Government agencies and non-profit organizations involved with redevelopment in California are eligible to apply for funding assistance under a program that encourages brownfields redevelopment. Brownfields are properties that may be contaminated and underused due to potential remediation costs and liability concerns. Typical examples of brownfields sites include former industrial and manufacturing facilities and gas stations.

The Targeted Site Investigation (TSI) program is one of several initiatives funded through a $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), in collaboration with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB), will select a limited number of sites and by using U.S. EPA funds will perform site investigations at no cost to the applicant. Conducting a Targeted Site Investigation, which may be a DTSC Preliminary Endangerment Assessment, can provide additional information for making decisions about redevelopment. Communities currently benefiting from the TSI Program include the cities of Antioch, Burbank, Duarte, Fairfield, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Oakland, Pacoima, Redding, West Sacramento, and Yuba County.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the TSI program a site must:

- meet the U.S. EPA definition of a “brownfields” site;
- be owned by a public agency or non-profit organization, or be within a redevelopment planning area, or be a project that is of interest to a public agency or nonprofit organization;
- not be a federally-owned property, a site proposed for or listed on the National Priority List, a site under certain enforcement orders, or a site subject to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act corrective action;
- be readily accessible to Cal/EPA boards and departments and to DTSC’s contractors for the purposes of performing fieldwork;
- have contract costs not to exceed $200,000 (average TSI costs range from $50,000-$75,000);

Application Deadline: September 23, 2005
• provide a letter of support from a local redevelopment or economic development agency for the proposed Targeted Site Investigation project; and
• not have been selected for a Targeted Site Investigation in the same fiscal year.

Application

To apply, government agencies or non-profit organizations should complete an application to provide information about the site history, ownership, intended future use, and potential community benefits of redeveloping the site. Staff will review the application and rank each site based on the selection criteria. A selection panel with representatives from DTSC, RWQCB and Cal/EPA will decide which sites will receive Targeted Site Investigation services.

Selection will be based upon:
• the degree of uncertainty surrounding the site’s level of contamination;
• the likelihood of the site investigation reducing this uncertainty;
• the surrounding neighborhood’s economic situation;
• the ability to proceed with the assessment within the established time frame;
• plans for reuse;
• benefit to the community; and
• other considerations based on overall geographic diversity and financial need.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting applications is September 23, 2005. Selections should be announced by October 15, 2005.

For More Information

For more information, or to receive or submit an application, please visit www.dtsc.ca.gov or call:

Megan Cambridge (916) 255-3727
DTSC Statewide Brownfields Coordinator and TSI Grant Coordinator (mcambrid@dtsc.ca.gov)
or
Ian Waters (916) 323-7905
State Water Resources Control Board (iwaters@waterboards.ca.gov)

Regional Board Brownfields Contacts

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SF Bay Region
Gary Riley (510) 622-2462

Central Coast Region
Harvey Packard (805) 542-4639

Los Angeles Region
Arthur Heath, Ph.D. (213) 576-6725

Central Valley Region
Duncan Austin (916) 464-4712
Mary Serra (916) 464-4682

Lahontan Region
Cindy Mitton (760) 241-7413

Colorado River Region
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Anne Sturdivant (951) 782-4904

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For more information about DTSC programs, call (800) 72TOXIC (1-800-728-6942) or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov