



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ announces completion of voluntary cleanup

BATON ROUGE – The Department of Environmental Quality is announcing the completion of a voluntary clean up project in Lake Charles. The cleanup was part of DEQ's Voluntary Remediation Program and has culminated with a plot of land that was previously vacant becoming a useful part of downtown Lake Charles.

US Unwired, now Sprint/Nextel, and the Chamber Foundation of Southwest Louisiana worked together to voluntarily clean up a former auto repair facility to meet the required DEQ standards. The property is located at 831 Lakeshore Drive. MidSouth Bank purchased the property for a new bank branch and held a groundbreaking ceremony on Jan. 12.

After more than a month of on-site work, the two companies received a Certificate of Completion, which certifies that the cleanup meets DEQ's environmental requirements. In this case, the contractor for the two companies had to excavate contaminated soil and haul it to an appropriate disposal site as well as remove and dispose of several underground tanks used historically to store fuel and oil.

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