



Vermont

May 2006

“The term ‘brownfield site’ means real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.” (from the federal Brownfields Act of 2002)

SUMMARY OF BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

Originally begun as an EPA initiative in January 1995, the US EPA National Brownfields Program has since evolved into a collaborative effort involving many federal, state and local partners. In January 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (“the Brownfields law”) was signed. This law expanded potential federal assistance for Brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, and job training. The law also includes provisions to establish and enhance state and tribal response programs, which will continue to play a critical role in the successful cleanup and revitalization of brownfields. Below is a summary of the US EPA Region1 funding for each of the key Brownfields initiatives.

EPA Brownfields Funding in New England: Program Distribution by State (1994-2006)*							
Program	CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	Total
Assessment Grants	\$7,789,130	\$4,309,017	\$16,120,131	\$2,429,000	\$2,103,000	\$6,010,000	\$38,760,278
Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants	\$7,568,000	\$5,280,000	\$11,568,000	\$4,051,790	\$5,690,000	\$2,000,000	\$36,157,790
Cleanup Grants	\$3,685,500	\$750,000	\$4,072,883	\$800,000	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$11,108,383
Job Training Grants	\$1,340,264	\$200,000	\$1,888,799	\$0	\$350,000	\$0	\$3,779,063
EPA Targeted Assessments (TBA)	\$2,077,470	\$426,339	\$3,443,869	\$398,926	\$314,217	\$266,621	\$6,927,442
State Brownfields Funding	5,896,608	\$4,291,663	\$7,907,315	\$6,626,543	\$4,943,379	\$2,226,543	\$31,892,051
Showcase Communities	\$300,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$1,400,000
Total	\$28,656,972	\$15,257,019	\$45,800,997	\$14,306,259	\$15,500,596	\$10,503,164	\$130,025,007

*Funding total current as of May 2006

Recipients receiving funding in May 2006 are in bold

ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Brownfields Assessment Grant Program awards grants to local, tribal and state governmental entities to conduct site assessment and related activities at brownfields properties. Grants are awarded for up to \$200,000 to assess properties for co-mingled hazardous waste or petroleum contamination. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Assessment Grants awarded in Vermont since 1994.

Assessment Grant Program	
Recipient	Funding
Addison County Regional Planning Commission	\$200,000
Bennington County Regional Commission	\$200,000
Burlington	\$700,000
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission	\$600,000
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission	\$200,000
Lamoille County Planning Commission	\$200,000
Northeastern Vermont Development Association	\$200,000
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	\$600,000
Rutland	\$200,000
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	\$600,000
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission	\$760,000
Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission	\$600,000
Windham Regional Commission	\$950,000
Assessment Grant Program Total:	\$6,010,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT PROGRAM

Under this initiative, grants are awarded to eligible local, tribal and state entities to establish and capitalize revolving loan funds to assist private and public entities in cleaning up contaminated sites. Grants are for up to \$1,000,000 initially and eligible communities may team together to establish larger revolving loan funds pools. Grantees are selected through a national competition. The figures in the table that follows are cumulative totals for all Revolving Loan Fund Grants awarded in Vermont since 1994.

Revolving Loan Fund Program	
Recipient	Funding
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission	\$1,000,000

Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development	\$1,000,000
Revolving Loan Fund Program Total:	\$2,000,000*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

CLEANUP GRANT PROGRAM

Under this initiative, EPA funds are awarded to eligible local, state, tribal and non-profit entities to conduct cleanup activities on eligible brownfields properties. Grants are for up to \$200,000 per property. Entities must own the property at the time of award to be eligible for funding. Grantees are selected through a national competition.

JOB TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

The Brownfields Job Training Program funding is used to train workers in the field of hazardous waste assessment and remediation. To be eligible for these grants, the applicants must be affiliated with an existing Brownfields Assessment Grant Program recipient. Grants are for up to \$200,000. Grantees are selected through a national competition.

TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENTS (TBA)

Under this initiative, EPA uses its contractors to conduct brownfields assessments at sites identified by the local entity as being a high priority for reuse. Brownfields assessments typically involve a review of existing site records, site sampling and preparation of a preliminary clean-up cost estimate. The information gathered allows local government officials and developers to make informed decisions regarding the redevelopment potential of a site. Below is a summary of the sites and amount of TBA funding received in Vermont since 1997.

EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments		
Recipient	Site	Approx. Value of Assessment
Montpelier	Carr Lot, Taylor Street	\$110,317
Rockingham	TLR Complex, Mill Street	\$56,304
Windsor	28 River St	\$100,000
EPA-Lead Targeted Brownfields Assessments Total:		\$266,621*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.		

STATE BROWNFIELDS FUNDING

EPA also offers funding to directly support state brownfields activities including funds to establish and enhance state brownfields programs (also known as voluntary cleanup programs), to conduct site specific assessment and cleanup, to develop revolving loan fund programs and to develop insurance tools. Below is a summary of the amount of funding received in Vermont since 1994.

Financial Assistance to State Brownfields Program	
Recipient	Funding
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation	\$2,226,543
State Program Total:	\$2,226,543*
*Funding total current as of May 2006.	

SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES

As part of the multi-federal agency Brownfields National Partnership, sixteen communities were selected to receive Showcase Community designation following a national competition. The federal partners work with selected communities to revitalize brownfields properties. EPA provided each with a \$200,000 Brownfields Demonstration Pilot and assigned an EPA employee to work full time in the designated community for two years.

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