



DEC 16 2015

United States Environmental Protection Agency – Region 5
Attn: Matthew Didier
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Mail Code SE-7J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Subject: 2016 EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant Application

Dear Mr. Didier:

The Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC) is applying for \$600,000 in assessment funds, including \$480,000 in hazardous substance and \$120,000 in petroleum funding, to continue the Wisconsin Assessment Monies program. The WBC includes the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), as the cooperative agreement administrator, and nine Wisconsin regional planning commissions (RPCs) including: Bay-Lake, Capital Area, Mississippi River, North Central, Southwestern Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin, Northwest, West Central Wisconsin, and East Central Regional Planning Commissions.

These governmental entities have successfully applied for and received EPA revolving loan and assessment funds since 2004. The partnership has helped Wisconsin by providing direct assistance to Wisconsin communities, leveraging millions of dollars. Given previous success, the WBC is seeking to expand its partnership by applying for assessment dollars to assess the known or perceived environmental and public health impacts of closed, closing and bankrupt manufacturing plants in the state.

Mandatory Contents of Transmittal Letter

a. Applicant Identification:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street, P.O. Box 7921, RR/5, Madison, WI 53707-7921

b. Applicant DUNS number: 809-611-247

c. Funding Requested:

- i) Grant Type: Brownfields Assessment
- ii) Federal Funds Requested: \$600,000. No site-specific proposal waiver is requested
- iii) Contamination: Hazardous Substances (\$480,000) and Petroleum (\$120,000)
- iv) Coalition

d. Location: State of Wisconsin

e. Site-Specific Information: N/A

f. Contacts:

- i) Project Director: Christine Haag, Chief, Brownfields and Outreach Section
Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone: 608-266-0244 / Fax: 608-267-7646
Christine.Haag@Wisconsin.gov

101 South Webster Street, PO Box 7921, RR/5, Madison, WI 53707-7921

- ii) Chief Executive: Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone: 608-267-2121 / Fax: 608-261-4380

Cathy.Stepp@Wisconsin.gov

101 South Webster Street, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921

g. Date Submitted: December 16, 2015 via www.grants.gov

h. Project Period: October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2019

- i) **Population:** (2014 estimate US Census Bureau)
General population of WDNR jurisdiction: 5,757,564 in the State of Wisconsin
Bay-Lake RPC- 583,526
Capital Area RPC- 516,284
East Central RPC- 523,353
Mississippi River PC- 321,786
North Central RPC- 440,471
Northwest RPC- 176,710
Southeastern Wisconsin RPC- 2,039,003
Southwestern Wisconsin RPC- 147,232
West Central Wisconsin RPC - 419,403

ii) Population of target areas (example sites) addressed by this proposal:

- a. Kenosha: 99,535
- b. Green Bay: 104,393
- c. Sparta: 9,587
- d. Tomah: 9,221
- e. Bangor: 1,442
- f. Sheldon: 276

i. Other Factors Checklist: See Attachment A

The WBC hopes that EPA agrees that Wisconsin's brownfields assessment initiative is a project well worth EPA's investment and support. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Cathy Stepp, Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Keary Cragan, US EPA Region 5 Brownfields
Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition Members

Attachment A to Transmittal Letter: Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition

Regional Priority Title: Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields

Page Number(s): 4, 9, 14, 15

The following **Other Factors** apply to the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition’s jurisdiction and are explained within the proposal ranking criteria.

Other Factor	Page #
Community population is 10,000 or less.	3,4,7,15
Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	8
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and has included documentation.	9
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	6

RANKING CRITERIA

V.B.1. Community Need. The Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC) serves 72 counties, 1,851 municipalities and 5.7 million people statewide. In the past 20 years, the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (WDNR) has overseen or conducted environmental remediation work in every county and in 96% of all cities, villages, and towns. Brownfields in Wisconsin are statewide, impacting rural and urban communities. Only 37 municipalities have a population greater than 20,000; 1,408 communities are under 2,000. Most communities lack capacity to address brownfields on their own.

V.B.1.a Targeted Community and Brownfields

i. Targeted Community Description. Wisconsin has a demonstrated need for assessment funding at 2,771 open sites with hazardous substance or petroleum contamination. Around 350 new sites are added each year. WDNR estimates there are at least 5,000 yet-to-be-discovered brownfields. The most challenging sites remain: foundries, manufactured gas plants, electroplaters, and wood treating sites (Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System - BRRTS).

WBC strives to increase brownfields assessment and cleanup in rural and disadvantaged areas. 46 of 72 Wisconsin counties are defined as rural by the US Office of Rural Health Policy, and 18 metropolitan counties contain rural census tracts. More than a quarter of Wisconsin's children, about 373,000, live in rural areas. Of these, nearly 90,000 live in working poor families (Wis. Council on Children and Families). Over 30% of Wisconsinites live in rural areas, compared to less than 20% nationally. Only about 19% of rural citizens have completed college compared to nearly 30% for the rest of the state (2013 US Census Bureau; 2015 USDA Economic Research Service).

Rural and economically disadvantaged communities lack resources to address brownfield issues on their own. Many of these communities have serious challenges, including poverty, a high percentage of seniors and children, and lower-wage jobs. Rural communities often rank poorly in health studies, and poverty is likely a cause (UW Population & Health Institute).

Wisconsin is the second leading manufacturing state in the US, and has a high number of industrial properties in small communities (2011 US Bureau of Labor Statistics). Unfortunately, dozens of communities around the state have seen large, legacy employers close over the last 10 years: Thermo Fisher in Two Rivers, New Page in Kimberly, Hurd Windows in Merrill, and Chrysler Kenosha Engine in Kenosha. Wisconsin lost 37,000 manufacturing jobs between 2005 and 2015 (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). In 2015 alone, almost 90 layoff notices were issued affecting about 9,500 employees in Wisconsin (Milwaukee Business Journal, Nov. 2015).

WBC, a coalition of WDNR and 9 regional planning commissions, prioritizes rural and disenfranchised communities. Once projects are identified, WDNR contracts directly with consultants to complete assessment work under WDNR's guidance so that communities with limited capacity are able to benefit from EPA assessment funds without creating the infrastructure or developing the expertise to manage the assessment process on their own.

WBC's jurisdiction is the entire state of Wisconsin. For illustration purposes, WBC reached out to its partners for a list of potential sites to assess under this project. While no sites have been preselected, these projects represent similar Wisconsin projects with environmental and socio-economic challenges. WDNR's expertise and infrastructure enables local brownfields success.

Table 1: Potential Assessment Sites.

Site/Location/ Census Tract	Former Use	Potential/Known Contaminants ¹	Exposure Pathways ¹	Health Effects ²
Zizzo Scrap Iron Kenosha, Kenosha Cty. / 9	Scrap iron sales, auto salvage, railroad, coal yard, furn. mfg.	Mercury, chromium, PCB, CVOC and metal	Direct contact, groundwater, surface water, vapor	Organ damage, brain damage, cancer
Fabry Glove Green Bay, Brown Cty./ 8	Former glove manufacturing	PERC (PCE), PCE is the driver of the cleanup.	Soil and groundwater, vapor	Organ damage, liver cancer, kidney cancer, leukemia
Sparta Mfg. Sparta, Monroe Cty./ 9504	Foundry	VOCs, PAHs, metals, PCBs	Direct contact, groundwater, vapor	Organ damage, lung cancer, skin cancer, stomach cancer
Tomah Lumber Tomah, Monroe Cty. / 9505	Lumber yard/unknown previous to that	Lead, arsenic, chromium, petroleum	Direct contact, groundwater, vapor	Organ damage, cancer, nervous system & brain damage
Sheldon Creamery Sheldon, Rusk Cty. / 9604	Creamery (1914-1933), clothing mfg., salvage/recycling	Petroleum, lead, asbestos	Soil, groundwater, vapor	Lung cancer, mesothelioma, nervous system damage, cancer, brain damage

¹ WDNR Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS), ² Wis. Dept. of Health Services, Chemical Hazards Fact Sheets

The threat of human exposure to the contaminants listed above via direct contact, ingestion, and inhalation of particulates and vapors is intensified by the fact that these sites, and many other Wisconsin brownfields, are located in close proximity to homes, schools, parks, and bodies of water easily accessed by the public. For example, the Zizzo Scrap Iron & Paper Dealer in Kenosha is adjacent to the Boys and Girls Club and is less than a half mile from Lake Michigan.

ii. Demographic Information. In Wisconsin, 13.1% of all people and 18.4% of children live below the poverty level. About half have incomes less than 50% of the poverty level. 38% of African Americans, 27% of American Indians, and 28% Hispanics and Latinos live below the poverty level. Over 300,000 Wisconsin households used Food Stamps/SNAP benefits in the last year. In 2014, 52.4% of households with single mothers and young children in Wisconsin were in poverty, compared to 45.4% nationally (2014 US Census).

Between 2001 and 2013, the number of economically disadvantaged public school students went from 25% to 43%. In 2015, the unemployment rate for African Americans was 19.9%, the highest in the nation. In 2013, 1/3 of unemployed residents had been unemployed for six months or longer (Center on Wisconsin Strategy, 2015).

