

**The Brownfields Challenge:  
A Survey of Environmental Justice and Community Participation Initiatives  
Among Ten National Brownfield Pilot Projects**

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## **Preface**

It is a pleasure to present you with this report of the 1998 Science, Engineering & Technology (SET) Services Program. The report is designed to provide the Delaware General Assembly and the citizens of this state with an analysis of the challenges and opportunities that accompany Delaware's efforts to integrate community participation and environmental justice into brownfields redevelopment.

This report reviews existing brownfields-related programs currently being conducted by Delaware's Department of Natural Resources (DNREC) and the City of Wilmington. It also examines case studies of the community participation and environmental justice activities of ten Environmental Protection Agency-designated National Brownfields Pilot Projects and suggests how Delaware can learn from their experiences.

The recommendations advanced in this report are the result of the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy's (CEEP) in-depth analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of those 10 National Brownfields Pilot Projects with respect to community participation and environmental justice. CEEP staff also conducted interviews and solicited information from several experts throughout the country to benefit from their ideas and suggestions regarding community participation and environmental justice related to brownfields redevelopment.

CEEP received valuable assistance in preparing this report from a number of public and private organizations, including Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), the City of Wilmington's Office of Planning, the Urban Environmental Center, the Environmental Protection Agency's Region III Office, and the EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. A special thanks is owed to the members of these organizations.

I hope that this report will be useful to you in your discussions and deliberations on community participation and environmental justice concerns as related to brownfields.

John Byrne  
Director

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