



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

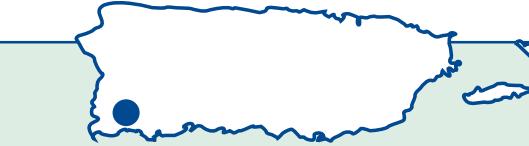
San Germán, PR

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 Municipality of San Germán was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Located in southwest Puerto Rico, San Germán (population 37,105) is the oldest municipality in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The municipality is focusing its brownfields efforts on the urban core, which has been designated a historic district. Some buildings in this area have been abandoned or are idle, including former printing facilities, storage buildings, and paint shops. The stigma attached to these sites impacts property values and limits the municipality's ability to attract investors and tourists. The unemployment rate in the area is 23.5 percent, and 44.9 percent of families in the target area live below the poverty level. Assessment of brownfields will allow the city to move forward with plans to redevelop properties into housing,



Assessment Grants



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

EPA has selected the Municipality of San Germán for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct seven Phase I and five Phase II environmental site assessments. Funds also will be used to create a brownfields inventory and conduct community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks at 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.

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team
212-637-4314

[http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/
brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/brownfields/)

Grant Recipient: Municipality of San Germán, PR
787-892-1405

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.

commercial, and industrial uses. Brownfields redevelopment will enhance tourism activities in the historic district, create jobs, and reduce threats to human health and the environment.