



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

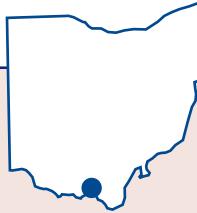
Southern Ohio Port Authority, New Boston, OH

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 Southern Ohio Port Authority was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. The target area is the Village of New Boston (population 2,340), located in Scioto County. An integrated steel mill operated in New Boston for most of the 20th Century. This mill ran the length of the village along the Ohio River. At one time, it spanned 30 percent of the total developable land mass in the village. When the steel mill closed in 1980, over 2,500 employees were displaced. The coke plant continued to operate until 2002, when another 220 were displaced. The Southern Ohio Port Authority began assessment and remediation



Assessment Grant



\$350,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Southern Ohio Port Authority for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct a remedial investigation of and develop a cleanup plan for the former New Boston Coke Plant. Hazardous substances contamination at the site is related to coke operations, which include production, use, handling, and storage of coal tar and coal gas byproducts. The project represents the last stage of the remediation of a large integrated steel mill that closed in 1980.

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 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Southern Ohio Port Authority
740-354-7541

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

efforts on large portions of the site in 1994. This assessment will address the last remaining portion of the steel mill, the coke plant facility. The facility's long history of non-compliance with environmental regulations and poor management of environmental controls is suspected to have resulted in significant releases of potential contaminants to the environment. Runoff from the property discharges into the Ohio River. Assessment and cleanup of the facility will mitigate potential health and safety risks to the community. Redevelop-

ment of the facility will recapture 31 acres of idled land for commercial or industrial development, generate much-needed jobs in the community, and expand the local tax base.