

### COLORADO

#### Department of Labor and Employment

Division of Oil and Public Safety



### Sustainability Through Brownfields



IRELAND

#### COLORADO

Department of Public Health & Environment



## **Speakers**

Rebecca L. Almon Moderator



Jesse Silverstein Panelist



Doug Jamison Panelist



Tim Kelley Panelist



#### I R E L A N D STAPLETON



### **Rebecca L. Almon**

Environmental attorney Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC <u>ralmon@irelandstapleton.com</u>

### What's a Brownfield?

Brownfield vs. Greenfield

CERCLA liability for property owners

✓ Who is at risk?

Location/reuse opportunities



### Brownfields Redevelopment

- Reduce blight
- Economic benefit
- Infill v. Greenfield development
  - Tax credits
  - Creating equity
  - Social justice
- Regulatory vs. redevelopment
- Voluntary programs

### Legal Challenges & Roadblocks

Contract terms/agreements

Lease vs. purchase/sale

Corrective action/remedial obligations

✓ Lenders



Different Property Interests/Liability

✓ Buyer vs. seller

✓ Owner

Operator

✓ Landlord





## **Environmental Liabilities**

CERCLA owner/operator

Tenant

Innocent landowner

Contiguous landowner



## Due Diligence- AAI

Gather control data/scope

Confidentiality

✓ Phase I- BFPP

Change in property use?

Review permits



## How To Mitigate Risk

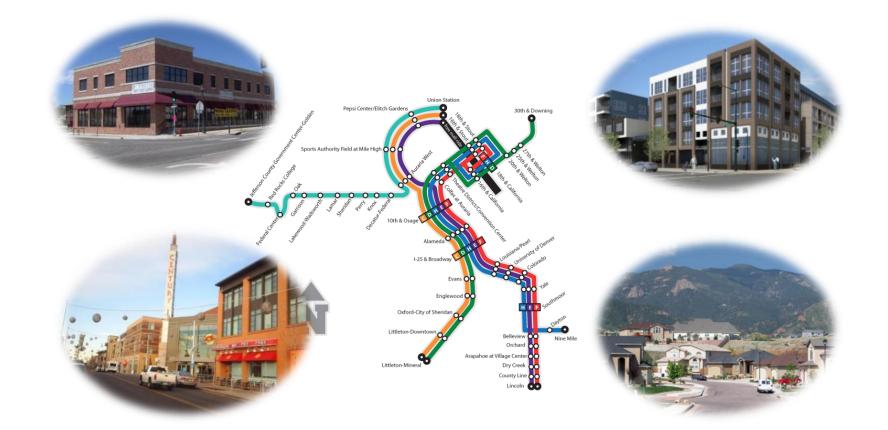
✓ Indemnities

✓ Insurance

- Regulatory approvals
- Corporate structure
- Pre & post purchase obligations



# Changing the Face...





### Jesse Silverstein

Vice President & Senior Economist

## Changing the Face...of the Place

The role of brownfields tools in enhancing sustainability through redevelopment:

