



RCRA Corrective Action

Cleanup + Productive Use

Economic Profile

Nucor Steel

Norfolk, Nebraska

CONTINUED USE



Steel Bar Mill



Steel Mill Service Provider



Industrial Gas Supplier

The Nucor Steel bar mill was built in the early 1970s to supply steel to a sister plant. The mill is now one of multiple Nucor facilities in Norfolk, Nebraska, and is in continued use.

In 2000, Nucor began cleaning up soil contamination from industrial waste under RCRA oversight. Nucor installed a cover to isolate remaining soil contamination in 2005. In 2016, Nucor removed 14,000 tons of impacted material, remedied stormwater drainage and installed monitoring wells.

The steel mill and auxiliary businesses collectively employ 463 people and generate \$225 million in annual revenue.

CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

EPA and Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy



EMPLOYEES

463



ANNUAL SALES

\$225 million



ANNUAL WAGES

\$42 million

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action





After the cover was installed in 2005, Nucor worked with EPA to remediate and monitor the impacted area. In 2016, however, the cover appeared to be deteriorating. Rather than repair the cover and continue to monitor the site, Nucor voluntarily removed 140 rail cars' worth of contaminated material and completed the cleanup.

As the country's largest steel producer, Nucor has pursued sustainability commitments to match its scale. The recycled steel content used in Nucor's Nebraska plants is approximately 93%, and Nucor has the capacity to recycle 1.4 million tons of steel annually in Nebraska alone. Compared to the global average emissions of 1.9 tons of carbon dioxide per ton of steel, Nucor estimates that its steel mills produce less than one ton of carbon dioxide on average. The company also consumes nearly a quarter less energy per metric ton of crude steel produced than the global average.

TMS International operates on-site alongside Nucor and aids the steel mill in its recycling operations. Its pre- and post-production services include recycling scrap metals and processing byproducts for environmentally beneficial reuse. Through these sustainable measures, Nucor and its partners demonstrate that cleanup and continued use are both compatible and achievable.



Nucor is the largest steel producer in the United States, and is estimated to provide infrastructure material to 60-70% of buildings in the country.



Before undertaking the cleanup, Nucor was paying \$40,000 per year to monitor the site.

NUCOR IS A KEY PARTNER AND ANCHOR FOR THE NORFOLK AREA AND STATE OF NEBRASKA. THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VITALITY AND GROWTH OF THE COMMUNITY ARE TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST. THEIR EXTENSIVE EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP THEIR SITE PROVE ONCE AGAIN THAT THEY WILL ALWAYS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

Andrew Colvin, Norfolk City Administrator and Economic Development Director