

# Brownfields and Land Revitalization

**Overview of Brownfield Program** 

# Brownfields are Opportunities

- Address contamination and reduce risks to public health
- Reduce blight
- Promote economic development
- Enhance community involvement and sense of community pride
- Address climate change challenges



# The Brownfields Cycle

- Identify and inventory
- Assess / Characterize potentially contaminated properties
- Delineate potential liability for past and on-going contamination
- Identify financing options and secure funding
- Purchase or Lease
- Identify reuse options
- Cleanup
- Redevelop / Reuse



#### EPA Supports Community Efforts to Revitalize Brownfields

- Grants and technical assistance to promote:
  - planning, assessment, clean up and reuse of brownfield sites
  - environmental workforce development and job training
- Liability protections to encourage acquisition and investment in brownfield reuse
- Funding for establishing and enhancing state and tribal response programs





# **EPA Brownfields Program**

#### Funding / Grants

- Site assessment and characterization, inventory, planning, public outreach
- Cleanup
- Job Training

#### **Technical Assistance**

- Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA)
- Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)
- Land Revitalization Technical Assistance
- National Brownfields Training Conference
- Guidance and tools (<u>www.epa.gov/brownfields</u>)



# EPA Brownfields Investments in New England

- Total Cumulative Investment in New England more than \$483M in federal Brownfields funding since 1994
- 3,397 sites assessed
- 493 sites cleaned up with EPA funding
- 876 properties made ready for anticipated use (over 6,700 acres of land)
- \$4B in other funding leveraged
- 23,172 jobs leveraged



# **Administration Priorities**

- Implementation of Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Law (IIJL)
  - More funding (\$1.5 Billion over 5 years)
  - Up to 50 percent of grant funding can go to larger grants
  - Elimination of cost share for cleanup grants
  - More funding for state and tribal response programs
- Environmental Justice / Justice40
  - Forty percent of program benefits should accrue to disadvantaged communities
  - Provide environmental protection and public health benefits to communities burdened with disproportional risks
- Increase universe of communities benefiting from brownfields program – build capacity; broaden or reach
- Climate Change



## Entities Eligible to Receive Competitive Brownfields Grants

- General Purpose Unit of Local Government.
- Land Clearance Authority or another quasi-governmental entity that operates under the supervision and control of, or as an agent of, a general purpose unit of local government.
- Government Entity Created by State Legislature.
- Regional Council or group of General Purpose Units of Local Government.
- Redevelopment Agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a state.
- State.
- Indian tribe other than in Alaska
- Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community.
- Nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Limited liability corporation in which all managing members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.
- Limited liability partnership in which all general partners are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.
- Qualified community development entity as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.



## **Overview of Brownfields Assessments**

Our program provides **competitive grants and contractor assistance** to assess known or potential site contamination. Eligible activities include:

- Inventory to compile a list of brownfields
- Characterization to identify past uses
- Assessment to determine whether site is contaminated and if so, what extent
- **Community Involvement** to engage local stakeholders in site assessment decisions
- Planning for Site Cleanup and Redevelopment to identify viable opportunities for redeveloping the site, and develop site cleanup plans based on reuse



Assessment activities include site inspections to identify sources of contamination



## Assessment Grants

- Community-wide Grants:
  - Up to \$500,000 to assess one or more brownfield sites within a community
  - Do not have to own the sites at the time of application

#### • Site-specific Grants:

- Up to \$200,000
- May seek waiver and request up to \$350,000
- Must name the specific site at the time of application
- State and Tribal Community-wide Grants:
  - Up to \$2,000,000 for states and tribes
- IIJL Changes to Assessment Grant Program
  - Authority to award up to \$10,000,000 per Assessment Grant



## **Overview of Brownfields Cleanup**

Our program provides **competitive grants** for activities that address brownfields site contamination:

 Cleanup Grants – clean up planning and remediating contaminants of concern at one or more sites owned by the grant recipient.



 Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants – grant recipient makes loans or subgrants to other organizations who conduct cleanup activities at a brownfield site.