The City of Milwaukee has numerous brownfields sites, a 63% minority population, and a child poverty rate of 42.1%. Child poverty rates in communities with brownfields profiled in this proposal that are higher than the rest of the state include: Sheldon (79.7%); Kenosha (25%); and Green Bay (26%); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey). Every project in this proposal is located in a census tract in which 35%-79% of the population is characterized as

low to moderate income. Nearly 33% of Wisconsin's 5.7 million people live in a federally-defined rural area, compared to 21% nationally (2015 USDA Economic Research Service).

Table 2 identifies demographic data for our potential assessment projects. *Italicized/bold values indicate greater than state averages (or lower in the case of median household (HH) income).*

Table 2: Basic Demographic Data for Potential Brownfields Assessment Sites Other Factor: Community population is 10,000 or less.

Site (Census Tract, City, County)	Population ¹	Unemployed % ³	Poverty Rate 1 ¹ All	Poverty Rate 2 ¹ ↓18	Minority % ¹	LMI % ²	Median HH Inc ¹
Zizzo Scrap Iron							
Census Tract 9	3,555	16.8%	32.9%	50%	44.4%	79.6%	\$30,125
Kenosha	99,535	12.7%	18.5%	26.0%	30.7%	45.9%	\$48,643
Kenosha County	168,068	11.2%	16.7%	26.5%	23.3%	38.6%	\$67,531
Fabry Glove Mfg.							
Census Tract 8	2,023	31.7%	26.3%	36.6%	53.1%	72.7%	\$35,164
Green Bay	104,393	9.1%	17.8%	26.0%	25.4%	48%	\$42,427
Brown County	256,670	7.4%	11.5%	15.9%	18%	36%	\$53,392
Sparta Mfg.							
Census Tract 9504	4,350	6.8%	17.6%	23.3%	4.7%	43.2%	\$40,726
Sparta	9,587	8.8%	15.1%	22.5%	11.8%	46.8%	\$45,417
Monroe County	44,953	6.3%	14.4%	22.3%	7.9%	38.9%	\$49,774
Tomah Lumber							
Census Tract 9505	6,159	3.7%	10.7%	16%	9.2%	35.5%	\$50,469
Tomah	92,21	3.6%	16.9%	25.5%	8.6%	43.1%	\$40,188
Monroe County	44,953	4%	14.4%	22.3%	7.9%	38.9%	\$49,774
Sheldon Creamery							
Census Tract 9604	2,948	4.6%	18.7%	31.6%	2.2%	45.6%	\$48,259
Sheldon	276	9%	46.7%	79.7%	4.7%	69.4%	\$23,750
Rusk County	14,571	9.3%	18.7%	29.5%	3.5%	46%	\$38,658
Wisconsin	5,706,871	7.8%	13%	18.1%	17%		\$52,622
United States	311,526,597	9.7%	15.4%		36.7%		\$53,046

¹US Census Bureau, 2014 & 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; ²HUD FY15 Low and Moderate Income Summary; ³ US Census Bureau, ACS 2009-2013 5-Year Est.

iii. Description of Brownfields. When evaluating assessment applications, WBC will give priority to sites in areas exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics: 1) population under 10,000; 2) elevated percentage of low-income residents; 3) above average rates of cancer and asthma; 4) site contaminants a possible threat to public health and welfare; 5) above average minority population; 6) evidence of public support for the project; 7) above average cumulative environmental concerns; and 8) significant economic disruption, such as a plant closing, in the past five years. Example sites below are used to illustrate common brownfields in Wisconsin.

Zizzo Scrap Iron: A two-acre abandoned site in a residential area, next to a Boys and Girls Club, less than a half-mile from Lake Michigan. It's in a census tract where 44% of the population is non-white, 79.6% are low-moderate income (LMI), 32.9% live in poverty, and the median household income is \$22,497 below the WI average. The site was used most recently as a

scrap iron dealer. Previous uses include automotive salvage, coal yard, and a heating fuel company. Soil and groundwater contamination may include mercury, chromium, PCBs, and CVOCs. **Fabry Glove Manufacturing:** This blighted site in Green Bay was used to manufacture gloves, and contains PCE in soil and groundwater. It is adjacent to residential properties, in a census tract where 72.7% of the population is LMI, and is 0.5 miles from the East River, a tributary of the Fox River. Vapor assessment is needed to delineate impacts and assist in revitalizing the site. **Sparta Manufacturing:** This empty, contaminated 16-acre site once housed a foundry that produced cast iron cylinder liners for small engines and the auto industry. It closed 9 years ago, leaving hazardous substances in groundwater and soil. The site is next to the Elroy-Sparta state bike trail. *Other Factor: community under 10,000 (pop. 9,587)* **Tomah Lumber:** This site in rural Tomah was once a lumber yard, has soil contamination and direct contact concerns with lead, arsenic, chromium and petroleum. The property is adjacent to the community pool. The city would like this brownfield transformed into a public use area, such as a park. The property, if assessed and cleaned up, would enlarge the adjacent community park and provide access to additional public space. *Other Factor: community under 10,000 (pop. 9,221)* **Sheldon Creamery:** This three-acre site in rural Sheldon was used as a creamery, clothing manufacturer, and salvage/recycling lot. It has been vacant since 1990 and is now owned by the county. Contaminants include petroleum, lead, and asbestos. Assessment is needed to confirm possible petroleum contamination from a suspected UST. The site sits on the banks of the Jump River and the property would be a good location for another rural business. *Other Factor: community under 10,000 (pop. 276); Regional Priority: Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields*

iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues. EPA's EnviroFacts website lists 22,377 facilities regulated for air pollution, toxics, waste, radiation, and water effluence in Wisconsin. Milwaukee has 4,287 of these regulated facilities, Kenosha has 370, and Green Bay has 359. Wisconsin is also challenged by 4,300 landfills, of which 3,100 are unlicensed disposal sites that predated protective solid waste regulations (WDNR SHWIMS). The prevalence rate for lead-poisoned children under age 6 in Wisconsin is 2.6% – twice the national average and more than almost all other states in the country (Lead Poisoning Prevention Fact Sheet, WI Dept. of Health Services).

V.B.1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community. The threat of human exposure to contaminants via direct contact, ingestion, and inhalation of particulates and vapors is intensified by the fact that the example sites in Table 1, and many other known brownfields, are close to neighborhoods, schools, parks, and bodies of water. For example, Fabry Glove Manufacturing plant in Green Bay is surrounded by residential housing and is within a half mile of the East River, a tributary of the Fox River. The 16-acre former manufacturing property is next to the Elroy-Sparta state bike trail; this eyesore is the first thing people see when entering Sparta from the south.

Non-white populations, people living in poverty, low-income residents, children, and elderly are disproportionately impacted by brownfields in Wisconsin. The majority of the Table 1 sites are located in low-moderate income (LMI) areas, and Table 3 illustrates the high concentration of sensitive populations in the areas around brownfield sites identified in this proposal.

Wisconsin's brownfields pose numerous health concerns, especially to sensitive populations. Wisconsin brownfields are often contaminated with one or more carcinogens, along with substances that cause developmental, neurological, reproductive, immunological, dermal, and respiratory problems. Table 4 shows county asthma hospitalization rates and county cancer rates

for the example projects. Cancer is currently the leading cause of death in Wisconsin (Wisconsin Cancer Facts & Figures 2013-2014, American Cancer Society). Wisconsin also struggles with high asthma prevalence, possibly related to its expansive manufacturing industry. The state ranks in the 75th percentile for asthma prevalence with a rate of 9.2%. Race and socioeconomics play a role in susceptibility to asthma. Asthma rates were almost 2 times higher for African Americans and 1.5 times higher for American Indians than in whites, and more prevalent in low-income families (Wis. Dept. of Health Services, Burden of Asthma in 2013). African Americans and American Indians in Wisconsin are more likely than other races to die from lung cancer (Wisconsin Cancer Facts & Figures 2013-2014, American Cancer Society). The sites described in this proposal have higher than average sensitive populations residing around them. *Italicized / bold values indicate greater than state averages. Gray blocks means data is unavailable.*

Table 3: Sensitive Populations in Potential Assessment Sites Census Tracts

Census Tract	% Minority ¹	Children <5 years ¹	Elderly >65 years ¹	% LMI ²
Kenosha, 9	44.4%	5.5%	7.5%	79.6%
Brown, 8	53.1%	5.3%	6.9%	72.7%
Monroe, 9504	4.7%	9.3%	16.6%	43.2%
Monroe, 9505	9.2%	9.8%	15.5%	35.5%
Rusk, 9604	2.2%	7.1%	18.0%	45.6%
Wisconsin	17%	6.2%	14.1%	
United States	36.7%	6.4%	13.4%	

¹US Census Bureau, American Community Surveys (2014, 2009-2013 Five Year Estimate) ² HUD FY14 Low and Moderate Income Summary

Table 4: Health Data for Identified Counties

County	Kenosha	Brown	Monroe	Rusk	WI	US
Asthma Hosp. Rate¹	13.0	6.7	4.8	4.2	8.7	15.2
Cancer Rate²	470.4	479.1	459.2	484.9	459.5	453.8

¹Wis. Dept. of Health Services, Burden of Asthma 2013, Asthma Hospitalization Rates /10,000; ²Age Adjusted Cancer Rates (incidence per 100k pop.) 2008-2012, State Cancer Profiles, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & National Cancer Institute

V.B.1.c. Financial Need

i. Economic Conditions. Manufacturing jobs comprise the second-highest percentage of Wisconsin’s overall job base (2014 US Bureau of Labor Statistics). Unfortunately, Wisconsin lost a record number (25%) of urban and rural manufacturing plants since 2008 including General Motors (2009); Chrysler Engine Plant (2010); and Cargill (2014). In 2015 alone, there have been almost 90 different layoff notices affecting roughly 9,500 employees in Wisconsin (*Milwaukee Business Journal*, Nov. 2015). Oscar Mayer will close and lay off 1,200 in 2017.

