STRP funding—two projects
  - Selawik – construction on old tank farm site
  - Kwethluk – site preparation of old burned community center
- Follow up on past projects:
  - Kobuk – old tank farm site cleanup
  - Hughes – cleanup coordinated with YRITWC
  - Huslia – active school cleanup and stockpile management
Current focus, continued

- **Environmental justice component to the R&R Program**
- **Environmental Survey of Rural Education Attendance Area (REAA) schools**
  - Abandoned (BIA) schools
  - Active schools
- **More tools for environmental programs**
  - Road map for TRP management
  - Seeking ways to assist tribal environmental programs
- **Assessment and sampling training**

*Former BIA School – Beaver, Alaska*
Vision

• Revitalization of previously-developed properties and preservation of pristine spaces
  ➢ Make reusing our infrastructure a priority

• Coordinated environmental community
  ➢ Better DEC/community communication
  ➢ Better support at the local level

• State funding and incentives for brownfield redevelopment
  ➢ Loans?
  ➢ Grants?
END

Questions on DEC’s R&R?

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