Database building Plan

* ~~Import MDEP pdf list~~
  + ~~See which ones are on the GIS list and which are not~~
* ~~Merge MDEP pdf with GIS~~
* Merge with CIMC

# Data sources

* *US EPA* – Data on EPA sponsored Brownfields sites is stored in the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System[[1]](#footnote-1) (ACRES) database, which is maintained by EPA’s Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR). Grantees who receive any funds from OBLR are required to report expenditures, assessment results, and other property information through ACRES. Data from ACRES is made public twice per year through EPA’s Cleanups in My Community[[2]](#footnote-2) (CIMC) tool. A bulk download from the ACRES database was requested from OBLR for all Brownfields in Maine to circumvent the need to scrape property information from individual property pages, which was provided on June 20th 2024. This data contained information on all cooperative agreements and grants attributable to work done on a property including the amount of funding attributable to the property per grant, the purpose of each grant (assessment, clean up, supplemental, etc.), contaminants found during assessment, and amount leveraged per property.
* *NAICS* – Using descriptions of former property uses provided by grantees, we classified all former property uses according to their 2022 NAICS classifications, which resulting in a past use industry profile for each property. NAICS codes were found on the NAICS association website.[[3]](#footnote-3) If the former use descriptions were inconclusive, we searched for property information on town and regional planning websites and google or contacted previous grantees for the information. In the event we could not locate past uses or found that the property was previously a single-family residential property or undeveloped land, we classified the property as “Unknown”, “residential property”, or “undeveloped land”, respectively.
* *Maine DEP –* the Maine Department of Environmental Protection maintains a vast array of databases, including those on air and water quality and land remediation sites. We pull data from two sources:
  + Remediation Sites (Institutional Controls) Database[[4]](#footnote-4) – A geodatabase of remediation sites in Maine. It includes uncontrolled sites, voluntary response action program sites, and brownfields sites. This database was accessed on March 19th 2025.
  + Division of Remediation Site List – PDF list of all sites.

The Division of Remediation Site list was accessed in addition to the RSD because some of the sites were not included.

1. https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant-recipient-reporting [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.naics.com/search/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://maine.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=666a7a20993e43edaf1b6bbdc749d054 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)