



INDIANA BRIGHTFIELDS FACTSHEET

Understanding Brownfields & Brightfields

BROWNFIELDS

A “brownfield” is a property where site redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of contamination. Common brownfields include former industrial sites, inactive landfills, closed factories or power plants, and abandoned mines.

BRIGHTFIELDS

A “brightfield” is a clean energy project (typically solar) on a brownfield. As of October 2024, only 6 of the [624 brightfield projects completed in the United States](#) were in Indiana.

By the Numbers: The Potential of Brightfields in Indiana

US EPA identified at least 1,483 Superfund, RCRA, brownfield, and landfill sites in Indiana that could be suitable for renewable energy. Repurposing **only 10% of the available acreage** for solar could result in:

Potential Benefits	Description
Land	18,000 acres of greenfields avoided
Power	2,520 MW of solar produced
Homes	420,000 homes powered
Jobs	14,000 jobs created and supported
Pollution	300 million tons of emissions reduced annually

Data from RE-Powering Tracking Matrix (US EPA), Independent Statistics and Analysis (US EIA), Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (US EPA), and Jobs and Economic Development Impact - Photovoltaic Models (US NREL)



Acreage By Site Type

Brownfields	65,763
Closed Landfills	4,668
Superfund	9,213
RCRA	100,383

Source: US EPA