Wisconsin communities are unable to address the economic impacts from the closings and the new brownfields that result. As of Nov. 4, 2015, 9,431 workers have been laid off from plant closings in 2015, compared to 6,185 in 2014 (WI Dept. of Workforce Development, 2015). Wisconsin has 135,000 fewer manufacturing jobs than it had in 2000. Wisconsin’s middle class is shrinking (5.7% since 2000) more than any other state (“The Shrinking Middle Class” PEW Charitable Trusts, March 2015). Over one in four workers (730,000) hold poverty wage jobs. In

2015, one in five of African Americans in Wisconsin were unemployed – the highest in the nation (The State of Working Wis. Report, 2014/5, COWS). *Other Factor: economic disruption.*

Since 2008, rising costs and revenue reductions have forced local governments to reduce services to residents. Property values in Southeast Wisconsin decreased each year from 2009 to 2014 (Public Policy Forum, 2015). Strict levy limits and a near-freeze on funding for local governments has diminished the ability of municipalities to provide police and fire services, maintain sidewalks, and repair roads. Communities don't have enough funding or staff to address their old brownfields, let alone the "new generation" of brownfields created by the recession.

EPA funding is needed to assess and clean up rural and urban brownfields because the need far outpaces diminishing state funds. In recent years several WI brownfields grant programs have been cut. The 2015-2017 state budget directed WDNR to stop enrolling new sites in the state's petroleum cleanup funding program. Since 1988, this program has been the primary source of funding for the assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites with old leaking tanks.

WBC has received \$2.1 million in EPA assessment grants since 2009; however, all funds are allocated and there is still a need for additional funding to assist communities with 2,771 sites with known contamination. To allow communities with limited capacity to benefit from EPA assessment funds without creating local infrastructure and expertise to manage assessment funds, WDNR contracts directly with consultants to provide assessment services with WDNR oversight.

ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields. Wisconsin's communities continue to struggle with economic recovery in the midst of plant closings and mass layoffs, bankruptcies, and foreclosures. Since 2006, more than 1,088 businesses of 50 or more employees have closed or had mass layoffs in Wisconsin. This affected more than 154,000 workers (WI Dept. of Workforce Development 2015). During that time, WDNR opened cases on new brownfields resulting from corporate bankruptcies. For example, New Page paper operated six large mills in Wisconsin; after filing for bankruptcy and restructuring, three of those mills have shut down.

Before it closed, the Kenosha Chrysler plant provided \$350,000 in annual property tax revenue. When Kimberly's New Page mill closed, more than 600 people lost their jobs and the village (pop. 6,600) lost \$40 million in assessed valuation, eight percent of its total (WCWRPC, 2012). From June 2009 to Dec. 2015, WDNR identified 218 closing facilities, impacting over 20,000 jobs; 40% were in communities with populations under 10,000. Over 3 facilities close per month.

On average, in Wisconsin, "a cleaned up and redeveloped site adds \$3.4 million to a locality's assessable base. Post-redevelopment assessed values exceed pre-development values in a ratio of 3.5 to 1. Localities also benefit from rising property values in the area of the redeveloped site and tax revenues other than property taxes" (UW-Whitewater FERC, Wis. Brownfields Impact Report, 2015). There are currently 2,771 properties with known contamination in WI. Around 350 new sites are added each year. Unaddressed brownfields reap no benefits, and cause blight, create health risks, and offer spaces for illegal dumping and vandalism.

V.B.2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

V.B.2.a. Project Description

i. Project Description. WBC seeks a \$600,000 coalition assessment grant to provide assessment services at closing or closed manufacturing plants, with an emphasis on sites in rural communities, racially diverse communities, and economically depressed areas. Assessment awards will favor brownfield projects that have received real community input and are part of a local comprehensive plan. WBC assessment program identifies high-need/high-impact sites, and works with affected communities to package tools for assessment and cleanup. WDNR hires an environmental consultant, oversees the assessment, presents findings to the community, and helps determine next steps. It's a high quality turn-key service for the community. This is extremely valuable to communities that lack capacity to address these issues on their own.

WBC's 2009, 2012, and 2013 EPA assessment grants funded contractor services awards, similar to EPA's targeted brownfields assessment service, to assess and move troubled plant sites back into productive use. WBC needs EPA funding to continue the assessment program. Funds will be used to conduct Phase I and II environmental assessments, focused site investigations, and a limited number of remedial action plans.

A hallmark of the WBC assessment program is the number of rural communities assisted. Many communities are reluctant to seek state or federal funds because they lack the capacity to apply for and manage the funding. Since the WBC takes care of everything and conducts extensive outreach, interest from smaller communities is high. WBC has approved 52 assessment service awards to 40 communities. Of these, 58% have populations less than 20,000, and 47% went to communities under 10,000. *Other factor: Community population is 10,000 or less.*

WBC understands that systemic disparities exist in the incidence and severity of diseases between socioeconomic and racial or ethnic groups. Racial or ethnic minority groups and low-income communities have poorer health outcomes than others. They are more frequently exposed to multiple environmental hazards and stressors, including poverty, poor housing quality, and social inequality. WBC also prioritizes assistance to these communities.

WBC has an excellent record of using federal funds to leverage state and local financing to successfully complete brownfields projects, all of which benefit human health, Wisconsin's economy, and the environment. With EPA assistance, WBC has established a simple, efficient, and effective assessment service grant program to help struggling local governments. These communities do not have to create the infrastructure or develop the expertise required to manage the assessment process themselves. The WBC assessment program currently has a waiting list of projects seeking assessments. All other funds have been expended or earmarked.

ii. Project Timing. WDNR has successfully managed EPA assessment grants since 2005. The staff and systems in place allow for implementation of key project activities immediately upon issuance of funds. WBC members have established effective marketing programs and local partnerships. WBC's assessment services are well-known throughout Wisconsin. On behalf of WBC, WDNR will continue using the fiscal and grant management systems already in place for federal brownfields funds to administer the project selection, award, financial management, and reporting processes. Program documents such as the application, site selection scoring sheets, sample contracts, access agreements, reporting forms, and marketing tools are already created. Additionally, WDNR completed a public procurement process to select three environmental

consultants that performed the assessment work funded by the 2009, 2012, and 2013 grants, and will follow conditions of the 2016 award agreement regarding procurement.

iii. Site Selection. Each member of WBC has an equal voice and is encouraged to participate in programmatic and site-specific decision-making processes. Regular email correspondence, personal calls, and conference calls keep members connected. Dozens of brownfield sites from around the state will be identified by WBC members, local governments, consultants, and others. WBC has created project evaluation criteria that prioritize sites in communities exhibiting multiple environmental, health, and socio-economic challenges.

After basic benchmarks are met, applications for assessment services are evaluated with the following criteria: a) community size; b) closed or closing manufacturing plant; c) percentage of low-income residents; d) rates of cancer and asthma; e) potential threats to the health and welfare of sensitive populations; f) cumulative environmental pollution; g) likelihood that site revitalization will spur beneficial activity in the surrounding area; h) local minority population; i) evidence of public input and support for the project; j) community has experienced industrial decline, natural disasters, or some other significant economic disruption in the past five years; k) site is owned or controlled by an applicant committed to the project, and the community is a partner; l) a more in-depth environmental site assessment, such as a Phase II, will be performed; and m) redevelopment of the site is consistent with the community's comprehensive plan.

V.B.2.b. Task Description and Budget Table

i. Task Description *Other Factor: Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments*

All tasks will be tracked quarterly by WDNR technical project managers assigned to specific sites, and compiled and reported by the WDNR fund manager. All data is available to the public through the WDNR's Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System online database that identifies contaminated properties and provides information on activities related to the investigation and cleanup of soil or groundwater.

Task 1–Phase I Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) will be performed to identify areas of environmental contamination. The Phase I ESAs will be conducted in accordance with the “Standard Practice for ESAs: Phase I ESA Process,” established by ASTM, which embodies the All Appropriate Inquiry Final Rule. The WBC anticipates completing 13 Phase I ESAs at an average cost of \$3,900 each.

Task 2–Phase II Environmental Site Assessments: Phase II ESAs will be conducted to confirm that contamination exists in areas identified in the Phase I environmental assessment as recognized environmental conditions. The WBC anticipates completing 14 Phase II ESAs at an average cost of \$26,000 each.

Task 3–Site Investigations: An estimated 4 site investigations, at an average cost of \$44,000, will be conducted to define the nature, degree, and extent of contamination, and to determine whether any interim actions, remedial actions, or both are necessary at the site.

