

Data Quality Record for Brownfields Cleanups Long-Term Performance Goal

Long-Term Performance Goal Text: By September 30, 2026, clean up an additional 650 brownfields properties.

Corresponding Annual Performance Goal: Number of brownfields properties cleaned up.

Goal Number/Objective: Goal 6/Objective 6.1

NPM Lead: Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)

1a. Purpose of Long-Term Performance Goal:

The intent of this long-term performance goal is to report the number of properties that have been cleaned up to a regulatory risk-based standard using EPA Brownfields funding. To make this determination, grantees must fill out the required Property Profile Form through the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) database and receive approval from their regional project officer. The Property Profile Form is an approved OMB form (OMB No. 2050-0192). The complete form can be downloaded here: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-grantee-reporting-using-assessment-cleanup-and-redevelopment-exchange>. A positive trend through several years of results will convey the continuous impact brownfields funding has on returning properties to a useful state across the country.

1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

Properties Cleaned up: Number of properties that have been cleaned up to a regulatory risk-based standard using EPA Brownfields funding, as reported by cooperative agreement recipients. Cleanup is considered complete when all on-site property cleanup activities are completed to a regulatory risk-based standard. The recipient's entry of a cleanup completion date affirms that all physical on-site cleanup activities are completed.

Property: Defined as a contiguous piece of land under unitary ownership. A property may contain several smaller components, parcels, or areas. Properties are also referred to as sites.

1c. Unit of Measure:

The number of brownfields properties.

2a. Data Source:

The primary source of data is the ACRES database. All EPA cooperative agreement recipients report data to ACRES including states, tribes, communities, and non-profits. Grantees are required to report data quarterly for the duration of their cooperative agreement, beginning at the end of the first quarter of the period of performance. Data are reported per brownfields property/site, usually not smaller than .25 acres.

2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:

As of the end of FY 2021, the Brownfields program has cumulatively cleaned up 2,261 properties since the beginning of the program in FY 1996.

3. Calculation Methodology:

The performance results are the sum of grantee-reported properties meeting the requirements to be counted as cleanup complete within the fiscal year.

4. Quality Assurance/Quality Controls:

Data entered in the ACRES database goes through two levels of review before being counted towards the long-term performance goal. After cooperative agreement recipients enter data into ACRES, it is first reviewed by the associated EPA project officer. If information is incorrect or missing, the project officer requests corrections from the cooperative agreement recipient. If all information is correct, the data gets sent to National Program Review. During National Program Review, all data are once again reviewed for clarity and consistency. Once the data passes both project officer review and National Program Review, it is counted towards the LTPG.

5. Data Limitations/Qualifications:

Assuming the grant recipient is reporting accurate and truthful information. Source errors could result through mistakes in manually entering data into the Property Profile Form. Regional project officers review all data to minimize these limitations. Additionally, data are sometimes not reported by recipients, particularly in cases where EPA funding expires before the work is complete (i.e., if EPA funding is only part of the funding used for an assessment for cleanup). Given the reporting cycle and the data entry/QA period, there is typically a several month lag before data are reported in ACRES.

6. Technical Contact:

Kelly Gorini (OLEM), 202-566-1702

7. Certification Statement/Signature:

I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.

PDAA Signature Original signed by Barry N. Breen **Date** 5/19/2022