

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> April 25, 2011
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 36 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>11-0688</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>11-241</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> Terrance N. Vorbrich, Acting Economic Development Administrator

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Resolution to approve agreement between the City of Des Moines and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Region 7, concerning Closeout of Assistance Agreement, BF 98734301.

**SYNOPSIS:**

In 2003, the City of Des Moines received a \$1,000,000 grant from the US EPA to establish a revolving loan fund for conducting brownfield clean-up activities. To date, the revolving loan fund has provided for significant clean-up work at the former Pittsburgh - Des Moines Steel site on Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway. The clean-up work will facilitate the redevelopment of the site, providing new taxable valuation, employment opportunities and the ability to spur additional economic investment in the Riverpoint West Development area.

The US EPA has requested a closeout of the grant assistance agreement, as all of the administrative and substantive requirements of the grant have been met.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

Amount: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Brownfields are defined as abandoned or underutilized industrial and commercial properties where redevelopment is complicated by perceived or real environmental contamination. In October 2000, the US EPA designated the City of Des Moines as a Brownfields Showcase Community. Subsequently, in 2002, the City applied for grant funds to conduct land assessments, create a revolving loan fund and conduct clean-up activities to revitalize Des Moines’ brownfields. US EPA funds are highly competitive, and the City of Des Moines’ proposals competed with many applicants nationwide.

Following the receipt of the \$1,000,000 grant award to establish the revolving loan fund for clean-up activities, the City invited applications from property owners interested in redevelopment of brownfield sites. The former Pittsburgh - Des Moines Steel site on Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway was submitted by the owner, Hubbell Realty Company, and a work plan to remediate the site was approved by the EPA. Clean-up work was completed in 2009, and the final report and documents for the grant agreement were

submitted to EPA in 2010. The final close-out agreement approval requested here is the last step remaining in the administrative process.

The remediation of the Pittsburgh Des Moines Steel site is a significant step in the redevelopment of the Riverpoint West area. Work will continue to facilitate new economic investment in this area, and in other brownfield locations throughout the City of Des Moines.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: March 10, 2003

Roll Call Number: 03-552

Action: On grant proposals to secure Federal Funds for \$1,000,000 in Revolving Loan Funds and \$200,000 in Cleanup Funds for Des Moines Brownfields. ([Council Communication No. 03-101](#)) **Moved by Hensley to approve. Motion Carried 6-1.**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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