Task 4–Remedial Action Plans: An estimated 2 Remedial Action Plans, at an average cost of \$5,000 each, will be developed to evaluate legal and protective remedies at the sites.

ii. Budget Table. WBC is requesting \$600,000 (\$480,000 in hazardous substance and \$120,000 in petroleum funds) for environmental assessments in Wisconsin. The WBC proposes to use approximately 90% of the funds for sampling tasks (Phase II and Site Investigation). To ensure that all EPA money goes to target communities, the WBC will commit its own resources for

outreach activities, application reviews, contract administration, management of professional contractors, and other tasks necessary for the implementation of this project.

Budget Categories	Project Tasks				
	Task 1 Phase I ESAs	Task 2 Phase II ESAs	Task 3 Site Investigations	Task 4 Remedial Action Plans	Total
Hazardous Substance For contractual services	\$38,000	\$300,000	\$132,000	\$10,000	\$480,000
Petroleum For contractual services	\$12,000	\$64,500	\$43,500	\$0	\$120,000
Program Management	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$50,000	\$364,500	\$175,500	\$10,000	\$600,000

V.B.2.c. Ability to Leverage. A key tool used by WDNR to leverage dollars is “green team” meetings with federal, state, and local government staff, along with potential developers. Staff from state agencies meet with communities and private parties to discuss options and strategies for challenging properties. WDNR helps identify a package of financial resources from multiple private and public contributors to maximize leverage, avoid overlap, and ensure sufficient funds.

A Nov. 2015 study by the UW-Whitewater Financial and Economic Research Council found that \$1 of public assistance for brownfields leverages \$27.25 in total public/private investment in Wisconsin. It also found that \$3,000 in grant dollars created one job (UW-Whitewater FERC, Wis. Brownfields Impact Report, 2015). These leverage ratios are very high compared to other similar studies and national statistics. *Other Factors: leveraging commitments; Regional Priority: Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields*

\$1 million in state brownfields funding is provided to local governments and the private sector each year through the Wis. Economic Development Corporation’s (WEDC) Brownfield Site Assessment grant program. WDNR and WEDC work together to provide projects with both site assessment funds and RLF funds. WEDC typically allows EPA funds to be used by communities as part of their required match, thereby enhancing the leveraged value of the federal dollars.

One recent example of exceptional investment leveraging is the Royster Clark property, a 27-acre former fertilizer manufacturer situated in a residential neighborhood. A \$1.5 million loan from WDNR’s RLF helped fund the demolition of 100,000 sq. ft. of structures and the removal of 6.5 acres of pavement and cleanup of contamination. Green and sustainable remediation strategies were used when 60,000 tons of nitrogen contaminated soil were removed and reused on local farm fields. The RLF loan leveraged \$452,000 from the state’s petroleum cleanup fund, \$425,000 from the city of Madison, \$400,000 from WEDC, and \$295,000 from the state’s agricultural cleanup program. A developer purchased the property and has begun developing for mixed-use, which is expected to add \$40 million to the tax base and generate 458 full-time office jobs with a payroll of \$2.6 million, plus 40 full-time and 55 part-time retail positions. The development includes 70 lower-income apartments and a public library. *Other Factors: leveraging commitments; Regional Priority: Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields*

Assessment projects also help leverage delinquent property tax forgiveness. New Market Tax Credits are also leveraged, positively impacting brownfield remediation and redevelopment. For

example, WDNR partner First-Ring Industrial Redevelopment Enterprise in southeastern Wisconsin has been allocated \$193 million and has given out over \$120 million in New Market credits for economic development financing in low-income industrial neighborhoods. Further, Wisconsin's tax incremental financing laws assist brownfield remediation and renewal. Local governments in Wisconsin have created 20 environmental TIFs for brownfields.

V.B.3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

V.B.3.a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community, Stakeholders; Communicating Progress

i. Community Involvement Plan. WBC's "target community" for its Assessment program includes rural and urban areas with sensitive and disenfranchised populations. It is a statewide program and no projects are pre-selected. This section describes WBC's general plan to engage the target community to: 1) plan and implement the program, (2) seek out and consider residents' concerns about potential cleanups and ensure activities are protective, and (3) communicate progress.

WDNR will promote availability of EPA Assessment funds during its statewide Consultants' Day and Local Government Day conferences, identifying the target community criteria. WDNR will disseminate program information through the newsletters, websites and social media outlets of WBC members, state/local governments, stakeholders and community-based organizations. WDNR has excellent relationships with local governments. This helps identify priority projects, expeditiously award assessment funds, and ensure community involvement as well as completion.

Once WBC works with its partners to identify sites for assessment, WDNR will address any communication barriers that arise on specific sites. To ensure all interested and affected individuals are engaged, WDNR will work collaboratively with community partners, some of which are identified in section V.B.3.c., to provide appropriate resources whenever cultural or language barriers exist. WDNR offers multi-lingual signs for site-warning, and has resources for interpretation and translation to convert documents and web text to Spanish and Hmong. Further, many state health information publications are available in English, Hmong, and Spanish. WDNR meets with communities and impacted residents, and brings together appropriate state agencies as well as federal agency resources to discuss the technical, financial, liability, and health issues associated with specific sites. WDNR and its partners conduct over 100 such meetings a year with local governments. WBC will also encourage awardees to hire local graduates from EPA's brownfields job training program, whenever possible, to assist on assessment projects.

ii. Communicating Progress. WBC and WDNR have an excellent record of tracking and measuring the success of the state's brownfields initiative. WDNR will ensure that the ACRES property profile for each project is completed on time. In addition, WDNR will report quarterly to EPA on the milestone achievements made in cooperative agreement implementation. Brownfields program accomplishments will be reported semi-annually through 128(a) reports. As part of the assessment work plan, WDNR will report overall grant outputs, such as the numbers of Phase I and II assessments, remedial action plans, and site investigations completed. Specific grant outputs and outcomes will be reported to EPA, such as acres assessed, funds leveraged, and sustainable practices implemented. These will be tracked by the WDNR cooperative agreement manager. Reporting will be a condition of any service awards given to a local government. Finally, WDNR's brownfields assessment webpages and the WBC members' webpages will market the initiative, track its progress, and communicate its successes. WDNR

will issue news releases and success stories based on awarded services, and will distribute via web and the RR Report, an e-newsletter with 3,200 subscribers. All work will be tracked in WDNR's Contaminated Lands Environmental Action Network database. Further, a Wisconsin Plant Recovery Initiative plant closing spreadsheet is used to track sites and assistance provided.

V.B.3.b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

i. State Environmental Authority. WDNR is a national leader on the issue of brownfield cleanup and redevelopment. WDNR's One Clean-up Program with EPA merges state and federal requirements into a comprehensive, streamlined system that creates savings and efficiencies. No other state has the same far-reaching agreement with EPA. As the lead coalition member, WDNR will provide technical expertise to ensure that investigation, cleanup, and redevelopment meets all applicable public health and environmental laws, through oversight provided by the Remediation and Redevelopment program. In addition, WDNR will direct assessment contractor services performed by environmental consultants to ensure a quality product, and will present findings to the community and help determine next steps. WDNR reviews and provides approval at specific points during assessment and cleanup, such as at the site investigation stage, remedial action plan stage, and at completion of the remedial action. WDNR will ensure that state and federal public involvement requirements are met so that the public is informed and engaged.

ii. Other Governmental Partnerships. Since its creation, WBC has operated as a cooperative venture with the support and assistance of numerous other state, federal, and local government partners including: **1) Wis. Dept. of Health Services (DHS).** WBC works with local and state public health officials to ensure that cleanup and redevelopment activities are protective of public health and the environment. WBC works closely with DHS staff, who provide a number of environmental health services, including health consultations, public health fact sheets, and outreach resources; **2) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).** ATSDR staff supports WDNR's brownfield efforts. ATSDR, in conjunction with local partners, published "*Building Healthy Communities: A Baseline Characterization of Milwaukee's 30th Street Corridor.*" This report documents "baseline conditions" in the Corridor, so local entities can quantify quality of life improvements as brownfields are revitalized in this economically depressed and socially disenfranchised area. Both ATSDR and DHS have conducted more than 100 public health assessments for WDNR.

WBC also works collaboratively on brownfields with other state agencies, such as the **Wis. Economic Dev. Corp., Wis. Housing & Economic Development Authority, and Depts. of Administration and Transportation.** The state, local governments, EPA, and potential developers work together to access multi-source financial incentives and assist projects. The nine **Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs)** provide planning and development assistance to local governments. The RPCs and WDNR meet quarterly to discuss potential assessment sites and emerging brownfields issues in Wisconsin, and to stay up-to-date on current projects.

V.B.3.c. Partnerships with Community Organizations

i. Community Organization Description & Role. WBC maintains good working relationships with community organizations across the state. WBC will continue to work collaboratively with local civic and nonprofit organizations to promote the brownfields funding programs, identify new sites, and engage local governments and target community populations. The 10 community organizations described below have committed to partner with WBC to implement the Assessment program. Letters of support are included as Attachment E.

