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# Other Program Staff



- Rob Timmins – VRP Project Manager
- Dave Grimes – VRP Project Manager
- Brian Campbell – VRP Project Manager
- Vrushali Gandhi – Risk Assessor & VURAM
- Michelle Payne – Regulatory Analysis & PM
- April NiMary – VURAM & Technical Support
- 5 additional staff job share as VRP PMs

# Brownfields – the definition

"Brownfield" means 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.



# How Brownfields Cleanups Help



How does brownfield redevelopment change communities?

- Assessment and possible clean up of impacted natural resources
- Increased employment opportunities
- Increased tax revenues
- Increase in surrounding property values
- Reduced green space development
- Community pride and improved community potential
- Revitalizing community core areas and downtown/main street areas

# Accessing Brownfields Property



- Apply for a Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund Grant
- Apply for a EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant
- Request a Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA)
- Additional resources: New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Contact DEQ for support



# DEQ's Role



## Code of Virginia § 10.1-1231

### **Brownfield restoration and land renewal policy and programs.**

*“It shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage remediation and restoration of brownfields by removing barriers and providing incentives and assistance whenever possible. The Department of Environmental Quality and the Economic Development Partnership and other appropriate agencies shall establish policies and programs to implement these policies, including a Voluntary Remediation Program, the Brownfields Restoration and Redevelopment Fund, and other measures as may be appropriate.”*

# Virginia Brownfields Restoration and Economic Redevelopment Assistance Fund



Current funding has been exhausted with hopes for new funding on July 1, 2018.

- 60+ Assessment & Planning Grants awarded with typical award of \$50,000 (available now)
- Remediation Grants for up to \$500,000.
  - Property must be owned by local government to receive remediation grant
  - Six remediation grants were recently awarded totaling \$2,600,000.

# Liability Relief



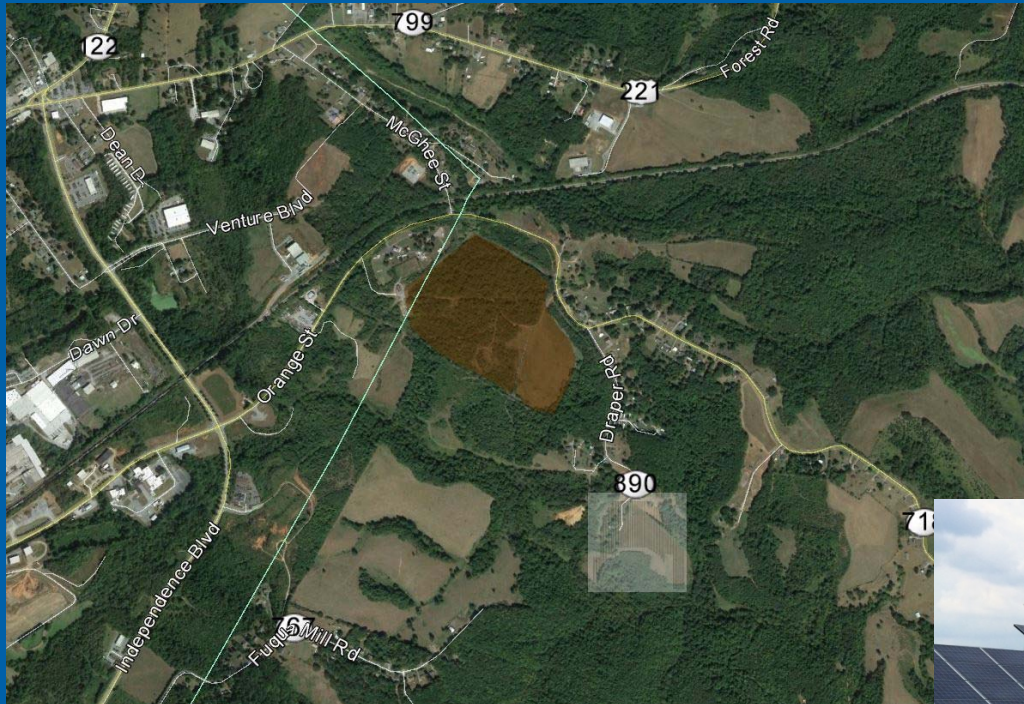
- Commonly issued letters
  - Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser (BFPP)
  - Lender Liability
  - Contiguous Property Owner
  - Tenant Liability

# Town of Saltville

- Received \$50,000.00 in Brownfields grant funding from EPA and \$50,000 of additional funding from VBAF.
- Collaborative effort ongoing to help leverage funding from other sources.
  - Partners include the Town of Saltville, VEDP, DEQ, EPA, DHCD, Virginia Secretary of Commerce Office, and local citizens



# Town of Bedford Solar Project



## Project Size

- 3 MW AC / 3.6MW DC
- 4.5 Million kWh
- 450 households

## Benefits

- Job creation & training.
- Regional and state-level public relations
- Economic development: Attract Large Employers
- Locally generated energy with long term cost stability



# Bedford Solar Farm





# Solar Farm Construction



# Solar Farm Construction



# Provides Local Jobs



# Bedford Solar Farm



# Bedford Solar Farm



# Supports Local Agriculture



# Educational Opportunities



## Current VA DEQ Brownfields Initiatives

- Increased focus on rural Virginia (Southwest Virginia, Southside, Eastern Shore, etc)
- Redevelopment of Abandon Mine Lands or mining related sites
- **Brownfields to Solar**
- Regional brownfields collaboration

# Contacts

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