

How to Obtain an Ohio EPA Letter of Support for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants

The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (“Brownfields Law”, P.L. 107-118) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA’s Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Guidelines were published on September 18, 2017 and proposals are due by **November 16, 2017**.

Ohio applicants for EPA brownfields assessment or cleanup grant(s) must submit a letter of support from the Ohio EPA as part of their Proposal. The letter of support must be included with the cover letter acknowledging the applicant’s plans to perform assessment or cleanup activities. This is a Threshold Criteria item; threshold criteria are all pass/fail. If applying for multiple types of grant program activities, the applicant need only submit one letter.

The strongest letters of support will contain detailed information about the project and demonstrate that the Ohio EPA understands the applicant’s goals and has confidence in the applicant’s abilities. To obtain such a letter, the applicant will need to provide the following:

- ✓ Type(s) of grants and dollar amount(s) applied for
- ✓ Site(s) name, location, and property owner, including brief history of each site (or a focus area if not a site-specific grant)
- ✓ Proposed use of grant funds (e.g. multiple assessments, inventory, cleanup etc.)
- ✓ Community need
- ✓ Leveraging of additional resources
This includes Ohio EPA assistance such as Targeted Brownfield Assessments and Grant-Funded Technical Assistance. If you think you may want to take advantage of these incentives, please contact our office to discuss availability of funds.
- ✓ Expected benefits if grant is awarded

This information should be submitted not later than **November 1, 2017**. E-mail submission is preferred.

**E-mail: BrownfieldFunding@epa.ohio.gov
Katie Courtright, Brownfield Coordinator
Ohio EPA, DERR/SABR
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049**

NOTE: Applications for Petroleum grant funding must include a letter of support from the Fire Marshal’s Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR), not Ohio EPA. Please send all requests for petroleum letters of support to:

**Verne Ord, Assistant Chief
Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of State Fire Marshal
Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations
8895 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
verne.ord@com.state.oh.us**