

# Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



## Cleveland, OH

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is 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. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

### Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program

EPA is piloting an area-wide planning approach to community brownfield challenges, which recognizes that revitalization of the area surrounding the brownfield site(s) is just as critical to the successful reuse of the property as assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of an individual site. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation.

### Pilot Project Description

EPA has selected the City of Cleveland as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. The city will target the Kinsman and Lower Buckeye neighborhoods, located in the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor. The two neighborhoods are home to 3,141 residents. These neighborhoods are experiencing disinvestment, deteriorating infrastructure, and poverty rates that range from 34 to 60 percent. Historic industrial uses have resulted in the area's 29 known brownfield sites. The target area is at the center of a proposed roadway to connect the interstate highway system to neighborhoods on the

### Pilot Program Description

EPA is awarding approximately \$4 million in total across 23 recipients. Recipients will each receive up to approximately \$175,000 in EPA cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance. Assistance will help recipients initiate development of an area-wide plan and identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan.



### Contacts

For additional information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

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The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the project proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance have not yet been negotiated. Activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

southeast side of Cleveland and to University Circle, one of the largest employment centers in the area. In 2004, the state and city prepared the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor Study, focusing on transportation planning and design. The brownfields area-wide planning process will facilitate community involvement in prioritizing brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse of sites within the corridor, enabling the creation of a mixed-use district with green infrastructure and recreational spaces.