- Environmental Benefits
- Economic Benefits
- Social Benefits



### **Resource Restoration & Conservation**

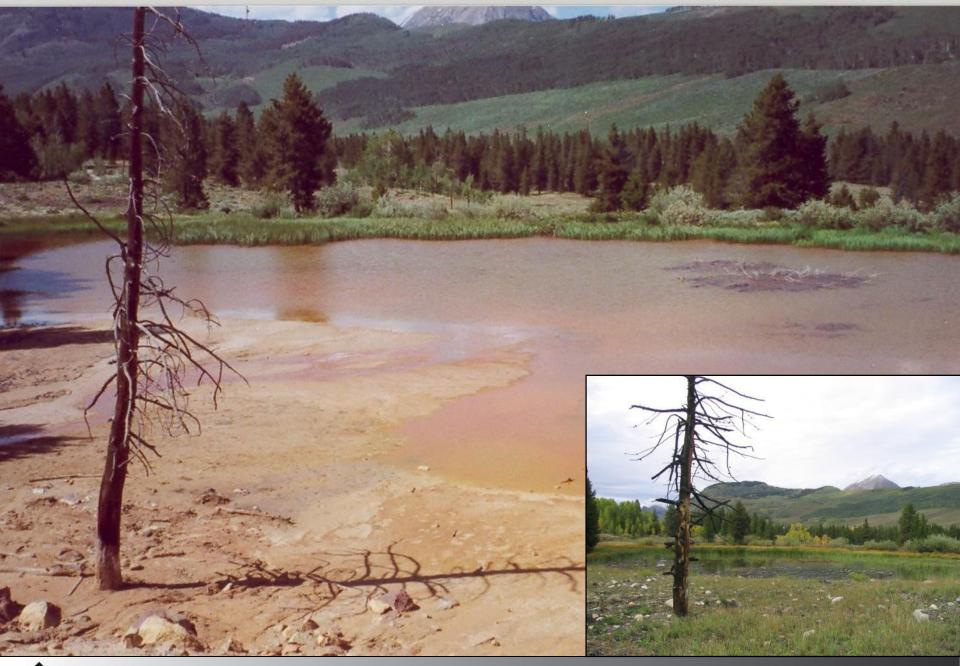
- Mitigate and remove polluted sites from neighborhoods
- Remove individual and cumulative sources of surface water and groundwater pollution
- Enable sustainable redevelopment design





