



News Release

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For release: January 27, 2005

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ADEQ, EPA DECLARE HEIFER HEADQUARTERS SITE 'READY FOR REUSE'

Today, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a "ready for reuse" certificate to Heifer Project International for the Little Rock site where the global non-profit help organization is building its world headquarters.

This is the first certificate issued in Arkansas to a non-profit agency and the first to a facility involved in a Brownfield program for cleanup of commercial, industrial or agricultural property contaminated with hazardous substances.

The state of Arkansas and EPA agree that Heifer Project has successfully completed its cleanup of the property. The "ready for reuse" determination verifies that the environmental conditions on this property are protective of human health and the environment based on its current use and anticipated future use as Heifer's headquarters and global village education complex.

"Turning contaminated and underused properties back into productive, valued parts of their communities is at the heart of EPA's land revitalization programs," EPA Region 6 Administrator Richard E. Greene said. "I am pleased to join the State of Arkansas in announcing the Region's first Brownfields 'ready for reuse' site. Turning the property into the headquarters of such a prestigious world humanitarian organization is the perfect conclusion to this process and Arkansas is leading the way."

A "ready for reuse" determination provides, in a straightforward manner, specific information about contamination, work performed at the site, and the status of each real estate parcel that has been cleaned up to meet state and federal requirements.

Marcus C. Devine, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Director, said, "These efforts show that we can accomplish great things when key players in the non-profit community and government agencies, both state and federal, work together."

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The Heifer Project is building its global headquarters east of the River Market district in Little Rock next to the Clinton Presidential Center on a 28-acre tract, including land formerly owned by the Union Pacific Railroad and companies known as Superior Forwarding and Central Transport. Heifer, with the help of contractors and ADEQ staff, completed a cleanup of hazardous waste contamination at the rail yard and trucking terminal.

Information concerning the current environmental conditions of the Heifer Project International site and the risk management activities conducted to ensure protectiveness are summarized in the *Property Development Decision Document* prepared by ADEQ staff. Copies of this document may be obtained from ADEQ, Hazardous Waste Division, P.O. Box 8913, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-8913.

For more information on the Brownfields program, call Amanda Gregory, ADEQ Hazardous Waste Division, (501) 682-0867 or go the ADEQ Brownfields Program web page at www.adeq.state.ar.us/hazwaste/branch_inactive_sites/brownfields.htm

For information on the “ready for reuse” program, call Daniel Clanton, Engineer Supervisor, Active Sites Section, ADEQ Hazardous Waste Division, (501) 682-0834 or Steve Gilrein, Associate Director of the Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, EPA Region 6, (214) 665-8179.

More information about the EPA ready for reuse program is available at www.epa.gov/region6/ready4reuse/index.htm

To learn more about EPA’s Land Revitalization Initiative, contact Ed Chu, Associate Director for Land Revitalization, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response at (202) 564-2196.

Photos ADEQ staff took at the event are available. Go to the ADEQ Web Site www.adeq.state.ar.us for a link to high-resolution photos.