The **Wisconsin Economic Dev. Corp.** is a public-private entity that promotes business development and economic growth in Wisconsin. WEDC has limited state grants which will be leveraged by federal Assessment and RLF. They also promote the Assessment program through their connections with communities, businesses, and developers. The **Brownfields Study Group** is a statewide stakeholder group of brownfields professionals who have been actively involved in developing and improving the state's brownfields initiative for almost 20 years. They will continue to promote the WBC Assessment and RLF programs, leverage funding, and advise the WBC on program implementation. **Menomonee Valley Partners** is a non-profit economic development group. They have remediated 300 acres of brownfields to create thousands of jobs. They will continue to identify Assessment projects, leverage funding, and facilitate outreach on specific projects. In addition to working with businesses, MVP has facilitated meetings about green space and WDNR state trail projects in the Valley. **First-Ring Industrial Redevelopment Enterprise** works on redeveloping industrial land in the older Milwaukee suburbs and will continue to help developers and local governments to identify WBC Assessment opportunities and leverage funds including their New Market Tax Credits. **New North** is a regional economic development organization that works in the 18 counties of Northeast WI. They will help WBC promote the Assessment program to the public and private sector. The **16th Street Community Health Center** serves lower income Latino families in Milwaukee. Their environmental health department has collaborated with WDNR on many brownfields cleanup projects that affect the health and quality of life of families they serve. 16th Street has committed to cooperate with the WBC to find Assessment projects and leverage funding. **Madison Region Economic Partnership**, the **Center for Resilient Cities**, and the **30th Street Industrial Corridor** are non-profits that have also worked with the state to conduct outreach to communities on brownfields and to promote use of Assessment funds to assist with economic and community development projects. The Corridor hosted meetings and has been a key partner on the cleanup of Tower Automotive/Century City, a major brownfield that received both Assessment and RLF funds from WDNR. The **Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha** hosted a public meeting about the cleanup and redevelopment of the Chrysler Engine plant, which received WDNR Assessment and RLF funds. The Club will provide assistance with community involvement as cleanup of the plant continues. They also have an interest in the Assessment grant because their property is next to the former Zizzo scrap yard (Table 1).

V.B.4. Project Benefits

V.B.4.a. Health and/or Welfare and Environmental Benefits

i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits. EPA funding guarantees that more contaminated properties in Wisconsin are assessed and cleaned up over the next 3 years, thereby preventing numerous public health exposures. A state-funded assessment grant program that WDNR previously ran assisted 474 sites. Over 90% of sites were within 500 feet of a school, park or residence. On average 75% of the sites had an environmental issue (e.g., direct contact) or physical hazard (e.g., blighted building, evidence of trespassing). Federal funds will be similarly used.

All of the assessment sites used to illustrate Wisconsin's need for funding in this proposal are in close proximity to sensitive populations, including minorities, lower-income residents, children and elderly. WBC works with local and state public health officials to ensure that assessment, clean-up, and redevelopment activities are protective of public health and the environment. WDNR has an excellent relationship with the Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services. Their staff

provides a number of services, including: 1) on-site and written, site-specific health “consultations” on exposure conditions at contaminated sites and those undergoing remediation; 2) consultation with state agencies and local officials on chemical-specific (e.g., lead and arsenic) or exposure pathway (e.g. vapor intrusion) risks and how they impact cleanup and redevelopment; and 3) presence at public meetings to answer questions on health impacts. State and local health officials are often part of the community assistance team at brownfields sites.

ii. Environmental Benefits. All brownfields projects are located on infill sites that have advantages as an alternative to sprawl, including re-use of existing infrastructure, and locating jobs closer to the unemployed workforce. A Nov. 2015 report quantified three specific smart growth benefits in Wisconsin: 1) there were 7,900 dwelling units complete or underway on financially-assisted brownfield sites, all representing infill redevelopment that otherwise may have been built as greenfield/sprawl; 2) Wisconsin’s assisted brownfield reuse projects are reducing vehicle miles traveled by at least 16 to 28 percent relative to alternative growth patterns; and 3) these projects help preserve farms and natural areas, estimated at 12,000 acres “saved,” measured cumulatively over the 16-year life of the state and federal incentives.

V.B.4.b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

i. Planning, Policies & Other Tools. WDNR codified its commitment to sustainability in all aspects of brownfields projects through its Wisconsin Initiative for Sustainable Remediation and Redevelopment. WDNR administrative rules (Wis. Admin. § NR 722.09(2)(e)(2m)) require responsible and voluntary parties to assess the applicability of sustainable practices and technologies in various stages of their projects – ranging from procurement to remediation and all the way through redevelopment. To aid this effort, the state has produced a Green and Sustainable Remediation Manual and a Site-Specific Sustainability Analysis fact sheet. These materials give environmental professionals information to incorporate green practices into their plans.

ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles. Livability Principles are incorporated into WBC’s assessment and RLF programs. Project application criteria include: 1) leveraging additional assessment or cleanup funds; 2) maximizing the property to promote infill development, which supports existing communities, supports developments located on or near existing transportation corridors including public transportation and bike routes, and limits greenfield development; 3) working with in-place partnerships between a community and non-profits, developers, and other local groups; and 4) incorporating sustainable reuse and renewable energy into the cleanup and redevelopment. Three recent sites have resulted in development of low-income housing through community partnerships with nonprofit partners. Two sites include much-needed grocery stores, two include new libraries, and another is a hub for green knowledge exchange.

V.B.4.c. Economic and Community Benefits (long-term benefits)

i. Economic Benefits. A Nov. 2015 report prepared by the Fiscal and Economic Research Council at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater found that the state of Wisconsin, local governments, and EPA provided \$162 million to 703 sites for brownfield assessments and cleanups since 1998. This assistance resulted in: 3,393 acres redeveloped; 28 million sq. ft. of new and renovated industrial, commercial and residential space; and \$3.3 billion in direct total investment in brownfield reuse projects connected with these 703 sites. A “key finding” of the study is that “economically disadvantaged areas received more assistance than prosperous areas.”

The study concludes that \$1 of assistance for brownfields leverages \$27.25 in total funds.
Regional Priority: Coordinated Public Funding for Brownfields

ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs. A Nov. 2015 report prepared by the Fiscal and Economic Research Council at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater identified 38,600 direct permanent jobs created or retained at 703 brownfield sites assisted with state, local, and EPA funds. It also found that 12,400 permanent jobs were generated in census tracts ranking below 80% of the state median unemployment rate. The study determined that \$3,000 in brownfields funding leverages one job (many of which are local). WDNR partners with the Wis. Dept. of Workforce Development to respond to and mitigate environmental issues and job loss in communities affected by manufacturing closures.

V.B.5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

V.B.5.a. Programmatic Capability. Wisconsin's 72 counties include 1,851 municipalities. WDNR has overseen or conducted environmental response actions in 1,774 municipalities. WBC has successfully implemented 3 other EPA assessment grants awarded in 2009, 2012, and 2013. WDNR's Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program will manage this grant for WBC and will follow sound fiscal practices. Assessment services will be awarded and tracked by staff with extensive experience managing loan and grant programs. Christine Haag, Chief of the Brownfields and Outreach Section at WDNR, is the Program Coordinator for this grant. Ms. Haag has 14 years of experience with natural resource management, including management of multi-million dollar federal cooperative agreements and state grants, plus extensive experience managing local government partnerships. Ms. Haag has successfully managed WDNR's 3 RLF and 2 Assessment grants. Tom Coogan, WDNR fund manager for the grant, has 10 years of experience managing federal environmental grants. Shelley Fox, the RR Program's brownfields grant manager, has 16 years of fiscal experience, and dedicates her efforts to tracking funds and ensuring the program adheres to state and EPA's financial regulations. Darsi Foss, RR Program Director, will provide further oversight and expertise. Ms. Foss has worked for EPA and WDNR since 1985. She has 16 years of experience administering EPA cooperative agreements, and 14 years of experience administering brownfields funds to local governments. WDNR's 70 hydrogeologists will provide technical oversight of each assessment project. WDNR will use the fiscal and program management system already in place for its brownfields assessment program to administer the project selection, contracting, and reporting of EPA funds. The RR Program is supported by the bureaus of Finance, Management and Budget, and has legal counsel assigned solely to support RR.

WBC proposes to use these funds similarly to EPA brownfields assessment funds awarded to WBC in 2009, 2012, and 2013. Applications, scoring sheets, sample contracts and agreements, and reporting forms and systems are already in place. WDNR completed a public procurement process to select three environmental consultants to perform the targeted assessments funded through previous EPA awards, and will follow procurement rules if funds are awarded.

V.B.5.b. Audit Findings. OMB Circular A-133 Audit findings are positive. The Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau conducts the OMB Circular A-133 single audit of WDNR at the end of each state fiscal year. LAB's most recent audit (March 2015) for fiscal year 2013-14 did not contain adverse findings. WDNR has not been required to comply with special "high risk" terms and conditions under agency regulations implementing OMB Circular A-102.

V.B.5.c. Past Performance and Accomplishments

i. Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA Brownfield Grant

1. Compliance with grant requirements. WDNR's Remediation and Redevelopment program has managed federal grants for more than 18 years. Currently, the program manages 14 federal grants with a total annual budget of over \$7 million. The 5 most recent EPA brownfields grants include annual 128(a) program funds, RLF grants totaling \$3 million awarded in 2012 and 2014, and assessment grants totaling \$1.1 million in 2012 and 2013.

