



## FREE ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS!!!

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (Department) is pleased to inform municipalities, non-profit organizations, and Indian tribes in Rhode Island of the **Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program**. The purpose of the TBA program is to provide environmental site assessments of Brownfield Sites to determine the actual presence and extent of contamination at a property, and to qualify prospective buyers with certain CERCLA landowner liability protection by completing EPA's All Appropriate Inquiry (Due Diligence) requirements. A Brownfield Site is 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. The TBA is conducted by one of the Department's technical assistance contractors (TAC's) with direct oversight and control by Department personnel. The TBA Report, which includes a Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessment, is generated by the performance of the TBA and fully meets the Site Investigation requirements of Section 7 of the Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous Material Releases (Remediation Regulations). The TBA Report will also provide a preliminary cost estimate for any remediation that may be required to bring the site into compliance with the Remediation Regulations. Due to the fact that the Department generates the TBA Report, it benefits from a higher level of acceptance with the business and environmental communities and eliminates the potential liability and uncertainty surrounding the required cleanup of the Property, thereby facilitating redevelopment and reuse.

**The Department strongly encourages municipalities, non-profit organizations (particularly those partnered with municipalities), and Indian tribes interested in the redevelopment of Brownfield Sites within their jurisdiction to apply for the TBA. The costs of these TBAs are fully paid for by DEM through EPA funding.** It is important to note, however, that this program is strictly for investigations **only** and does not fund any remediation, if required. The Department would also like to make clear that this program is targeted specifically at government, tribal, and non-profit organizations that are not considered Responsible Parties relative to the contaminated Property.

A Brownfield Site within your community may qualify for a TBA if it meets any of the following criteria:

- Property is owned or expected to be owned by your municipality, Indian tribe, or non-profit organization (note: municipalities can apply on behalf of an interested party);
- Legal site access has been or will be obtained during the application period;
- The applicant (municipality, Indian tribe, or non-profit) has not contributed to the contamination present at the Brownfield Site or is otherwise not defined as a responsible party;
- A redevelopment plan is in place or has been substantially completed with emphasis on reuses that benefit the general public.

TBA funding is limited and projects are awarded on a competitive basis subject to available TBA funding from EPA. For additional information regarding Brownfields please visit our website at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/brownfields/default.htm> . If you have any properties you think would qualify for a TBA, feel free to contact Cindy Gianfrancesco if you'd like to discuss or get more information. To obtain a TBA application please contact Cindy by telephone at (401) 222-4700 extension 7126 or by e-mail at [Cindy.Gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov](mailto:Cindy.Gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov).