Application for DEC Brownfields Assessment & Cleanup (DBAC) Services (2026-2027)

Application period: August 13, 2026 - November 13, 2026

Background:

DEC provides site-specific technical support through its DEC Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup (DBAC) program. Depending on the needs of a project, DBAC services can include environmental site assessments, cleanup planning and some cleanup activities. DBAC awards are provided as services, *not* grants. For selected projects, DEC will oversee the project, including procuring an environmental contractor and completing necessary administrative requirements on behalf of the applicant.

Eligible parties are public entities and non-profit organizations, including municipalities, tribal governments, native village/regional corporations, and community development organizations with an interest in redeveloping or reusing abandoned or underutilized properties.

For more information regarding DBACs, please reach out to the DEC Brownfields team at dec.brownfields@alaska.gov or see DEC's DBAC website, which can be found at https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields/resources/assessment-cleanup/.

Instructions:

Please answer *all* questions and provide as much information as possible; this application will provide the information necessary to determine if your project is eligible for brownfields services. Once eligibility is established, DEC will award projects based on information provided in Section 3 and as resources allow.

A DBAC Self-Check Eligibility Tool, which is a series of Yes/No questions aimed at identifying potential project eligibility issues, is available online and included at the end of this application as a resource. After reviewing the self-check eligibility tool, if you have questions regarding the application or eligibility, please do not hesitate to contact DEC Brownfields staff to discuss. Additionally, Brownfields staff can review your draft application prior to final submittal to evaluate eligibility and completeness.

The following DBAC application is organized as follows:

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Submission Requirements

A completed application must be received no later than **5:00 pm AST on Friday November 13, 2026.** Applications should be submitted via JotForm or submitted to:

DEC Brownfields Team
dec.brownfields@alaska.gov
Subject Line: DBAC Application

If you have any questions or are unable to submit an application electronically, please contact dec.brownfields@alaska.gov.

Request for Application Meeting

Potential applicants for DBAC services are **highly encouraged** to have a meeting with DEC Brownfield Staff concerning their application prior to submission. Early communication will allow participants to receive technical assistance and allow time to address any deficiencies in the application. Our goal is to assist you in completing a comprehensive and successful application! Further, please go through the checklist below to ensure the application has all the necessary information and requirements.

DBAC Application Submittal Checklist

Before submitting your DBAC application, please check that the following items are complete. Did you answer **each** question?

☐ If required, did you attach a **letter from the property owner** granting access to the site, if the owner is different from the applicant?

☐ If applicable, did you attach **past environmental reports** about the site?

☐ Did you attach a **site map or aerial photograph** of the site with the information requested and any other photos available?

☐ Did you identify a **primary contact** for the duration of the DBAC project?

☐ Did you attach a **letter of support** from each team member?

☐ Did you attach documentation demonstrating the **viability of the reuse or redevelopment plan**?

☐ Did you attach documentation demonstrating that there is **community support and public benefit** for the project?

SECTION 1: GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Is the site or facility owned or under the control of the federal government?

Yes* No

*If the property is owned or under the control of the federal government, the site is not eligible for services.

Is or has the site or facility been owned by the State of Alaska when contamination occurred?

Yes* No

*If the State of Alaska is a responsible party, the project may not be eligible for DBAC funding.

To your knowledge, has the site or facility received funding for remediation from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund?

Yes* No

*If the site has received funding from the LUST Trust Fund to conduct assessment or cleanup activities, the site or facility may not be eligible for services unless certain additional criteria are met.

Is the applicant directly responsible for the contamination on the property?

Yes* No

*If yes, this site may not be eligible for brownfields services.

Is the current owner responsible for contamination on the property?

Yes* No

*If yes, this site may not be eligible for brownfields services.

Do you have a reuse plan that will provide a benefit to your community?

Yes No*

*If no, this site is not eligible for brownfields services.

If any of the above indicate that the site or facility is not eligible, contact DEC to discuss prior to continuing your application. Eligibility is a site-specific determination and may still be possible depending upon the applicant, project, and site history. We are available to talk with you about your project during the application period. Email the DEC Brownfields Team at:

dec.brownfields@alaska.gov

SECTION 2: BASIC SITE INFORMATION

Applicant:

Name:

Address:

If the applicant is a Tribal Response Program (TRP) or other organization with an assigned EPA Project Officer, please provide the EPA Project Officer's name:

Owner (if different from applicant):

*The owner of the property must allow DEC access to the site. If the applicant is different from the owner, written consent will be required from the owner to secure access for DEC and its contractors to conduct the assessment. **Please attach a letter from the property owner granting access to the site if required***

Owner Name:

Address:

Is the owner of the property:

☐Private ☐City/Public ☐Native Corp ☐Tribe

Is the property expected to change ownership in the near future?

☐Yes No

Site Name:

Site Location:

Address:

Legal Description (if known):

Section: Range: Latitude:

Township: Tax lot number(s): Longitude:

Site History:

When was this property acquired by the current owner?

Who was the previous owner (if known)?

How was this property acquired by the current owner? (Quitclaim deed, foreclosure, purchase, etc.)

Did the current owner complete a Phase I/Phase II Environmental Site Assessment prior to acquisition?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Was the property conveyed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)?

What is the approximate area of the property in acres or square footage?

How many buildings or structures are on the property?

What is the condition of each of the buildings and structures on the property?

Has the site had any previous assessment activities?

☐Yes ☐No

If yes, what kind of assessment activities have been done?

☐DBAC ☐Targeted Brownfield Assessment ☐Other

Is this site currently listed on DEC's Contaminated Sites database?

☐Yes ☐No

If yes, please list the DEC file number:

DEC CS Database Site Name:

*** Please attach full reports from previous assessment work if the site is not already on the DEC Contaminated Sites database***

Contamination – Known or Perceived:

What are the known or suspected contaminant(s) at the site?

☐Hazardous Substances ☐Petroleum ☐Hazardous Building Materials

How was the property previously used? (mark all that apply)

☐Tank farm

☐Landfill (permitted or un-permitted)

☐Dump site

☐Gas Station

☐Dry Cleaner

☐Mining Operations

☐Underground Storage Tank (UST)

☐Above Ground Storage Tank (AST)

☐Military activities

☐Other:

If known, list the source(s) and location(s) of known or perceived contamination:

Briefly describe how and when this site may have become contaminated:

Do you know who may have caused any contamination?

☐Yes ☐No

If yes, please list here:

What steps have the landowner or community taken to safeguard against the known or suspected contamination? (Erecting barriers, placing signage, etc.)

Is this site currently being used? If yes, describe how it is being used:

Please identify any other specific problems limiting reuse (funding, administrative burdens, etc.?):

Site Location:

__REQUIRED__ Please provide a map(s) of the proposed project area and vicinity. This should be composed of aerial photograph(s) showing the location of the site in relation to the community with a circle around any areas of known or suspected contamination. Please attach any other available photos for the site, as these can be useful to envision the project. If assistance with this is needed, contact dec.brownfields@alaska.gov.

☐Project area/vicinity map(s) included

☐Project area photographs included

SECTION 3: EVALUATION CRITERIA

1.) Project Needs:

Describe to the best of your ability what your project team believes the needed environmental assessment or cleanup activities are (Phase 1, Phase II Assessment, cleanup planning, cleanup, etc.):

Please describe any local resources or individuals that are available to assist with the project being requested. Some things to consider: our contractors doing assessment or cleanup work often require local assistance with site visits, setting up interviews with those knowledgeable about the site, lodging, excavation equipment, and local transportation; site work often requires heavy equipment, heavy equipment operators or Qualified Environmental Samplers (as defined in 18 AAC 75.333). Please indicate whether these resources can be provided in-kind.

2.) Project Team:

Form a project team of at least three individuals (preferably from more than one organization) to ensure continuity beyond this effort and coordination for success of the overall project. List the names and contact information of each individual or organization below and attach a letter of support from each team member. Please note that environmental field work is often conducted during the summer. Please identify one member of your project team as the primary contact for the duration of the project who can answer questions for DEC or their contractors as they arise. An inability to communicate with the project team may cause project delays or even cancellation of a project.