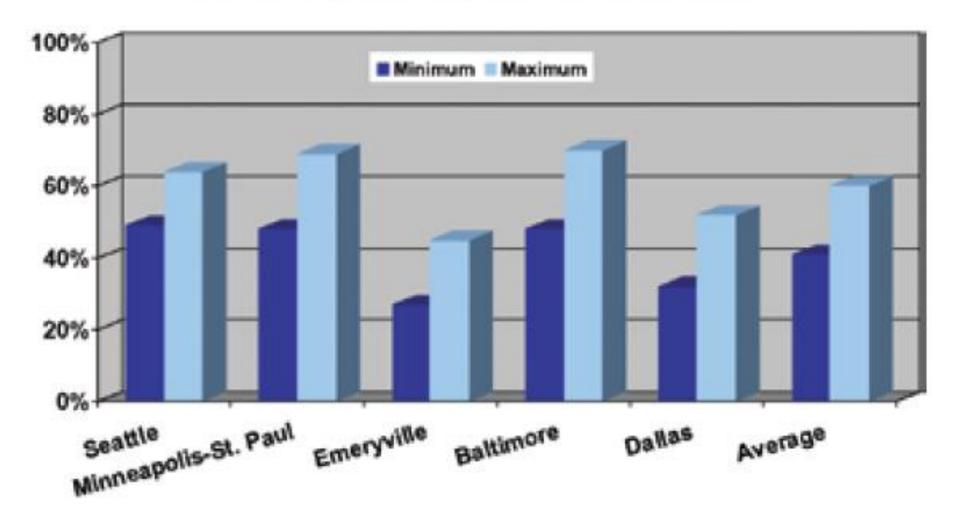








### Stormwater Runoff (Percent Reduction for Brownfields)



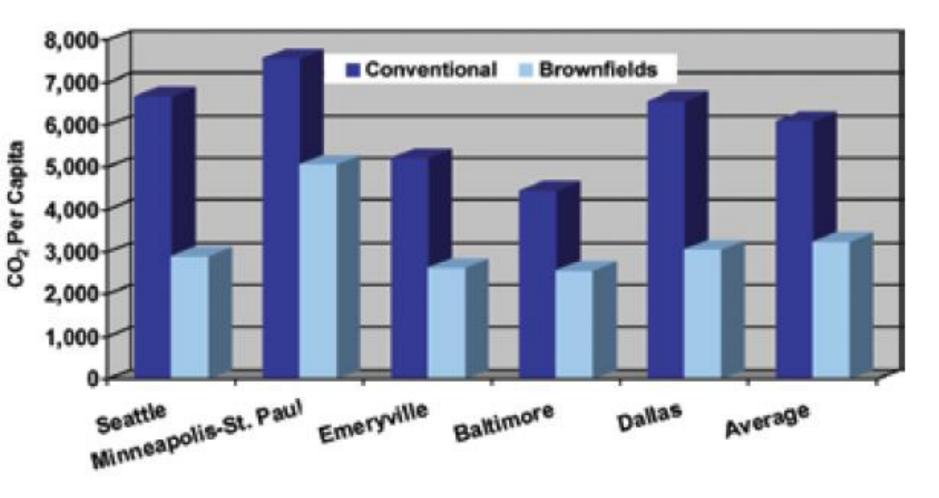


## Cleaner Air & Less Green House Gases

- Mitigate and remove polluted sites from neighborhoods
- Remove individual and cumulative sources of surface water and groundwater pollution
- Enable sustainable redevelopment design

