



April 2009
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Happy Earth Day 2009!



April 22nd, 2009 marked the 39th Annual Earth Day in the US. Gabriel encourages all of our clients to continue the major intent of Earth Day throughout the

Gabriel Gazette

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Can Converting Brownfields to Renewable Energy Work?

According to [a recent study](#) done by the University of Michigan, brownfield sites have enormous potential to supply the state with hundreds of renewable energy sites as well as thousands of jobs.



The study, which overlaid maps of unoccupied brownfield sites with wind and solar resource maps, estimated that if the sites were used to their full energy potential, Michigan could generate an estimated 4,320 Mw of wind energy, and 1,535 Mw of solar energy.

Additionally, the study also shows the preliminary enormous economic impact that converting brownfield sites to renewable energy sites in Michigan could have, especially job creation. An estimated 17,500 construction and long term jobs are estimated to be produced in this transition.

Gabriel has extensive brownfields experience - we have been restoring brownfields since the 1980s, having successfully improved hundreds of sites. Because Gabriel is the only area firm offering complete air, soil and water analyses, you'll benefit from our cost-efficient, time-saving approach.

If you or your company is in the process of restoring a Brownfield site, or if you wish to learn more about Gabriel's brownfields offerings, visit our [website](#), or contact [John Polich](#) at (773) 486-2123.

Illinois Legislature Votes on LUST Funding

coming year - to always act with respect to our planet and its limited resources.

Gabriel has always been proud to [promote environmental stewardship](#) at our offices. Our office recycles nearly 80% of its waste, collects rainwater to use on our gardens, and even has our own on-site compost. In an effort to encourage staff to bike to work, Gabriel also subsidizes new bikes for employees.



Gabriel is also proud to announce that April 2009 brings about the installation of more than 30 solar panels on Gabriel's roof.

For additional information on what you and your company can do to make an impact on Earth Day, visit the [EPA's website](#).

Environmental Links

[Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Illinois Environmental Protection Agency](#)

In January Thomas Holbrook, the head of the Illinois House Energy & Environment Committee, introduced [HB 75](#), which would extend the effective date of the current tax imposed on receivers of motor fuel.

As written, the current tax laws in question (The Environmental Impact Fee Law & The Motor Fuel Tax Law) are set to expire on January 1, 2013 due to a sunset provision in the legislation. HB 75 would amend the two pertinent laws to remain in effect until **January 1, 2025**.



The current tax is a vital part of allowing the state of Illinois to provide reimbursement funds to those who clean up any site which has one or more Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST). As of April 21st, the current LUST Fund has a [\\$63 million backlog](#), which represents approximately well in excess of year before a site approved for reimbursement will be paid.

This fund is important for the continuation of cleaning up contaminated sites across Illinois. There are currently more than 10,000 open LUST sites in the state which present potentially harmful effects to neighboring sites and occupants.

One hope is that the passage of this bill will not only continue to provide funds to program, but also allow the industry, consultants, and the IEPA time and opportunity to work on a restructuring of the LUST program.

HB 75 passed in the Illinois House on April 2nd by a [vote of 81-36](#) and has since been introduced to the Illinois senate, where it is sponsored by State Sens. John Jones and William Haine.

Gabriel Offers FREE Seminar



Tapping Into Geothermal

How a cleaner and more efficient HVAC system can save money.



[Gabriel Environmental Services' New Website!](#)

Recycled? Post-Consumer?



Many products proudly tout that they are made of recycled or post-consumer products. But have you ever wondered how some products claim to be both 100% recycled **and** made from at least 60% post-consumer material?

In fact, while often used synonymously, the words "recycled" and "post-consumer" do **not** have the same meaning.

"Post-consumer" refers to material that has completed its life cycle as a consumer item and would otherwise have been disposed.

Post-consumer materials include office paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, plastics and metals.

"Pre-consumer" on the other hand refers to products which have never made it to



Gabriel is offering a **FREE seminar on April 30th, 2009** on the promise and economic return that geothermal technology offers to businesses and consumers.

Come learn about the technology the EPA calls the most **energy-efficient, environmentally clean, and cost-effective system for temperature control.**

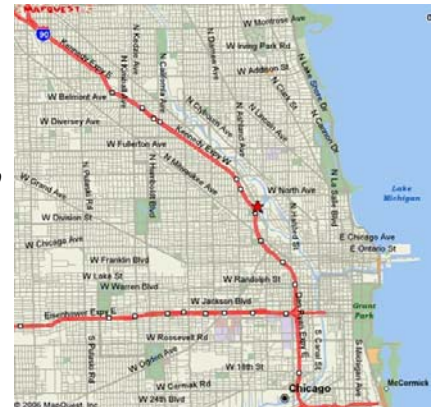
Event Details:

Tap Into Geothermal: *Thursday, April 30th, 2009*

8:15 a.m. -Breakfast and Registration

8:30 a.m. -Seminar begins

[1421 N. Elston Ave. - Chicago, IL](#)



All of Gabriel's seminars are completely FREE, but they do fill up quickly, so make sure you RSVP as soon as possible.

To RSVP for either of these seminars, contact [Sara Scardina](#) at gabriel@gabrielenvironmental.com or (773)486-2123.

For a full calendar of upcoming Gabriel events, visit our [online calendar](#).

EPA Proposes Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting

On April 10th, the EPA [published](#) their proposed rule requiring mandatory reporting of Greenhouse Gases (GHG).

According to the proposal, all affected facilities would be required to report annual emissions levels of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorochemicals, and other fluorinated gases.

The proposed rule would come into effect for



public consumption form, and is made from scraps and waste from manufacturing plants.

Most recycled products are created with a combination of both of these materials. There is no limit or regulation of how much of a product must be made of recycled materials to carry the symbol, so it is helpful to look for the amount of post-consumer material in a product.

any facility which emits these gases starting in 2010. The rule would not require any of these facilities to control or cap their emissions, simply report the levels to the EPA. Many believe this reporting is a vital step in collecting data which will lead to legislation reducing GHGs emissions.



The rule would apply to "facilities that directly emit GHGs and to suppliers of fossil fuels and industrial GHGs." The rule would not effect any manufacturer of vehicles which report GHG emissions under other existing rules.

The document is [open to public comment](#) until June 9, 2009.

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