



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

Rockingham Planning Commission, Southeast New Hampshire

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 Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in southeastern New Hampshire, the RPC region (population 200,243) consists of 27 municipalities in Rockingham County. The state has identified ten brownfield sites and more than 1,800 potential brownfield sites in the region. The target area includes six communities that have been heavily impacted by the presence of brownfield sites. These communities



Assessment Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to prepare an inventory of potential brownfield sites in the region and conduct up to five Phase I environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to conduct Phase II environmental site assessments, as necessary, and to support community outreach activities.

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 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Rockingham Planning Commission, NH
603-778-0885

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

(Salem, Portsmouth, Exeter, Hampton, Seabrook, and Windham) generally have higher unemployment and poverty rates than those of the county. The majority of these communities developed around industrial mills that were built in the 1800s. Most of these mills are now abandoned. The RPC region is the fastest growing region in New Hampshire, and the presence of brownfield sites deters redevelopment of already urbanized land, contributing to sprawl and the development of scarce farmland, forest, and other open land.

Brownfields assessment is expected to spur brownfields reuse and in the process, support economic development, job growth, an expanded regional tax base, and sprawl reduction.