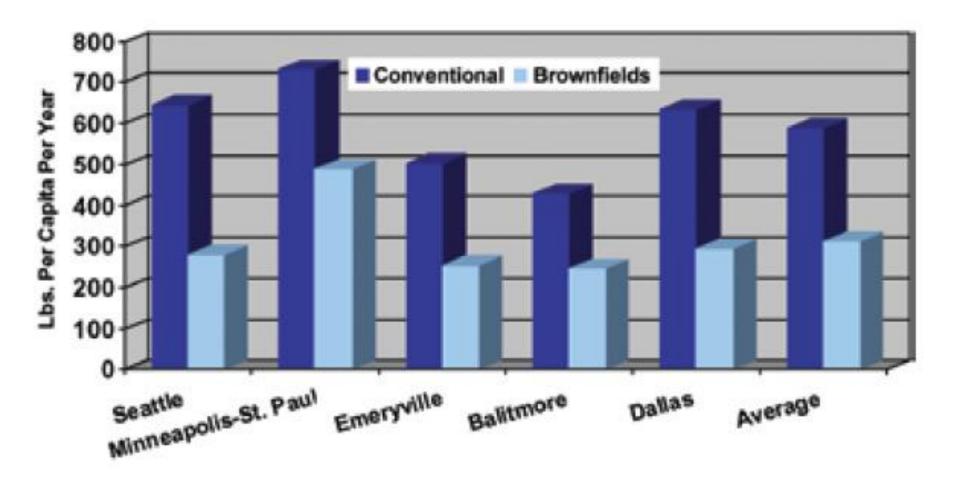


### Carbon Dioxide Emissions (Pounds Per Capita Per Year)





### Air Pollutant Emissions (NOx, CO, HC: Pounds Per Capita Per Year)









### **USEPA Region 8 - Denver**

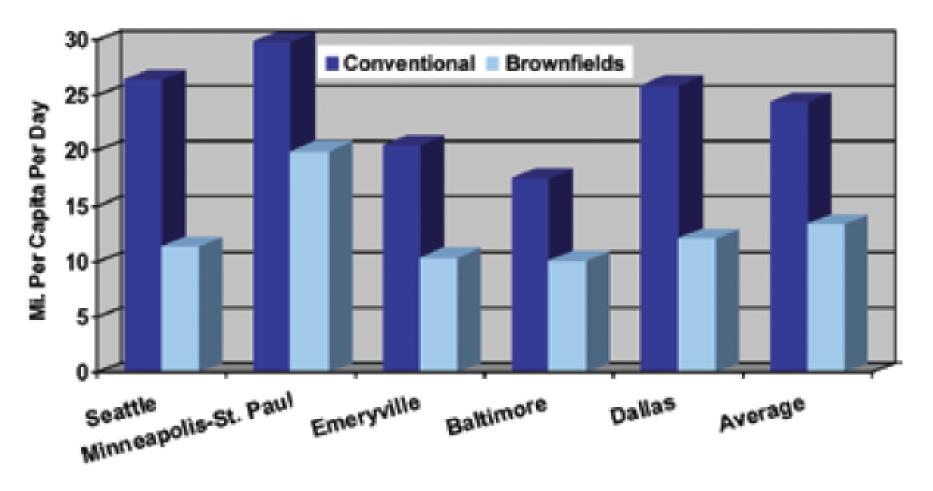
## Responsible Land Use

- 1 ac infill corresponds to 4.5 ac greenfields "saved"
- Brownfields densities are several multiples of suburban densities (est @ 15 DU/ac)
- 40% of brownfields sites redeveloped as residential or mixed residential
- 82 cities project that 2.8 million people can be accommodated on brownfields sites (US Conference of Mayors' Survey)





### Vehicle Miles Traveled (Miles Per Capita Per Day)





**Economic** Impacts

### **USEPA Brownfields Program**

### Jobs Leveraged = 102,740 Acres made available for new use = 47,049

(as of October 2014)



## **Economic** Impacts



#### Economic Benefits Blight removal Now small business incubator, offices New businesses 15 New employment 32 New payroll \$1.1. million

#### **Fiscal Impacts**

City sales tax revenue: \$12,200 County sales tax revenue: \$2,400 Property Tax Increment \$35,000



## **Economic** Impacts



#### Public Investment Land acquisition Street improvements Fee waivers Financial modeling

#### **Public Rate of Return**

Investment	\$550,000
Direct Revenue	2.2%
<b>Direct &amp; Indirect</b>	Revenue 10.0%



## Social Benefits

- Land preservation, restoration, & recycling
- Enhanced living conditions
- Improved employment access
- Blight removal/Neighborhood renewal
- Community wealth building
- Greater housing choices



