

# Brownfield Project Development

Metro Brownfields Recycling Program Technical  
Workshop

Portland, Oregon  
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Ash Creek Associates, Inc.  
Environmental and Geotechnical Consultants

# Project Development

- Due Diligence
- Visioning
- Remediation Planning

*Three essential aspects of Brownfield project development.*



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# Due Diligence

A buyer of contaminated property may become liable for the cost of cleaning up existing contamination if the buyer *knew or should have known about the contamination* at the time of purchase.

*(From ORS 465.255)*

## Resolution:

Conduct an All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI)

Commonly implemented as a Phase I ESA

*(ASTM 1527-05)*



# Avoiding/Managing Liabilities

Four mechanisms for avoiding contamination liability:

- **Innocent Purchasers** who later find contamination.
- **Prospective Purchaser Agreements (PPA)**.
- **Contiguous Property Owners Defense** (passive migration scenario).
- **“Innocent” Condemnors** who have to deal with contamination.

*Purchaser must address liability **at the time of purchase** or run a significant risk of owning the cleanup.*



# Mar Com/DSL Acquisition

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- Former Mar Com ship repair facility used to operate on two groupings of property immediately south (upstream) of Terminal 4.
- Adjacent north parcel (NP) used for storage (equipment and materials).
- South parcel used for ship building and repair since WWI.



# Former Mar Com Marine



# Findings

## The Result:

- Port took the steps to learn about what they were acquiring.
- Process identified several liabilities, and developed strategy to manage them.
- Managed liabilities through the PPA process and negotiations.

## Conclusions:

- Effective due diligence requires a good professional to follow the process and dig into the details.
- Effective risk management on complicated sites requires good legal counsel.
- Allow for sufficient time to complete due diligence.

# Visioning

A collaborative process by which stakeholders generate the redevelopment concept, integrating key technical, regulatory, land use, and community concepts and concerns.

## The benefits of effective Visioning include:

- High likelihood that critical project elements and stakeholder concerns are identified.
- Community support.
- Added partner/investor comfort with the Brownfield process, increasing the likelihood of participation.



# Brownfield to Biofuel



McVay Highway / Sequential Biofuels Project

# Brownfield to Biofuel

## The Vision (short version):

- A small biofuels company approaches DEQ about an out-of-use station for a retail biofuels project in the University area.
- After problems with that site, they ask about the McVay Highway site.
- DEQ meets with County to discuss foreclosure and applying for a Brownfield Cleanup grant.
- County is very hesitant about owning or acquiring contaminated property; they do not want to oversee a major cleanup or take on liability.



# Brownfield to Biofuel

## The Partnership:

- DEQ, County economic development, and others convince County and commissioners to foreclose.
- County applies for \$200,000 Brownfield Cleanup grant in November 2004.
- County completes surface cleanup, serving as part of their \$40,000 match, in January 2005.
- DEQ Orphan Site Program manages grant remediation activities, completes large source excavation.
- Sequential builds project; PPA with DEQ limits liability to County; Sequential signs lease with option to purchase.



# Brownfield to Biofuel



# Brownfield to Biofuel

## Effective partnering results in:

- Cleanup;
- Return to use;
- Sustainable economic development; and
- Liability management for County and operator.



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# Brownfield to Biofuel

## Integrated Remediation and Redevelopment Planning:

- Project planning approach involving all stakeholders, consultant, and others as appropriate.
- Essential that critical redevelopment planning and design requirements blend with the remediation program.
- Provides for maximum application of *risk-based decision making*, resulting in an appropriate, site-specific remedial program.



# Remedial Approaches

## Three general remediation approaches:

- **Ex Situ Remediation.** Soil excavation or groundwater extraction and subsequent treatment or disposal.
- **In Situ Remediation.** Physical, chemical, or biologic alterations to soil and groundwater for remediation.
- **Manage in place.** Manage the contamination in place using engineering and institutional controls.