WBC has a record of effectively using federal funds within the terms of the grant agreement. WDNR fully expended the \$1 million in assessment funds awarded in 2009 and closed the agreement with no funds remaining. WDNR spent \$500,000 in assessment funds awarded in 2012 and will close the agreement on time. WDNR has spent or obligated the \$600,000 awarded in 2013. Since 2004, WDNR has received \$10,245,000 in EPA RLF funding. WDNR fully expended the \$7,245,000 awarded in RLF BF96560601 and will close out the cooperative agreement on time. WDNR's second RLF, BF96560602, awarded \$1,600,000; all of these funds are either spent or obligated through subgrants and loans. WDNR's RLF BF00E01344, awarded in 2014, includes \$1,400,000 of which \$508,270 has been contractually obligated.

WBC has completed the following for each grant: (1) quarterly, semi-annual, and annual progress reports required per grant conditions; (2) semi-annual MBE/WBE reports; (3) brownfields reporting measures required through grant conditions; and (4) annual Financial Status Reports (FSRs) required per grant conditions, often on a more frequent quarterly basis. WDNR has entered the required property profiles into ACRES.

2. Accomplishments. With \$2,100,000 in assessment funds in 2009, 2012, and 2013, the WBC completed 32 Phase I and 34 Phase II assessments, 24 Site Investigations, outreach activities (e.g., web site, open house, publications), and has 2 additional Phase Is, 3 Phase IIs and 4 site investigations underway. WBC's assessment program is also outcome driven: the former Finish Line Services property in Eagle River (pop. 1,345) was a carburetor manufacturer. The site foreclosed in 2011 and sat vacant. Following Phase I and II assessment using WBC's assessment funds, the site was redeveloped as a business incubator and now houses three businesses and a training center for entrepreneurs. WDNR's 3 RLFs have issued 7 loans and 25 sub-grants to date, plus 5 awards from program income. A RLF subgrant to Prairie du Chien (pop. 5,914) allowed for the cleanup of a gateway site. Following cleanup, a hardware store was constructed resulting in \$1 million increase to tax base and 21 jobs in a rural community where 42.6% of the population is low to moderate income and the median household income is \$13,500 below state average. Outputs and outcomes are documented in project reports, and are recorded in ACRES.

With the 2009, 2012, and 2013 EPA assessment funds, WBC approved 51 project sites in 39 communities. Twenty seven (69%) of these have a population less than 10,000 people. Another five (13%) have a population of 10,000-20,000. With these funds, WBC also completed environmental assessment at closed manufacturing sites in urban areas with disadvantaged and sensitive populations, including Century City in Milwaukee and the Chrysler Engine Plant in Kenosha. EPA assessment funds for these projects have leveraged local, state, and private investment, spurred cleanup, and provided a catalyst for community involvement. *Other factor: Community population is 10,000 or less. Regional Priority: Coordinated public funding for brownfields.*

ATTACHMENT A: Threshold Documentation

III.C. Threshold Criteria for Assessment Grants

III.C.1. Applicant Eligibility

The Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC) is the applicant for this \$600,000 coalition assessment grant: \$480,000 in hazardous substance and \$120,000 in petroleum funds. The WBC consists of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), as the cooperative agreement administrator, and nine Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs): Bay-Lake, Capital Area, Mississippi River, North Central, Southwestern Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin, Northwest, West Central Wisconsin, and East Central Regional Planning Commissions. The state legislature created the WDNR in 1967. The WBC is submitting the Wisconsin executive orders that created the RPCs as eligibility documentation in Attachment B. Letters documenting RPC membership in the WBC are in Attachment E.

III.C.2. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

Not applicable because the State of Wisconsin, through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, is the applicant.

III.C.3. Community Involvement

WBC's "target community" for its Wisconsin Assessment Monies (WAM) program includes small, rural communities and central-city neighborhoods in larger urban areas with sensitive populations. Since WAM is a statewide program, no projects have been pre-selected.

If funded, the WDNR will host statewide information sessions on WAM as part of our Consultant's Day and Local Governments Day conferences, announcing the availability of funds and identifying the target community assessment services criteria. The WDNR will disseminate WAM information through the newsletters, websites and social media outlets of state/local governments, stakeholders and community-based organizations. The WDNR maintains an e-newsletter mailing list of approximately 3,200 individuals who have opted-in to receive regular updates on brownfield remediation and redevelopment activities. The list includes local government officials, consultants, community groups and media outlets. Between 12 and 20 brownfield e-newsletters get delivered each year, and many of them include information on brownfield assessment and cleanup funding opportunities made possible by the EPA ARC grants. The WDNR issues geo-targeted media releases each time a new assessment grant is awarded, and posts similar information in its e-newsletter and on its website.

Requests to the WDNR for brownfields assessment services often come from communities. The WDNR hosts more than 60 "Green Team" meetings annually with local officials, community residents and other project sponsors to discuss brownfield assessment and cleanup. The WDNR and the WBC maintain excellent working relationships with local governments in Wisconsin, which help to identify priority projects, expeditiously award WAM funds, and ensure project completion. The Regional Planning Commission WBC coalition partners also maintain dedicated web pages that outline brownfield assessment services, which include information in their printed and electronic documents, and talk about WAM in-person with stakeholders and other community leaders.

III.C.4. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility

Not applicable because this is a coalition application for a state/community-wide assessment grant.

**ATTACHMENT B: Documentation of Applicant Eligibility
Wisconsin's Regional Planning Commissions**

Members of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition

The Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition members include the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and nine of the state's Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs). These RPCs were established pursuant to s. 66.0309, Wis. Stats., and perform planning, coordination and outreach functions for all of Wisconsin's 72 counties and five tribal nations. Copies of the Executive Orders that created the RPCs are attached.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission

Richard Heath, Executive Director
425 South Adams Street, Suite 201
Green Bay, WI 54301

Created in 1972

Counties: Florence, Marinette, Oconto, Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc and Sheboygan

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

Kamran Mesbah, Executive Director
City County Building, Room 362
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703

Created in 2007

County: Dane

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Eric Fowle, Executive Director
400 Ahnaip Street, Suite 100
Menasha, WI 54952

Created in 1972

Counties: Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago and Menominee

Mississippi River Planning Commission

Greg Flogstad, Executive Director
1707 Main Street, Suite 240
La Crosse, WI 54601

Created in 1964

Counties: Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Tremplealeau, Vernon

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Dennis Lawrence, Executive Director

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210

Wausau, WI 54403

Created in 1973

Counties: Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas and Wood

Northwest Regional Planning Commission

Myron Schuster, Executive Director

1400 S. River St.

Spooner, WI 54801

Created in 1959

Counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor and Washburn

Tribal Nations: Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac Du Flambeau, Red Cliff and St. Croix

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Kenneth R. Yunker, Executive Director

W239 N1812 Rockwood Dr.

PO Box 1607

Waukesha, WI 53187-1607

Created in 1960

Counties: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha

Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Lawrence T Ward, Jr., Executive Director

One University Plaza

719 Pioneer Tower

Platteville, WI 53818

Created in 1970

Counties: Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Lynn Nelson, Executive Director

800 Wisconsin Street, Mail Box 9

Building D2-401

Eau Claire, WI 54703-3606

Created in 1971

Counties: Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, St. Croix

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The State of Wisconsin



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 35

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (a) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the Bay-Lakes Regional Planning Commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto and Sheboygan.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 21st day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two.



Patrick J. Lucey
 PATRICK J. LUCEY
 GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

[Signature]
 SECRETARY OF STATE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 63

THERE IS HEREBY ADDED, to the membership of the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission the county of Florence. Such county is to be entitled to all the benefits and responsibilities of other member counties of the Commission.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison, this first day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three.