*The scope of cleanup activities will depend on site size, complexity and planned reuse.* 

**Multipurpose Grants** – assess, cleanup, and overall plan for revitalization.



# Cleanup Grants

- Provide funding to conduct cleanup activities at brownfields
- \*Applicants must own the property at time of application submission

#### • Funding:

- $\circ~$  Up to \$500,000 per grant
- Requires a 20 percent cost share
- Can request a waiver for up to \$650,000

#### • IIJL Changes

- Authority to award up to \$5,000,000 per grant
- No cost share requirement



## Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants

 Provide capitalization funding to entities who make loans and/or subgrants to conduct cleanup activities at brownfields

#### • Funding:

- Up to \$1,000,000
- Requires a 20 percent cost share
- A non-competitive round of Supplemental RLF funding for existing high-performing recipients is held annually

#### • IIJL Changes

- Authority to award up to \$10,000,000 per grant
- $\circ$  No cost share requirement



# Multipurpose Grants

- Provide funding to carry out a range of planning, assessment and cleanup activities within a target area.
- \*Recipients must own the property before they can spend grant dollars performing cleanup activities; they do not necessarily need to own the site at time of application.\*
- Funding:
  - Up to \$1,000,000
  - Requires a \$40,000 cost share
  - Recipients must produce at least one Phase II assessment, one site cleanup and an overall plan for revitalization in the target area
- IIJL Changes
  - Authority to award to \$10,000,000 per grant
  - No cost share requirement





Overview of Brownfields Job Training

- Our program provides competitive grants to recruit, train, and place unemployed/under-employed residents of communities affected by solid and hazardous waste.
- Training topics can include the assessment and cleanup of solid and hazardous waste, chemical risk management, stormwater management, and green infrastructure installation and maintenance.



## Brownfields Job Training Program

- Provides funding for organizations to provide a range of training to unemployed/underemployed community residents.
- Funding:
  - Up to \$500,000 (previously \$200,000)
- FY23 Changes to BF JT Grant Program
  - Awards of up to \$500,000 per grant
  - Funding can be used to pay reasonable stipends and reasonable childcare costs
  - $\,\circ\,$  5 Year period of performance



## **Regional Technical Assistance Providers**

#### wνυ 8 CCLR JCON KSU NJIT 6 ICMA KANSAS STATE CENTERFOR CREATIVE UNIVERSITYOF CCLR KSU UCON LAND RECYCLING UNIVERSITY CONNECTICUT WEST VIRGINIA NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY NJIT ICMA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH OF TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION CORPORATION

Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Providers

Assist specific regions with TA and training to communities and other stakeholders on brownfield issues, such as:

- preparing grant applications;
- performing site inventories;
- reviewing historical information;
- design of investigation/sampling/field analysis; and
- cleanup and redevelopment planning.



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# Targeted Brownfields Assessments

- Site assessments are conducted by an EPA contractor on behalf of an eligible entity.
- Services include site assessments, identification of cleanup options and cost estimates, and community outreach.
- Brownfields sites are selected locally, on a rolling basis.
- Contact your regional brownfields office.



# Think About Climate Change

#### **Every activity has a carbon footprint**

Think about reducing carbon emissions in

- use of equipment,
- transportation,
- materials use
- utilities
- Make use of renewable energy for equipment, transport, utilities
- Reuse materials when possible
- Reduce the use of water and runoff treatment of water by municipal water treatment facilities is a significant energy cost and may result in significant carbon / GHG emissions.
- Landscaping / green infrastructure





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### **Guidance:** Climate Smart **Brownfields**

- Treat contaminated soil onsite; avoid off-site transport of contaminants
- Reduce waste generation and material use
- Reduce use of water and runoff
- Use renewable energy
- Intentionally plan and manage site operations •
- Adaptive reuses •
- Modify zoning and building codes •



JOIN US AT THE # BROWNFIELDS2022 CONFERENCE OKLAHOMA CITY, OK AUGUST 16-19, 2022

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# Contact Us about Brownfields

#### US EPA

- https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/r1
- <u>https://www.epa.gov/brownfields</u>
- <u>https://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization</u>

#### Region 1 (New England)

- Jim Byrne, Brownfields Coordinator
  - <u>Byrne.james@epa.gov</u>
- Jessica Dominguez, Land Revitalization Coordinator
  - dominguez.jessica@epa.gov
- Patricia Overmeyer (Headquarters)

Overmeyer.patricia@epa.gov



# **Special Recognition**

## Joe Ferrari

## • Life-time achievement

 Over two decades of passionate support to New England Communities