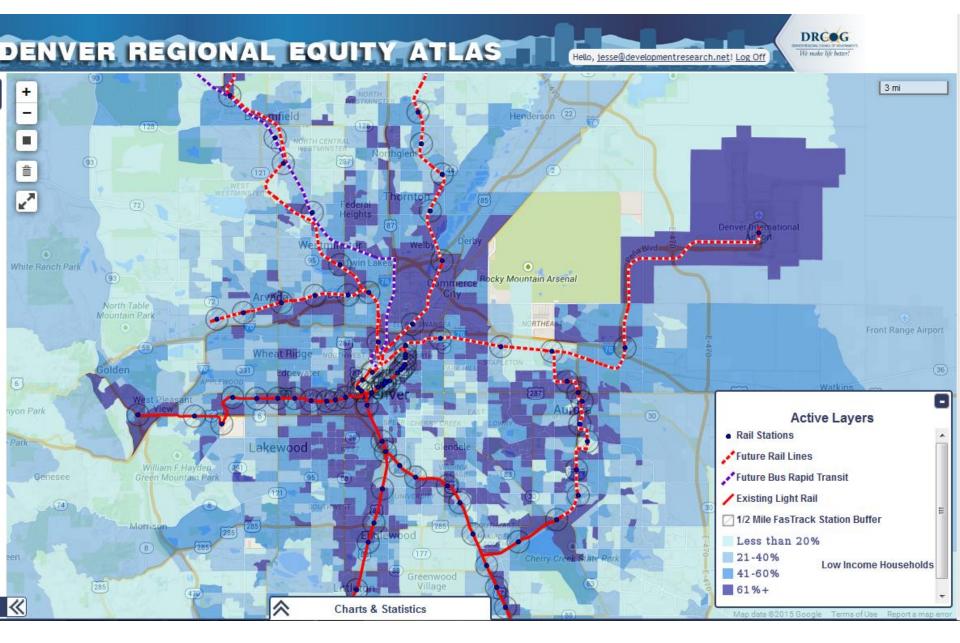
**Kingsborough Park - Aurora** 

## Lorenzo Park – Centennial, CO











## Former Manufacturing Facility

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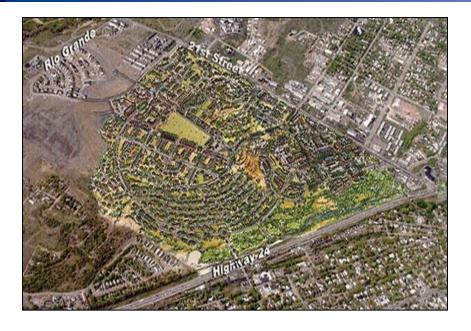




evelopment esearch Partners

- Former Brick Manufacturing site
- Housing Construction:
  - Phase I 53 units total
  - Phase 2 54
  - 20% set aside for 80% median
- Catalyst site for industrial area in transition

## Mine Tailings







- Former Gold Mill Site
- Housing Construction:
  - Single-story, ranch and multifamily town homes
  - 850 units at build out
  - 1,500sf to 2,000sf, 3-bed
  - Formerly barren land



## Landfill/Dump





- Former burn & fill
- Housing construction:
  - Neighborhood Park
  - Building site ready for 54 units
  - Market rate attainable housing planned



## Brightfields





- Buckley Landfill, Aurora, CO
- Waste Water Treatment Plant, Rifle, CO
- Marshall Landfill, Boulder, CO





### Thank You!

### Jesse D. Silverstein Vice President & Senior Economist

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# MAKING CLEANUP PAY

How Tax Credits and Other Brownfields Incentives Can Support Community Redevelopment

### What is a Brownfield

Classic definition = Site where real or perceived contamination affects potential for reuse

#### Other Definitions

- Sites characterized by low or medium levels of contamination
- Sites outside the scope of other regulatory programs

### Why Are Brownfield Incentives Necessary

Economics is the key to any redevelopment project.

Brownfields issues can cause capital gaps that limit viability of redevelopment.

# Typical Brownfields Sites





Voluntary Cleanup Program Relevance to Tax Credits

 Colorado's Voluntary Cleanup and Redevelopment Act was passed in 1994

Purpose – To facilitate property transactions and redevelopment of contaminated properties

 Tax Credit requires enrollment in Voluntary Cleanup Program

### Voluntary Cleanup Program

Provides CERCLA Liability Protection through MOA with EPA Region VIII

Non-Regulatory

Self Certifying

### **VCUP** Statistics

- Approximately 50 Applications/Year
   1042 Applications over life of program
   Applications from 35 of 64 Counties
- Typical end uses for VCUP Site
   Mixed Use Commercial
   Multi-Family Residential
   Light Industrial

### **VCUP** Statistics

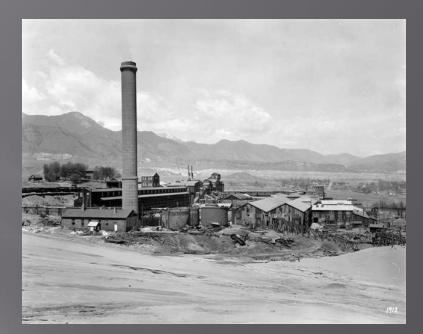
#### Acres Remediation 15,918

Residences Constructed - 28,594

□ Jobs Created- 31,745

### **Gold Hill Mesa** Colorado Springs

- Gold Mill Tailings
- Sediment Runoff
- Wind BlownContamination





- 68 Homes Built
- 66 Homes Sold
- 49 Homes Occupied

### History of Colorado's BF Tax Credit

 Contaminated Land Redevelopment Credit: 2000-2010

Max Credit of \$100,000

Limited Effectiveness

### History of Colorado's BF Tax Credit

 40 Credits valued at \$3.6 M awarded between 2000 and 2010

■ \$8.7M of documented cleanup cost

■ 2400 acres remediated

### **Development of a New Credit**

- Stakeholder Driven Process
- Focus on statewide availability and transferability

