



# Superfund Redevelopment Pilots

## Lake Calumet Cluster Chicago Department of Environment, IL

EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Initiative (SRI) is a nationally coordinated effort to facilitate the return of Superfund sites to productive use by selecting response actions consistent with anticipated use. The SRI Pilots are intended to help local governments enhance their involvement in the Superfund decision-making process by assisting EPA in predicting future land uses for Superfund sites. Under the Pilot Program, EPA will provide up to \$100,000 in financial assistance and/or services to local governments for specified activities. Applicants are offered several types of program assistance, including funding through a cooperative agreement, access to facilitation services, and/or the availability of personnel under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA).

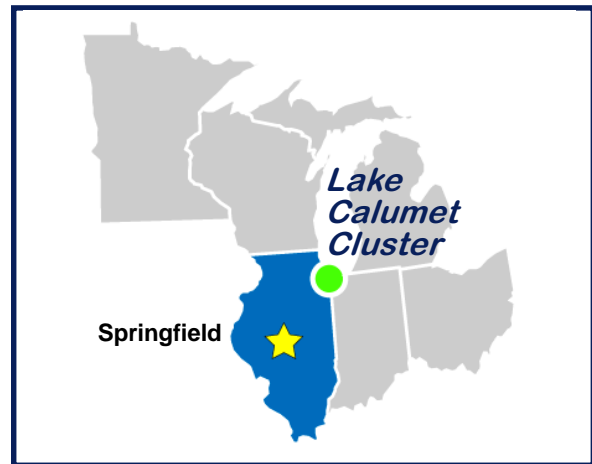
### BACKGROUND

EPA selected the City of Chicago's Department of Environment in Illinois for a Superfund Redevelopment Pilot. Chicago is home to the Lake Calumet Cluster Superfund sites, which are U.S. Drum, the Auburn Incinerator, the Paxton Lagoons, and an unnamed parcel. The sites are in wetlands, which were originally 200 acres in size next to Lake Calumet. The original wetlands area has been partially filled by a group of waste storage and disposal facilities. The facilities shut down in the late 1970s. The site is bordered by a marsh, two landfills, a railroad, and a street. Cleanup and restoration of the area will allow the city to build a new environmental center at the Indian Ridge Marsh, and to restore the marsh, which is threatened by the contaminated runoff from the sites. The City of Chicago has also been designated as a Brownfields Showcase Community.

### OBJECTIVES

The Chicago Department of the Environment, in partnership with other agencies, local organizations, and potential end-users, is planning to acquire the cluster sites. The Pilot funds will be used to formulate an overall strategy for the economic development and environmental restoration of the sites. The city is targeting half of the cluster sites for a new "energy farm," an ecologically restored area with electrical generating facilities that use solar energy and natural gas. The other half of the sites will be reserved as open space and possibly wetlands. The city hopes to restore and enhance the property's natural habitat and provide a buffer between the neighboring environmental center and landfills.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



**Applicant Name:** Chicago Department of Environment, IL

**Site Name:** Lake Calumet Cluster

**Date of Selection:** July 2000

**Anticipated Award:** Cooperative Agreement (\$100,000)

**Profile:** The city will develop a plan to reuse the sites, possibly as electrical generating facilities and as wetlands.

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