

REGION 6

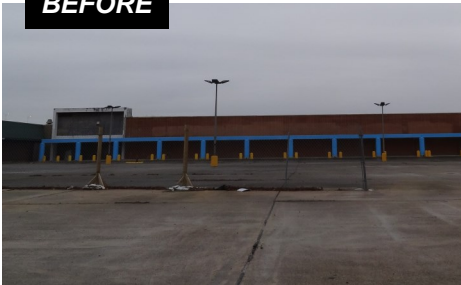


BROWNFIELDS

Event Rental LLC Algiers, Louisiana

From a former gas station and abandoned superstore,
Regional Planning Commission assisted in business expansion.

BEFORE



AFTER



Schwegmann's began as a small grocery in 1869, eventually pioneering the superstore concept and developing a chain to become the largest grocer in the New Orleans area. The Algiers superstore added a gas station in the 1970s. Financial issues forced the store and gas station to close and the tanks were taken out of service in 1999, leaving an empty warehouse-type building and leaking USTs.

Event Rental, a local party equipment rental business, was looking for a larger space and found the former superstore site in the Algiers neighborhood of New Orleans. The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) provided the bank a comfort letter stating that the site's USTs would be addressed by RPC's Brownfields Program which allowed Event Rentals to secure funding to purchase the property.

RPC used their EPA Brownfields Assessment grant to conduct a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, which included the removal and regulatory closure of the tanks. No contamination was found above regulatory standards and the

site received LDEQ approval for the tank closure. The site was ready for redevelopment.

Event Rental was able to expand their business on the property, taking advantage of the large, vacated space for its facility and warehouse. The operation was moved to the new building in 2016. As part of the project, Event Rental worked with their city council member to create a special redevelopment district, designated by the City of New Orleans, to facilitate redevelopment of the site and other surrounding properties. Through collaboration among local, state and federal entities, this large, abandoned property has been revitalized and now serves as a catalyst for other sites in the area.



The lobby, interior displays and warehouse for Event Rental.