 Developed Legislative proposal with assistance of Senator Cheri Jahn

# Credit Eligibility

 Credit applies to taxpayers and qualified entities

Credit is available Statewide

Perform environmental remediation through Voluntary Cleanup Program

### Value of the Credit

40% of the first \$750K of approved remediation costs

30% of the next \$750K of approved remediation costs

• Maximum credit = \$525K

### How to Qualify for the Credit

Work with CDPHE to submit VCUP application

Provide letter notice of intent to apply for credit when submitting application

 Certify cleanup completion or receive "No Action Determination"

Submit Cost Documentation

# Other Incentives Offered by CDPHE

Technical Assistance

Brownfields Assessments

Colorado Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund

□ State Brownfields Grants (H.B. 1306)

### Benefits of Brownfields Redevelopment

Addresses threats to human health & the environment.

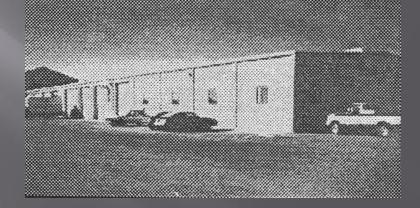
Revitalizes neighborhoods and local communities.

Improve job creation, property values and tax revenues.

Timberline Star Industrial Park Fort Collins

#### Environmental Cost \$450,000 Assessor's Valuation 1994 \$400,000 Assessor's Valuation 1997 \$1,290,000

<b>Increase After</b>	<u>Redevelopment</u>
County Tax	\$10,478
School Dist.	\$15,949
Employment	30 FTE



#### Value of Credit Under Current Statute \$180,000

### **Contact Information**

 CDPHE Brownfields Program
 Doug Jamison 303-692-3404. doug.jamison@state.co.us

#### CDPHE VCUP Coordination

 Fonda Apostolopoulos 303-692-3411. fonda.apostolopoulos@state.co.us

### Other Brownfield Resources

#### Sonoran Institute

- Provides Technical Assistance Through Contract with CDPHE
- Contact: Clark Anderson (970-384-4364) canderson@sonoraninstitute.org

#### Kansas State University

- Region VIII Technical Assistance for Brownfields Contractor
- Contact: Blase Levan (785-532-0780) <u>balevan@ksu.edu</u>



**COLORADO** Department of Labor and Employment

# Petroleum Brownfields Old Gas Stations and Storage Tank Sites



**TR "Tim" Kelley** Petroleum Brownfields Program Division of Oil and Public Safety

# Overview

- Evolution of Gas Stations to Petroleum Brownfields
- Petroleum Cleanup Funding Sources
  - Colorado Petroleum Storage Tank Fund
  - Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund

# Old Gas Stations are Society's Collateral Damage

- It started with the wheel!
- Autos don't need to rest
- Car ownership meant independence, freedom, social status
- The demand for gasoline fuel "drove" the market





