

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 1 3 2016

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Honorable Robert A. Dixson Chairman Local Government Advisory Committee 300 S. Main Street Greensburg, Kansas 67054

Dear Mayor Dixson:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, 2015, expressing support for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The EPA appreciates the work of the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), and we welcome the recommendations provided by the LGAC in your letter. We agree with many of the recommendations summarized in your letter and, in the case of several of your recommendations, the Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) currently is working toward implementing projects that will address them. For example, OBLR and staff from our regional offices are developing additional case studies that highlight community revitalization success stories throughout the country. Brownfields case studies are available on our website at www2.epa.gov/brownfields.

We particularly appreciate the LGAC's stated support of both the brownfields area-wide planning grant program and the job training and environmental workforce development grant program. We understand the importance of these grant programs to communities that are struggling to recover from economic downturns that result in multiple brownfields sites and significant employment impacts. The EPA plans to continue both programs. The guidelines requesting grant proposals for our next round of brownfields area-wide planning grants will be available in the early spring of 2016.

During fiscal year 2016, the EPA also will be identifying opportunities to expand our technical assistance to communities facing the challenges of assessing, cleaning up, and redeveloping brownfields. We share your concerns regarding small, rural, and environmental justice communities, and we will target these communities within our technical assistance and outreach efforts.

If the members of the LGAC want to discuss the committee's specific recommendations outlined in your letter, I welcome the opportunity to meet with you. Input and advice from local government leaders is important to the success of our programs. I look forward to working with you and other committee members.

Please feel free to contact David Lloyd, Director of EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization, at <u>Lloyd.davidr@epa.gov</u> or 202-566-2731 to schedule a time for us to meet.

Sincerely,

Mathy Stanislaus

Assistant Administrator

Office of Land and Emergency Management



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Dr. Hector T. Gonzalez Chairman Environmental Justice Workgroup 24 C/Acacia Arecibo Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Dear Dr. Gonzalez:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, 2015, expressing support for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The EPA appreciates the work of the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), and we welcome the recommendations provided by the LGAC in your letter. We agree with many of the recommendations summarized in your letter and, in the case of several of your recommendations, the Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) currently is working toward implementing projects that will address them. For example, OBLR and staff from our regional offices are developing additional case studies that highlight community revitalization success stories throughout the country. Brownfields case studies are available on our website at www2.epa.gov/brownfields.

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Ms. Jill C. Duson Chairwoman Cleaning Up Our Communities Workgroup 101 Pennell Avenue Portland, Maine 04103

Dear Ms. Duson:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, 2015, expressing support for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The EPA appreciates the work of the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), and we welcome the recommendations provided by the LGAC in your letter. We agree with many of the recommendations summarized in your letter and, in the case of several of your recommendations, the Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) currently is working toward implementing projects that will address them. For example, OBLR and staff from our regional offices are developing additional case studies that highlight community revitalization success stories throughout the country. Brownfields case studies are available on our website at www2.epa.gov/brownfields.

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