Patrick J. Lucey
PATRICK J. LUCEY
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

W. Zimmerman
Secretary of State

Received Time Jan. 9. 4:37PM



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER # 197

**Relating to the Creation of the
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission**

WISCONSIN STATE

MAY 08 2007

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WHEREAS, Wisconsin identified the need to address land use, water quality, transportation and environmental issues on a regional basis more than 40 years ago by authorizing the creation of regional planning commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Dane County Regional Planning Commission was created in 1970 by Governor Warren Knowles' Executive Order # 22, and was dissolved in 2002 by Governor Scott McCallum's Executive Order # 52; and

WHEREAS, local governments need to work together to meet challenges that transcend municipal boundaries and effectively protect the natural resources and beauty of the capital area, as well as promote economic growth and sound land development practices; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 66.0309 (2) (b) allows governing bodies of local units of government to petition the State of Wisconsin, requesting the creation of a regional planning commission; and

WHEREAS, governing bodies from local units of government in Dane County representing well in excess of 50% of the population of Dane County and well in excess of 50% of the equalized assessed valuation in Dane County have petitioned Governor Doyle by resolution to create the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, certified copies of the resolutions were filed with the Office of the Governor and have been found to be in proper form; and

WHEREAS, an agreement was reached by local governments in Dane County that represents an excellent example of local cooperation to protect and restore water quality and minimize water quality degradation while promoting economic development and sound land development practices; and

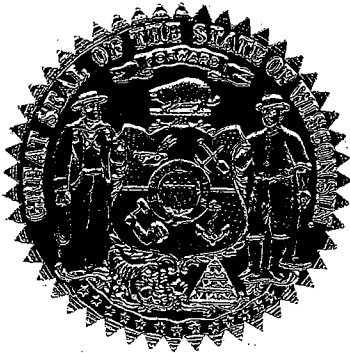
WHEREAS, the resolutions requesting the creation of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission embody an agreement between the local units of government in Dane County that provides for an agency that is capable of developing effective water quality plans for Dane County; establishes a membership plan for the Commission that provides an equitable voice for all Dane County local governments; charges the Commission to develop a Water Quality Plan that will define areas to be protected from development, areas that can be developed with measures to protect, restore or minimize degradation of water quality; and establishes a Budget and Personnel Panel; and

WHEREAS, a hearing was held in Madison on the petitions from the governing bodies on December 20, 2006; and

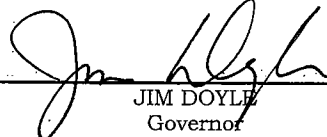
WHEREAS, those citizens that provided public comments at the hearing or in conjunction with the hearing overwhelmingly endorsed the creation of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, and specifically by Wis. Stat. § 66.0309 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create, effective immediately, consistent with Wis. Stat. § 66.0309(2), a regional planning commission to be known as the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission, which shall have jurisdiction in Dane County, as well as the cities of Edgerton, Fitchburg, Madison, Middleton, Monona, Stoughton, Sun Prairie and Verona; the villages of Belleville, Black Earth, Blue Mounds, Brooklyn, Cambridge, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Dane, Deerfield, DeForest, Maple Bluff, Marshall, Mazomanie, McFarland, Mount Horeb, Oregon, Rockdale, Shorewood Hills, Waunakee; and the towns of Albion, Berry, Black Earth, Blooming Grove, Blue Mounds, Bristol, Burke, Christiana, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Dane, Deerfield, Dunkirk, Dunn, Madison, Mazomanie, Medina, Middleton, Montrose, Oregon, Perry, Pleasant Springs, Primrose, Roxbury, Rutland, Springdale, Springfield, Sun Prairie, Vermont, Verona, Vienna, Westport, Windsor, and York;
2. Direct that, consistent with Wis. Stat. § 66.0309(3)(b), the membership of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission shall be in accordance with the resolutions approved by the governing bodies of a majority of the local units of government within Dane County, including the membership plan as it is proposed within the referenced resolutions; and
3. Provide that nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to contravene any applicable state or federal law.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this second day of May in the year two thousand seven.



JIM DOYLE
Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 41

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (2) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Menominee, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison, this twenty-ninth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two.



Patrick J. Lucey
 PATRICK J. LUCEY
 GOVERNOR

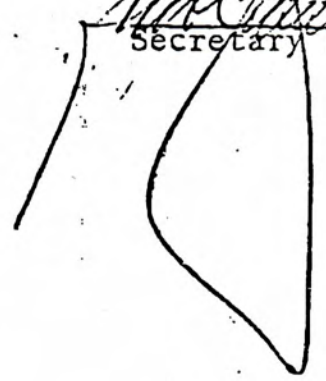
By the Governor:

F A I R I C K J . B L U C E Y
G O V E R N O R

[2]

By the Governor:

William C. Cavanaugh
Secretary of State



Received Time Jan. 11. 1:56PM



EXECUTIVE ORDER

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (2) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission, which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Buffalo, Crawford, La Crosse, Pepin, Pierce, Trempealeau and Vernon.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twenty-seventh day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four.



John W. Reynolds

GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Wade Zimmerman
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 58

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (2)(a) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas and Wood counties.

This order supersedes Executive Order No. 37, dated May 3, 1972.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison, this twenty-fifth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three.



Patrick J. Lucey
PATRICK J. LUCEY
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Secretary of State

Received Time Jan. 10. 1959 2:59 PM
State Archives, WI

EXECUTIVE ORDER

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance
with the provisions of Section 66.945(2) of the
Statutes, a regional planning commission, which
shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Ashland,
Chippewa, Iron and Price.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have
herewith set my hand and
caused the Great Seal of
the State of Wisconsin to
be affixed. Done at the
Capital in the City of
Madison this second day of
January in the year of our
Lord one thousand nine
hundred and fifty-nine.



Leamon W. Thompson
GOVERNOR

W. C. Zimmerman
Secretary of State

**Wisconsin Governor Executive Order
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
August 8, 1960**

The attached is a photocopy of an Executive Order issued by Wisconsin Governor Gaylord A. Nelson on August 8, 1960 establishing the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The original is in the Executive Record maintained by the Wisconsin Secretary of State and preserved in the Wisconsin Historical Society's Archives. This executive order is located in Volume 10 on page 445.

Jonathan Nelson
Archivist
Wisconsin Historical Society



EXECUTIVE ORDER

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (2) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission, which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty.



ROBERT A. NELSON
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

ROBERT C. ZIMMERMAN
Secretary of State



EXECUTIVE ORDER - No. 18

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (a) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 13th day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy.



Walter D. Burdick
 GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Walter D. Burdick
 Secretary of State



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk and St. Croix.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.



[Handwritten signature]



Patrick J. Lucy
PATRICK J. LUCY
GOVERNOR

[2]

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Patrick J. Lucy
SECRETARY OF STATE

Received Time Jan. 11. 2:07PM



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall be known as the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk and St. Croix.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.





Patrick J. Lucy
PATRICK J. LUCY
GOVERNOR

[2]

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Patrick J. Lucy
SECRETARY OF STATE

Received Time Jan. 11. 2:07PM

Attachment C: Letters of Commitment from Community-Based Organizations

Organization	Organization Type	Project Role
Wis. Economic Development Corporation	Public-private economic development agency	Leveraging, outreach, site identification
The Corridor	Non-profit economic/community development	Outreach, community meetings, site identification, leverage identification
Brownfields Study Group	Independent Advisory Group	Outreach, programmatic guidance, site identification, funding identification
MadREP (Thrive)	Non-profit economic development	Outreach, site identification
Menomonee Valley Partners	Non-profit economic development	Leverage, outreach, site identification
16th Street Community Health Center	Non-profit health provider and comm. development	Outreach, community meetings, site id
FIRE - First-ring Industrial Redevelopment Enterprise	Non-profit economic development	Leverage identification and site identification
New North	Non-profit economic development	Outreach, site identification, information resource for business owners
Center for Resilient Cities	Non-profit environmental/community development	Outreach, site identification
Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha	Non-profit community development, neighborhood social services	Outreach, community meetings, site identification

November 12, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Secretary Stepp:

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) supports the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition in its efforts to apply for additional Environmental Protection Agency brownfield assessment funds for the state of Wisconsin. WEDC shares the mutual goal of addressing the environmental issues at closed and closing manufacturing plants to return properties to productive use.

WEDC commits to continue working with the WDNR to identify brownfield manufacturing sites, and to leverage our respective state and federal funds when possible to gain both the economic and environmental benefits of redevelopment. In particular, WEDC has \$1,000,000 in state assessment funds and \$3,500,000 in state brownfield grant funds for demolition, investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties. Additionally, WEDC developed a program in which municipalities may receive funding for the redevelopment of large vacant industrial or commercial properties which prove challenging to redevelopment by the private sector alone. In most cases, these properties exhibit soil and/or groundwater contamination and require both private and public sector resources to succeed.

WEDC values the partnership created with the WDNR and fully supports the efforts being made to obtain the additional funding needed to assure the reuse and redevelopment problem properties.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Hogan
Secretary/CEO



201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703

P.O. Box 1687
Madison, WI 53701

608.210.6700
855-INWIBIZ
inwisconsin.com



December 14, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields Funding Request

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of the 30th Street Industrial Corridor Corp. [The Corridor], I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities across the state, and those served by The Corridor, to address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

The Corridor is a 20+ year old nonprofit organization that works to restore and maintain the economic vitality of the area and to stimulate economic growth in the community. The Corridor works to retain businesses and foster expansion in the area, resulting in family-supporting jobs. The location is in a particularly challenging area of Milwaukee, where poverty and unemployment are much higher than the city average. The area struggles with environmental contamination due to having the most current and former industrial sites. Esser Paint and Tower Automotive (Century City) are fairly well-known contaminated sites. Thanks to our close work with the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition, brownfield redevelopment is indeed working in the 30th Street corridor and we hope it catalyzes further development in the area! Our united efforts help to best serve a community that needs jobs to rise above poverty.

If funds are awarded, The Corridor is looking forward to working with the WBC to:

- Provide outreach support to the general public and potential assessment funding users
- Refer potential brownfields sites where funding could be used and
- Host or facilitate public meetings about specific site cleanup and redevelopment issues

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the recovery after manufacturing sites close and remediation and redevelopment of brownfield properties will help promote the creation of family supporting jobs in an area of greatest need. Redevelopment also complements the City of Milwaukee's \$35 million investment in Century City, by allowing nearby properties to access brownfield funds. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.