# The Wheel Enhanced Mobility





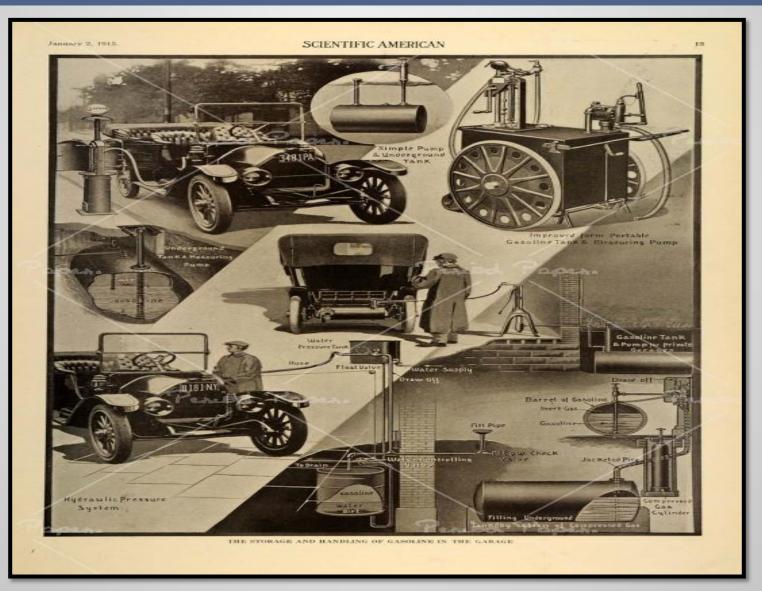
Inventor, artist, self proclaimed ladies' man. Inventor of the wheel and the comb.

From B.C. – Johnny Hart

# Gasoline Fueled the Internal Combustion Engine - The Model T



# Creating Tanks, Tanks and More Tanks



# Gas Stations Flourished to Meet Consumer Demand



1940's



1950's





### Petroleum Brownfields -Remnants of this Changing Industry







# How did we get into this situation?

- Station owners suspended operations in the wake of new industry regulation
- Gas station repair shops became obsolete
- Lenders required environmental site assessments prior to issuing loans
- Owners walked away from these properties, left them vacant or sold for cash

### Unregulated to Regulated Industry -Doors Closed and Tanks Abandoned

Regulations effective December 22, 1988

- Some gas station owners closed their systems prior to regulation – no site assessment required
- Some upgraded their system – no site assessment required

Petroleum Dispensing has become a Matter of "Convenience"

- Facilities without additional retail sales, struggle to compete
- Many sites are abandoned
- Highly competitive market

   future Brownfields
   projected

# Petroleum Brownfields Program Goals

- Encourage the cleanup and redevelopment of abandoned gas stations and other petroleum storage tank sites
- Protect public health, welfare and the environment
- Preserve and restore local economic development assets

Past perspective: "That's a good corner"

**Present** perspective: "That's a good corner"

# Petroleum Cleanup Funding Sources

### Petroleum Storage Tank Fund (PSTF)

Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund (Redevelopment Fund)

# Petroleum Storage Tank Fund

- Established by the Colorado Legislature in 1989
- Assists tank owner/operators and nonresponsible parties with cleanup of petroleum releases
- Funded through an environmental surcharge, registration fees, and civil penalties
- Projected Revenue (FY 2014): ~ \$40 Million
- Amount reimbursed to date: ~ \$525 Million

# Non-Responsible Parties

- Property owner who did not install, operate or lease tanks and acquired property before June 3, 1992.
- Property with abandoned tanks where current property owner:
  - Did not install, operate or lease tanks;
  - Had no reason to know tanks were present; and
  - Had no reason to know a release occurred before acquiring the property.

# Non-Responsible Party -Property Owner

- No deductible
- Eligible for up to \$2,000,000 per occurrence
- OPS will conduct a courtesy review of Environmental Phase I reports and offer an opinion on potential fund eligibility.

# Non-Responsible Party - Lender

- Issued to ensure the Lender's eligibility to the State Fund in case the borrower defaults on the loan and creates a potential Brownfield site
- Available only to Lenders (mortgagees) and may be requested for any loan (dated on or after 9/30/95)

- Will not cover contamination detected on a property before the Certificate of Eligibility is issued
- Issued at any time before foreclosure or receipt of a deed in lieu of foreclosure

### Criteria - Certificate of Eligibility

- Operating station at the time of application for eligibility
- No known contamination
- Operating in compliance
  - Tanks and lines pass a tightness test within last 60 days;
  - Monthly monitoring shows passing results for last 60 days; or
  - Environmental site assessment conducted in the last 60 days indicates no petroleum contamination.

#### Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund



House Bill 13-1252 signed on May 18, 2013

### Focus on Real Property



## Redevelopment Fund Overview

- Revenue from industry-paid settlements and fines – \$5.7 million available
- Open to petroleum storage tanks sites that are not eligible to the existing Petroleum Storage Tank Fund
- Funding for environmental site assessments
- Petroleum cleanup funding 50% of cost up to \$500K

## Who is Eligible to Participate?

- Property owners with petroleum storage tanks are present or existed on the property
- Sites that are not eligible to the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund
- Applicant must have a plan for site redevelopment or reuse

## **Key Application Elements**

- Meets basic eligibility requirement (Tank History)
- Identifies a redevelopment/reuse component
- Contains a discussion of project added value

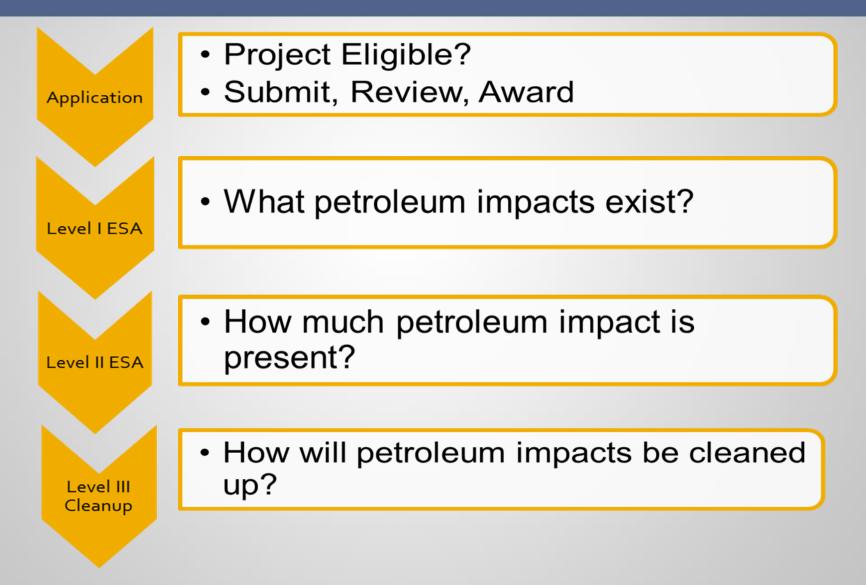
### Project Benefits: Environmental, Economic and Social

- Inherent Benefits: environmental, health, public safety
- Direct Enhancements: revitalized tax base/revenue, short and long term job creation
- Indirect Enhancements: livability, blight removal non-economic
- Sustainable Redevelopment Measures: renewable resources, green remediation practices, rural revitalization

#### Site Assessment and Cleanup



## **Redevelopment Fund Process**



# Redevelopment Fund \$\$

#### Available Funding

- Up to \$2,000 available per tank removal
- Up to \$20,000 for site assessment (10% from owner)
- Up to \$30,000 for characterization (10% from owner)
- 50% of cleanup costs up to \$500K

## **Redevelopment Fund Benefits**

- Protection of human health and the environment
- Eliminate property development challenges created by unknown or perceived contamination
- Increase market value of the property and surrounding area
- Enhance the overall welfare of the community

## **Redevelopment Fund Timeline**

- Rules adopted
   January 31, 2014
- Guidebook released
   June 2014
- Now accepting applications

#### PETROLEUM CLEANUP & REDEVELOPMENT FUND

#### **GUIDEBOOK**





COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

#### Let's Get This Done

#### Key Elements for Successful Petroleum Brownfields

Reaching out to the Private Sector and Community

Overcoming Regulatory and Legal Challenges

Environmental Assessment and Cleanup

**Technical Assistance** 

**Creating Alliances** 

**Real Estate Solutions** 

Financing and Investment

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#### **Community Involvement**



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