

EPA EXPECTS TO FUND 25 NEW BROWNFIELDS PILOTS IN 1997

From Environmental Protection Agency

■ (WASHINGTON) The Environmental Protection Agency is accepting proposals for the 1997 National Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Pilots. The brownfields assessment pilots, which are each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, are designed to empower states, communities and other parties interested in economic redevelopment to work together to prevent, safely clean up and reuse brownfields.

A brownfield is a site or a portion of a site that has actual or perceived contamination, as well as an active potential for redevelopment or reuse.

Chosen pilots test redevelopment models, direct special efforts toward removing regulatory barriers without sacrificing protectiveness, and facilitate coordinated environmental assessments and cleanup efforts

at the federal, state and local levels. These funds are used to generate interest by pulling together community groups, investors, lenders, developers and other affected parties to address the issues of clean up sites contaminated with hazardous substances and returning them to appropriate productive use.

EPA expects to select 25 additional national brownfields assessment pilots by March 1997. All applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 13, 1997. Previously unsuccessful applicants must revise and resubmit their applications. Applications submitted before Nov. 1, will not be considered.

The national brownfields assessment pi-

lots are administered on a competitive basis. To ensure a fair selection process, evaluation panels consisting of EPA Regional and Headquarters staff and other federal agency representatives will assess how well the proposals meet the selection criteria outlined in the newly revised application booklet "The Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative: Application Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots (October 1996)."

Copies of the application package and the solicitation notice can be obtained by calling the RCRA/Superfund Hotline at 1-800-424-9346 or 703-412-9810.

AGENDA ANNOUNCED FOR THIRD MEETING OF FOOD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

From Environmental Protection Agency

■ (WASHINGTON) The Environmental Protection Agency announced the agenda for the third meeting of the Food Safety Advisory Committee which will be held on Nov. 14-15, in Fairfax, VA. The meeting is open to the public.

Recently formed as a subcommittee under the auspices of EPA's Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology, the new advisory committee was established to assist the Agency with the implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), signed into law on Aug. 3. The new law amends both the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to provide a protective regulatory scheme for pesticides.

The agenda for the two-day meeting includes the following: presentation by the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding USDA programs; EPA's decision logic for

risk assessment and risk management decisions; discussion of an additional "10-fold" safety factor when assessing pre- and post-natal development and reproductive effects in infants and children exposed to pesticides through the diet; discussion of in-utero exposure for carcinogenicity studies; reassessment of all food and feed tolerances; and, worker risk issues (how EPA assesses worker risk; efforts by the Worker Protection Program to protect and train farmworkers; how reregistration decisions reduce risk of pesticides to farmworkers, etc.).

The Food Safety Committee is made up of approximately 45 representatives from the general public, environmental and public interest groups, the public health community, the chemical industry, agriculture and other pesticide user groups, food processors, federal and state governments, academia and others. Margie Fehrenbach of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs is the Committee's designated federal officer (703-305-7090).

WASTEWI\$E PARTNERS ACHIEVE IMPRESSIVE RESULTS

From Environmental Protection Agency

■ (WASHINGTON) Under the Environmental Protection Agency's voluntary waste reduction program, "WasteWi\$e," 208 reporting companies quadrupled reported waste reduction over 1994 amounts, eliminating 344,000 tons of material through waste prevention, and recycling an additional 4.2 million tons of material. This represents a substantial conservation of natural resources and a significant diversion of materials from landfills.

In 1995 WasteWi\$e partners saved about \$59 million in purchasing costs through efforts to reduce transport packaging. Reduction in transport packaging is a key cost-cutting opportunity for many companies.

EPA's "Second-Year Progress Report" highlights the 1995 achievements of WasteWi\$e partners and contains sections devoted to waste prevention, collection of recyclables and buying or manufacturing recycled products. The report includes examples to illustrate the wide range of strategies available to reduce waste and cut costs.

WasteWi\$e partners are located nationwide and span 35 industrial sectors, a third of these partners are Fortune 500 manufacturing and service companies.

EPA's "Second-Year Progress Report," (Document Number: EPA530-R-96-016) is available through the RCRA/Superfund Hotline at 1-800-424-9346 or 703-412-9810.



"Last minute campaigning, huh."