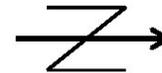


The McVay Highway Biofueling Station Site  
86714 McVay Highway, Eugene

Figure 2

SITE PLAN WITH MONITORING WELLS AND PROPOSED PROBE LOCATIONS

- ⊗ Monitoring Well
- Proposed Probe

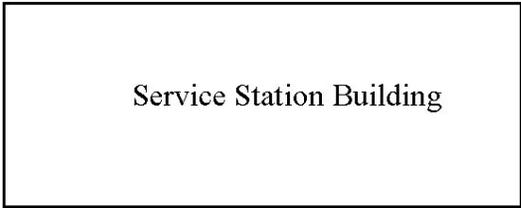


Bloomberg Road

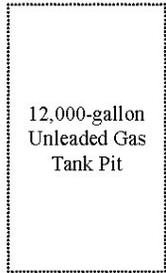
200-gallon  
Heating Oil  
Tank Pit



Service Station Building



12,000-gallon  
Unleaded Gas  
Tank Pit



⊗ MW-4

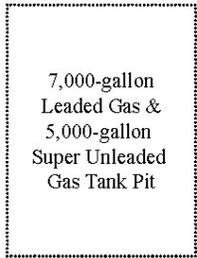
550-gallon  
Waste Oil  
Tank Pit



Island



7,000-gallon  
Leaded Gas &  
5,000-gallon  
Super Unleaded  
Gas Tank Pit



● P-4

● P-5

⊗ MW-3

Phase 1  
PCS removal Area

⊗ MW-5

⊗ MW-2

● P-3

● P-2

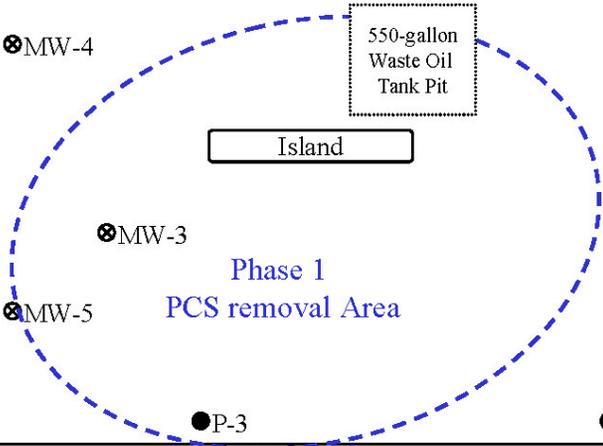
● P-1

McVay Highway

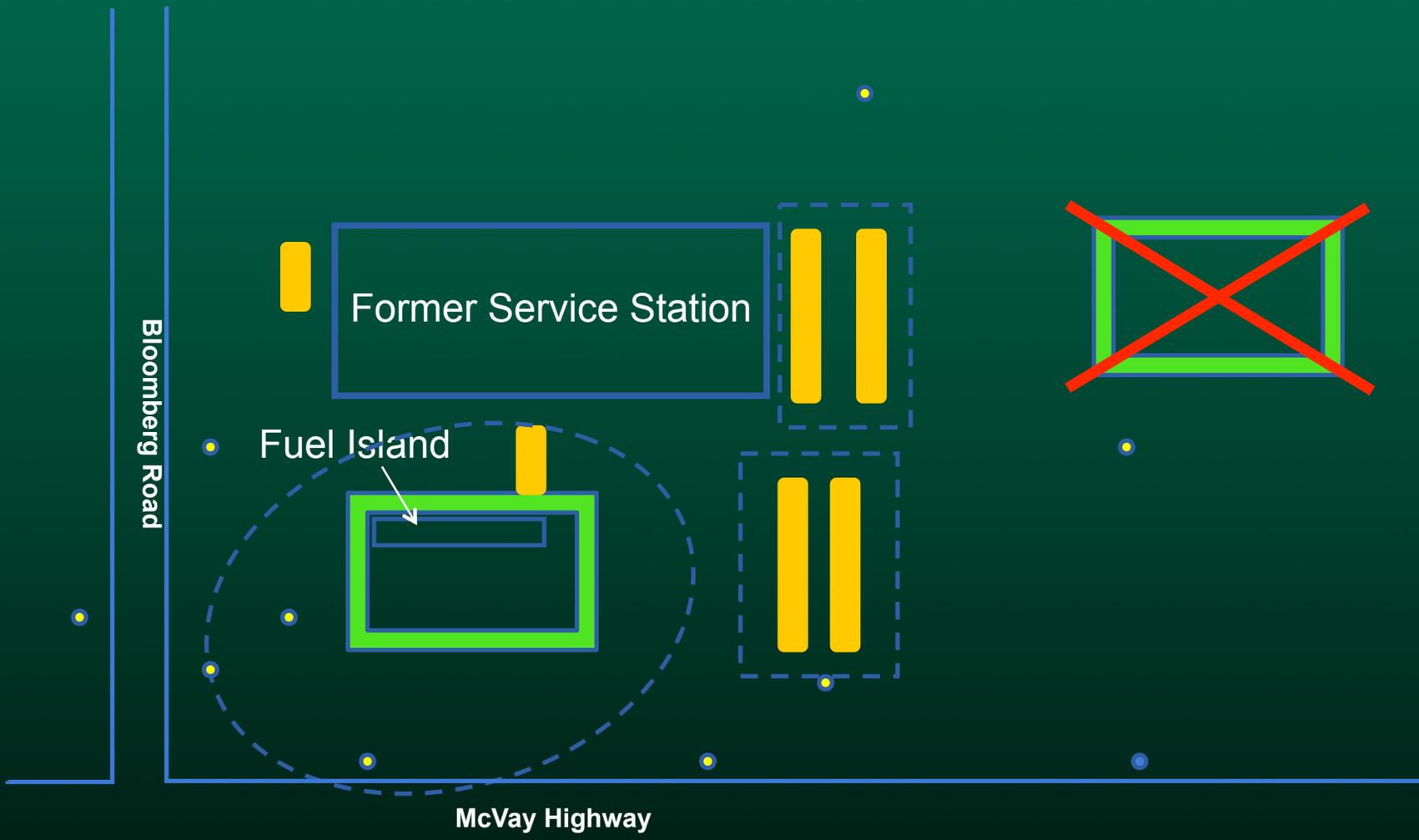
● P-6

● P-7

● P-8



# Site Plan



# Questions?



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