Primary Contact Name: Phone & Email:

Team Member Name: Phone & Email:

Team Member Name: Phone & Email:

Additional Team Members:: Phone & Email:

3.) Viability of the Reuse and Redevelopment Plan:

Please describe the plan for reusing the property (reuse plans can include housing, commercial development, creation of a recreation area, restoration of wildlife habitat/subsistence use, etc.):

Have you sought or will you be seeking additional funding to complete the project after the site has been assessed and/or cleaned up? If so, please describe your strategy for ultimately realizing the planned reuse of the property:

Please list any resources currently available for the reuse/redevelopment phase of the project (such as equipment, labor, in-kind services, or funding etc.):

Attaching documentation such a business plan, a community plan, planned reuse drawings, proposals for grant funding, or items such as loan applications etc. helps to demonstrate that the reuse plan is well developed and will help this application score higher.

4.) Public Benefit:

Please describe how the planned reuse is a benefit to your community. Some things to consider: creation of jobs, preservation of historical or culturally significant property, location for community activities or education, preservation or restoration of subsistence habitat, reuse or recycling of materials or infrastructure, cost savings for the community, etc.

What are the environmental, safety, or public health considerations that make it important to address this property as soon as possible? For example, is the property threatened by erosion or anticipated climate change impacts within the next few years? Is the property a current or imminent threat to the health and safety of the community? Please describe:

5.) Community Support:

Please describe how community-wide support for this work has been documented. Examples could include resolutions, community plans, public meetings where the site was discussed, letters of support from other community members, etc.

Please note that community support must be documented and any resolutions, community plans, public meeting notes, letters of support from other community members, etc. should be submitted as an attachment to this application.

6.) Project Cost:

Do you have any information regarding how much the assessment or cleanup project will cost? Please note that if a previous assessment has been conducted, a cost estimate for future work may have been included.

☐Yes ☐No

If yes, please indicate the estimated amount and what year this was determined:

General estimates are acceptable. Please be aware that the scope of the requested work must both be within the funding limits set forth by the EPA and be within our funding capacity. Please contact DEC to discuss further.

Bonus Questions:

Does the reuse plan call for green building or habitat preservation?

☐Yes ☐No

Is the site of historical or cultural significance?

☐Yes ☐No

Does the reuse plan call for the use of alternative energy?

☐Yes ☐No

If you answered "Yes" to any of the Bonus questions above, please describe further:

Disclaimer

Under no circumstances does an award of DBAC services imply that DEC accepts liability for any contamination that may exist at the site, nor is DEC responsible for any necessary cleanup of hazardous substances that may be found at the site. Liability for contamination on a property is specifically addressed in Alaska Statute (AS) 46.03.822, which outlines those who are liable for the release of a hazardous substance. The general liability categories include: (1) those with an ownership interest in the property; (2) those in control of the substance at the time of the release; or (3) those who arrange for disposal or transport of the substance.

Brownfield work focuses on clarifying environmental concerns associated with property for which there is no known viable responsible party. By applying for a DEC Brownfield Assessment or Cleanup, it should be clear to all parties associated with a request that the work requested of DEC is designed to identify, clarify, and in some cases, remediate environmental hindrances that currently impede the continued use, proposed use, redevelopment, or sale of a property. Work conducted by DEC may result in identifying a property as a contaminated site, and require the site be listed on DEC's Contaminated Sites Database. With listing comes the requirement of potentially responsible and liable parties to address cleanup of contamination in accordance with regulatory requirements.

DEC Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Award Process



Aug - Nov DBAC application submitted to DEC.



Nov - Dec DEC reviews DBAC application for project/ applicant eligibility.



Jan - Feb DEC contacts applicants with questions about the project; provides updates on application status.

Feb - Mar DEC submits preliminarily selected DBAC projects to EPA Region 10 for project eligibility determination.



Mar - Apr DEC begins notifying eligible projects of DBAC award selections based on funding availability. DEC builds scope of work for project and solicits contractor proposals.



May - Aug Work is awarded to contractors; community kick-off meetings are held with DEC. Field work is conducted at the site.



Oct - Dec Report on field work is drafted and finalized. Community wrap-up meeting with DEC to talk about work done and next steps.

