




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: RE-Powering Initiative Fact Sheet: Siting Renewable Energy Projects While Addressing Environmental Issues

FROM: Mathy Stanislaus
Assistant Administrator 

TO: Regional RCRA and Superfund Division Directors
OSWER Office Directors

This memorandum transmits the fact sheet entitled, "Siting Renewable Energy Projects While Addressing Environmental Issues." During 2008, EPA launched the RE-Powering America's Land: Siting Renewable Energy on Potentially Contaminated Land and Mine Sites initiative to encourage siting renewable energy facilities on thousands of currently and formerly contaminated properties across the nation. This initiative places an emphasis on ensuring that renewable energy development is aligned with the community's vision for the site. Further, it supports President Obama's commitment to increase renewable energy projects in the United States.

This fact sheet was written in response to stakeholder input to increase awareness among renewable energy developers and cleanup project managers of the feasibility and benefits of renewable energy development on potentially contaminated land while environmental issues are being addressed. A more detailed handbook on this subject that will accompany this fact sheet is currently undergoing workgroup review. We've been working with the National Renewable Energy Lab and Region 9 to develop decision trees to screen sites for solar and wind potential for use by cleanup managers. These will be included in the handbook.

Cleanup project managers are encouraged to consider renewable energy production on their sites as a redevelopment option. The RE-Powering Rapid Response Team, EPA's team of experts from headquarters and the regions that has representatives from Superfund, Brownfields, RCRA, and enforcement, is available for use as a resource to assist with assessing your sites for renewable energy and moving projects forward. This team was developed to provide quick and accurate input on renewable energy development on contaminated and potentially contaminated land.

OSWER's Center for Program Analysis (CPA) is working with the RE-Powering team to develop tools and communication materials to promote national consistency across the Regions for siting renewable energy on potentially contaminated lands. I am asking the Regions to coordinate with CPA on your renewable energy on contaminated lands projects to leverage limited resources and ensure national consistency.

Contact information for the RE-Powering Rapid Response Team is found at <http://epa.gov/renewableenergyland/contacts.htm>. If you have any questions, please contact Shea Jones at jones.shea@epa.gov or Lura Matthews at matthews.lura@epa.gov.