



# RCRA Voluntary Action



Owners, operators, and potential buyers of hazardous waste Treatment Storage and Disposal (TSD) facilities, or facilities that have TSD units/areas regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) now have streamlined options to revitalize the properties. Through the RCRA Brownfields Initiative, EPA works in partnership with states, local communities, and owners/operators to find new, more efficient, and faster ways to voluntarily clean up and revitalize RCRA facilities. In many states, a RCRA Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is being drafted to allow RCRA cleanup under state voluntary action programs. EPA has indicated that regardless of the presence of a state MOA, they are committed to removing barriers to the cleanup and revitalization of RCRA sites. Such cleanup actions may lead to liability protection from both federal and state governments. This "signoff" then clears the way for the property to be transferred and redeveloped.

Entities especially interested in this process are municipalities, or industries that own or are interested in purchasing inactive or abandoned RCRA facilities that are targeted for reuse and redevelopment. Cities can use federal and state funds to conduct the RCRA voluntary assessments and clean-up, and then purchase or broker the sale of the property. Some private industries are using the voluntary action program to get "delisted" from state and federal RCRA corrective action (CA) prioritization lists. RCRA facility owners/operators and municipalities that desire to address their RCRA CA issues can then market and redevelop the property.

BHE can help these interested parties better understand the state and EPA's involvement at a potentially contaminated property and assist in "fast tracking" the site toward revitalization. The BHE staff has over 23 years of experience as environmental consultants supporting voluntary actions for the successful redevelopment of properties.

## SERVICES INCLUDE:

- + Streamlining investigation by integrating RCRA Facility Investigations (RFIs), Corrective Measures Study (CMS), and Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI) with state voluntary action programs
- + Revitalizing properties using innovative, results-oriented data collection, modeling, risk assessment, and remediation technologies
- + Implementing technology best suited for a site, selected from a full range of innovative engineering and institutional controls, including both passive and active remediation systems
- + Integrating the best sustainable environmental practices in the redevelopment and reuse of a previously contaminated facility
- + Reducing property environmental liability protection through state and federal programs
- + Implementing "carve-out" strategies for RCRA units not conducive to voluntary action, thereby freeing up the balance for property re-use
- + Using internet-based technology for communication and data exchange with project stakeholders

## DEFINING ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

*BHE is an environmental and engineering consulting firm serving private-sector and government clients nationwide. For over 23 years, BHE has delivered unsurpassed quality, integrity, and client stewardship in the following disciplines: Engineering, Site Assessment, Land-use Planning, Cultural and Natural Resources Management, Permitting, Industrial Hygiene & Safety, and Geomatics.*