DEC BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT AND CLEANUP (DBAC) SERVICES: ELIGIBILITY SELF-CHECK TOOL

This self-check tool was developed by the Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR) and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to provide an initial screen for potential applicants interested in applying for DBAC services. This tool is not an exhaustive list of considerations for eligibility, but rather highlights issues that often impact DBAC eligibility prior to applying. If any blue boxes are checked, the project may not be eligible; however, eligibility is a site-specific determination and may still be possible depending upon the applicant, project, and site history. If you have any questions or would like to discuss project eligibility, please contact DEC and/or CCLR prior to submitting an application. For more information, please see EPA's *Information on Sites Eligible for Brownfields Funding.* If you do not know the answers to any of the following questions, leave blank and contact DEC and/or CCLR.

	General Eligibility Questions	Yes	No	Guidance Information
1.	Is the property owned by the US government?			*Property can mean real property or any onsite buildings.*
2.	Is or has the property been owned by the State of Alaska when the potential contamination occurred?			*If the State of Alaska is a responsible party, the project is likely not eligible for DBAC funding; however, the property may be eligible for other types of brownfields funding.*
3.	Is the applicant the owner of the property or, if not, will access to the property be secured?			*DEC requires site access to conduct DBAC services. If the applicant does not own the property, has the applicant secured (or will secure) site access?*
4.	Did the current owner cause or contribute to the contamination on the property?			*If the current owner caused or exacerbated the contamination, the project may not be eligible depending upon site-specific factors.*
5.	Do you have a reuse plan that will provide a benefit to your community?			*The applicant must be able to describe the anticipated reuse of the property once it is assessed/cleaned up. A "reuse plan" can be a description of the anticipated reuse, documented community support for the described reuse (letters, local government/council minutes), site-specific renderings/designs, among others.*
6.	Has the property received funding to conduct site work through the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund?			*If the property has a leaking underground storage tank that has been previously investigated or cleaned up using LUST funding, the project may not be eligible, unless certain additional criteria are met.*
7.	Have polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) been documented on the property (including in building materials)?			*PCBs can be found in building materials (for example, in paints, caulk, etc.) in buildings constructed between 1950s and 1970s. Materials containing PCB concentrations above 50 parts per million are subject to remediation under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and the project may not be eligible unless additional criteria are met; however, if*

				PCBs are only suspected, DBAC funding may be used to determine their presence.
	Petroleum-Specific Questions	**Yes**	**No**	***Respond to Questions 8 - 11 if you believe the property of interest may be contaminated with petroleum; otherwise leave blank.***
8.	Has there been a release of petroleum on the property while the current owner has owned the property?			*Has the current owner used/managed petroleum at the site in a manner that may have caused contamination (for example: operation of a tank farm, heating oil tank, or gas station on the property)? If so, the project may not be eligible depending upon other site-specific factors.*
9.	Did a petroleum release occur on the property while the immediate past owner owned the property (prior to the property being acquired by the current owner)?			*Did the immediate past owner use/manage petroleum at the site in a manner that may have caused contamination (for example: operation of a tank farm, heating oil tank, or gas station on the property)? If so, the project may not be eligible depending upon other site-specific factors.*
10.	Has there been a release of petroleum AND is there a potentially responsible party that is financially able to pay for assessment/cleanup activities at the property? (this often refers to the current and/or previous owner, depending upon whether contamination occurred before or after the property was acquired)			*If the current and previous owners are not financially able to assess/cleanup petroleum contamination at the property, the project may be eligible for DBAC funding depending on other site-specific factors. In this case, the applicant will need to work with DEC to verify a lack of ability to pay for assessment/cleanup activities.*
11	a. Was the property acquired through tax foreclosure, abandonment, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), or equivalent government proceeding?	If YES go to 11b; if NO, consider prior ownership for RP status (see Questions 8-9)		*If the property was acquired by one of these means (or through a similar transaction), project eligibility may depend upon whether the current owner is responsible for contamination and their financial ability to fund assessment/cleanup activities.*
	b. If you responded YES: Has there been a release of petroleum that occurred since the property was acquired?			