NORTHWEST REGION BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

** OWNER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT **

Name of Site: _____

E-911 Site Address: _____

_____

I, _____, the undersigned owner(s)/tenant(s) of the referenced property, agree to participate in the Northwest Region Brownfield Program. I understand that by being an active participant in this program, I am agreeing to the following conditions:

- inclusion of my property (or interest therein) in the inventory of sites;
- sharing of documents and information relevant to the assessment and redevelopment processes;
- disclosing and sharing prior environmental assessment actions/records;
- granting access to the referenced property (a separate agreement granting a right of access to the property must be signed prior to the initiation of assessment activities); and
- permitting the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) or its designees to share information about my case study with others, including but not limited to conferences, public forums, publications, and website.

I understand that:
- I have a right to terminate my voluntary participation in this program, and that notification of termination must be submitted in writing to the NRPC;
- information collected by the NRPC or its consultant(s) is public information and will be available for public review;
- the NRPC's consultant(s) is required under law to report imminent threats to human health or the environment, such as a tank that is visibly leaking fuel, to the State of Vermont;
- the environmental assessment may confirm that contamination is present on the property. Under Vermont law, the property owner is responsible for notifying the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources immediately regarding releases that have occurred. The State may require additional site assessment and/or cleanup work, which may or may not be funded by the Northwest Region Brownfield Program depending on the circumstances;
- because of the requirements on federal funding, the NRPC may need to insure that its work on the property meets certain federal requirements, such as those related to the environment, health, and/or historic resources;
- I will cooperate with the NRPC to assist it to meet these requirements;
- the NRPC is not responsible for the cost of any cleanup activities that may be needed at the property, and I may have to bear these cleanup costs as the current owner per existing state and federal regulations; and
- NRPC's agreement to conduct environmental site assessment activities at this property

does not mean that the NRPC has determined that redevelopment plans for this property are in conformance with the local municipal plan or the Northwest Regional Plan.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the NRPC's Voluntary Notice Policy. I understand that:

- the purpose of this policy is to notify potentially affected persons and appropriate public officials about health and environmental hazards discovered during the program that may pose a risk to human health or the environment and to encourage public participation in the brownfields program; and
- information collected during the site nomination and assessment process will be subject to this policy.

Subject to this permission/participation, the NRPC agrees to:

- consider including the property in its program and provide access to program benefits;
- maintain the confidentiality of owner's proprietary information (owner must identify proprietary information);
- consult with the owner prior to any on-site activities; and
- provide the owner with a copy of draft and final assessment reports, which will identify whether a contaminant release occurred or is suspected to have occurred.

Acknowledgment:

Property Owner/Tenant/Agent* (indicate which)	Executive Director Northwest Regional Planning Commission

Date	Date

*This agreement must be signed by all those who have an ownership interest in the property or the NRPC must be provided with documentation demonstrating that the signer has the legal authority to sign on behalf of all owners. When the property is municipally owned or leased, minutes of the meeting at which the assessment was discussed should be provided with this form.