



CITY OF GRAND HAVEN

Press Release

Harbor Island's Coal Pile Clean-Up Complete

October 8, 2025, [Grand Haven, MI] The City of Grand Haven is pleased to announce the successful completion of cleanup of the former coal pile area on Harbor Island. With the support of HDR, the City's environmental and engineering consultant, excavation plans were developed and implemented. TL Contracting Inc, based in Lansing, Michigan, carried out the work over the summer and into the fall, resulting in removal of the coal and coal impacted soils from the 11-acre site. The coal and coal impacted soils were transported to a licensed landfill.



Caption: Drone image of the former coal pile area at the J.B. Sims Generating Station site, now cleared of coal, coal impacted soil, graded and restored.

"This cleanup represents real progress in restoring and protecting Harbor Island," said Derek Gajdos, Project Management Director for the City of Grand Haven. "We're proud of the strong collaboration that made this possible and are excited to move ahead into the next phase of the project."

Harbor Island is now working to collect additional data that will support the remediation and alternatives discussions on how to address the presence of both polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) and Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) leading into next year. To keep the public informed we **invite you to a town hall meeting hosted by the City of Grand Haven on Thursday, November 6, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** The meeting will provide an update on what has occurred on the island and outline the next steps in the Harbor Island project. Public input is a key part of the process, and the City of Grand Haven is here to keep everyone informed and involved along the way.

Visit the Harbor Island website, www.renewharborisland.org, to view more information and download reports.