



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Southwest Region Planning Commission, Southwest 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 Southwest Region Planning Commission was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. The Southwest Region (population 103,941) is a network of villages and low-density rural housing surrounding several regional commercial and employment centers. Small manufacturing has been a staple



### Assessment Grants



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

EPA has selected the Southwest Region Planning Commission for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to identify and characterize sites and conduct up to five Phase I and four Phase II environmental site assessments. Funds also will be used to conduct community outreach and education activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks for sites with potential petroleum contamination.

### 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 1 Brownfields Team  
617-918-1424

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

Grant Recipient: Southwest Region Planning Commission, NH  
603-357-0557

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.

of the region's economy since the Industrial Revolution. Between 1950 and 1980, the region lost much of its furniture, metalwork, and textile industries. Although modest redevelopment has occurred, there are still many vacant and underused properties, especially in former industrial town centers. The town centers have the greatest potential for contamination and are the

region's more densely populated areas. These centers tend to have low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, with a disproportionate number of sensitive populations. Assessment will facilitate redevelopment of historic village centers and downtowns. Redevelopment of the brownfields will help protect municipal and private water supplies, many of which rely solely on ground-water. It also will increase local employment, enhance the local tax base, and preserve the rural farm and forest landscape.