



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

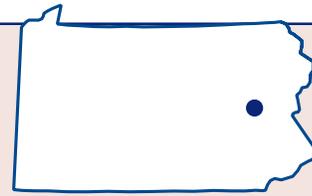
*Lehigh Valley Economic
Development Corporation, Lehigh
and Northampton Counties, PA*

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development 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. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was selected to receive an assessment grant. The Lehigh Valley Land Recycling Initiative, established as a department of the development corporation to promote brownfields redevelopment throughout the area, has identified 72 sites for potential assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment in Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Sites will be selected for assessment based on economic distress of the impacted communities, environmental justice issues, and location within state-designated Keystone Opportunity Zones. Poverty rates in the areas surrounding priority



Assessment Grant

New
2003

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments of a former railroad facility, two former textile mills, and a former incinerator in the municipalities of Bethlehem, Slatington, Bangor, and Easton. Grant funds also will be used for greenspace and redevelopment planning and community outreach.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 3 Brownfields Team
215-814-3129
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bfs/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation, PA
610-266-6775

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation has not received brownfields grant funding.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

sites range up to 32 percent. The target communities also have minority populations and unemployment rates that exceed county averages. Lehigh Valley EDC's brownfields redevelopment efforts are intended to create jobs, leverage private investment, increase the local tax base, and preserve greenspace.