



# Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Moline, IL*

### 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. 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 City of Moline was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in western Illinois, Moline (population 43,768) was built around thriving Mississippi riverfront industries, particularly centered on farm machinery manufacturing anchored by Deere & Company's corporate headquarters. Beginning in the 1970s and accelerating in the 1980s, the majority of these industries, many of which had been located in Moline for approximately 100 years, vacated the downtown area. This shift in the local economy was the result of global economic changes and facilities' expansion needs that could not be accommodated at the riverfront sites. These conditions have led to a dramatic decline in downtown jobs, loss of revenues, and disinvestment in the downtown community. Moline has identified 151 brownfields sites, totaling



### Assessment Grant

New  
2006

**\$200,000 for hazardous substances**

EPA has selected the City of Moline for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct community involvement activities, perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments, enroll sites chosen for assessment in the state cleanup program, and develop cleanup plans for priority sites in downtown Moline.

### 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](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team  
312-886-7576  
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Moline, IL  
309-797-0705

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

109 acres, in its downtown area. Eighteen percent of city residents are minorities, while 61 percent of the target area residents are minorities. Twenty-nine percent of residents in the downtown area live below the poverty level and the unemployment rate is 14 percent. In addition, 11 schools that serve approximately 6,000 students are located within two miles of the concentration of brownfields sites in the downtown area along the Mississippi River. Assessment and eventual cleanup of the brownfields will help improve the health and safety of residents of downtown Moline. Redevelopment of these sites is expected to bring new housing developments, business and retail facilities, and jobs that will increase the tax base and improve the quality of life for Moline residents.