Please feel free to contact me at gloria@theCorridor-mke.org or 414.587.8719 if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gloria Stearns', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Gloria Stearns
Executive Director
30th St Industrial Corridor/BID #37



WISCONSIN

BROWNFIELDS STUDY GROUP

since 1998

MEMBERS

John Antaramian
ECC Corp

Karen Dettmer
City of Milwaukee

Nancy Frank
UW-Milwaukee

Adam Gallagher
Dane County

Benjamin Gramling
Sixteenth Street
Community Health Center

Karen Harkness
City of Appleton

Arthur Harrington
Godfrey & Kahn

Bruce Keyes
Foley & Lardner

Dave Misky
Co-Chair
City of Milwaukee

Mary Panzer
Panzer Public Affairs
Consulting

Laurie Parsons
Natural Resource
Technology, Inc.

Geoff Siemering
UW-Madison

John Stibal
City of West Allis

Michael Strigel
Gathering Waters

Mark Thimke
Co-Chair
Foley & Lardner

Sam Tobias
Fond du Lac County

Lucas Vebber
WMC

Scott Wilson
Ayes Associates

December 7, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street
Post Office Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Letter of Support for the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition's Request for
U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Funds

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Brownfields Study Group, I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's application for \$600,000 in U.S. EPA funds to assess brownfield sites in Wisconsin. This grant will allow the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("WDNR") to assist numerous struggling communities and kick-start renewal efforts.

The Brownfields Study Group was created in 1998 at the direction of the governor and state legislature as an independent, external task force to evaluate Wisconsin's brownfields initiatives and recommend changes, as well as propose additional incentives for cleanup and reuse of brownfields. The Brownfields Study Group members include representatives from local government units, environmental consulting firms, state government agencies, universities, and non-profits.

The Brownfields Study Group will support WDNR by:

- Connecting local governments and WDNR with leveraging opportunities;
- Providing outreach to communities and business regarding the program;
- Encouraging participation in public events related to the funding;
- Notifying WDNR about proposed redevelopment projects; and more.

The Brownfields Study Group knows these funds are crucial to many communities in Wisconsin, and strongly encourages U.S. EPA to fund this important effort.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Thimke
Foley & Lardner LLP



MADISON REGION ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

December 1, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields Funding Request

Dear Cathy:

On behalf of the Madison Region Economic Partnership (MadREP), I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) **grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds**. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities served by MadREP address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

MadREP is the regional economic development agency serving south central Wisconsin. This DNR brownfield effort, if funded, would be extremely timely in the Madison region due to the recent plant closing and massive layoff announcements of Kraft-Heinz (1,000 FTE), Tyson Foods (400 FTE), and Monsanto (200 FTE) these past two months. We are working with the property owners, local economic development and community officials to reposition these properties that are all likely to include brownfield issues.

If funds are awarded, MadREP will work with the WBC to market and position these EPA assessment dollars to the communities and economic development and commercial real estate professionals throughout our 8-county region, particularly targeting the properties identified above.

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the remediation and redevelopment of closed manufacturing sites will promote the removal of underutilized or idle industrial sites in our communities, the potential creation of new public spaces, job creation and tax base, and address environmental justice and potential public health issues. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA) and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.

Please feel free to contact me at 608.571.0401 or pjadin@madisonregion.org if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Jadin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being more prominent than the last name "Jadin".

Paul Jadin, CEO



President
Mick Hatch
Foley & Lardner LLP

December 4, 2015

Vice-President
Julie Penman
Penman Consulting

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

Secretary
Michele Bria, Ph.D.
Journey House

Treasurer
Jeff Morgan
Allied Insulation Supply Company

RE: Letter of Support - Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields Funding Request

Members
Rana Altenburg
Marquette University

Dear Secretary Stepp:

Earl Buford
Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

On behalf of Menomonee Valley Partners, Inc, I am writing in support of the **Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds**. The \$600,000 support that the WBC is seeking will help Wisconsin communities address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

Dave Cieslewicz
Wisconsin Bike Fed

Through the support of the Wisconsin DNR, we have transformed the Menomonee Valley, a 1200-acre industrial valley that was once commonly referred to as "Wisconsin's largest eyesore," into what our state and elected officials now call "one of the best opportunities to create jobs in Wisconsin."

Bill Davidson
Harley-Davidson Museum

DNR support has demonstrably contributed to our district's economic development, job creation and environmental quality: 300 acres of brownfields have been remediated and redeveloped, allowing 40 new companies to move to the Valley, creating more than 5,000 family-supporting jobs. In addition, brownfield clean-up has led to restoration of the lower Menomonee River, improved wildlife habitat and water quality. The Revolving Loan Fund grant will provide opportunity for additional brownfield sites here and throughout Wisconsin to be revitalized and return value to the community.

Angelo Fallucca
Palermo Villa, Inc.

If funds are awarded, Menomonee Valley Partners will work with the WBC to:

Robert Garvin
We Energies

- Provide outreach support to the public and potential assessment funding users
- Refer potential brownfields sites where funding could be used
- Host or facilitate public meetings about specific site cleanup and redevelopment

Laura Goranson
g.moxie

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with remediation and redevelopment of brownfields will continue to promote economic and sustainable development. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with full support from the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members to address brownfield redevelopment.

Arturo Hernandez
Rexnord

Please feel free to contact me at Corey@RenewTheValley.org or 414-274-4655 if I may be of further assistance.

Shelley Jurewicz
FAB Wisconsin

Sincerely,

Bruce Keyes
Foley & Lardner, LLP

Corey Zettis
Executive Director

Renee Kirnberger
Potawatomi Hotel & Casino

Ghassan Korban
Milwaukee Department of Public Works

Rocky Marcoux
Milwaukee Department of City Development

Pat O'Brien
Milwaukee 7

Pat O'Connor
BMO Harris Bank

Stephanie Omdoll
Potawatomi Business Development Corporation

Sheri Schmit
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Executive Director
Corey Zettis



December 1, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields
Funding Request

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of the Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers (SSCHC), I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities like those served by SSCHC address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

As you know, SSCHC is a federally qualified community health center and the primary health care provider to Milwaukee's Latino south side. In addition to providing high quality health care to our more than 36,000 clients, we operate a nationally recognized Department of Environmental Health that seeks to address the factors in our urban environment that contribute to poor health outcomes and a degraded quality of life. Due to the history of our neighborhoods and their ties to Milwaukee's industrial past, legacy manufacturing sites and plant closings continue to limit the economic opportunities available to our families.

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the recovery after manufacturing sites close and remediation and redevelopment of brownfield properties will help advance important environmental, economic and community objectives that have been established by our Department of Environmental Health. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.

Please feel free to contact Ben Gramling, our Director of Environmental Health, if we can be of any further assistance during the application process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bartkowski", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

John Bartkowski, Dr.PH
President & Chief Executive Officer



FIRE
FIRST-RING INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE
MILWAUKEE • RACINE • KENOSHA

November 24, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields
Funding Request

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of First-Ring Industrial Redevelopment Enterprise, Inc. (FIRE), I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities served by FIRE, address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

FIRE is a not-for-profit Community Development Entity certified by the U.S. Treasury. In that capacity, we have allocated over \$190 million in New Market Tax Credits for economic development financing in southeastern Wisconsin's low-income industrial neighborhoods.

One of the greatest hurdles in the reuse of closed or closing manufacturing facilities is the fear of unknown environmental liability. The environmental remediation cost is also certainly a great deterrent in industrial redevelopment. However, the single paramount impediment is getting an environmental site assessment. We have seen this lack of site assessment knowledge stop far too many worthy projects from getting off the ground.

For closing or closed manufacturing facilities, getting a handle on the cost of environmental remediation allows businesses to begin the critical process of obtaining equity and debt financing. Without this essential environmental site assessment,

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
November 24, 2015
Page 2

economic development in the urban core areas is effectively muted. We continually encounter the lack of Phase II site assessment, deterring industrial revitalization and pushing investors to the suburbs to find readily doable deals. For every one acre of brownfield sites in urban areas that we can revitalize, we can save four greenfield acres from urban sprawl.

If funds are awarded, FIRE is looking forward to working with the WBC to:

- Assist in identifying additional funding sources to support full recovery of sites
- Assist the WBC in identifying sites with need for assessment funding

Providing a funding source for Phase II site assessments not only renews manufacturing sites that are closing or have already been abandoned, but saves land from being developed in exurbia. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.

Please feel free to contact me at (414) 302-8462 if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



John F. Stibal
President

JFS:bjb



New North, Inc.

600 N. Adams St. | Green Bay, WI 54307
920.336.3860 | www.thenewnorth.com

November 25, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields Funding Request

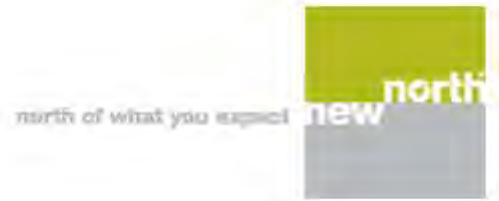
Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of New North, Inc., I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities served by the New North to address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

New North, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, regional marketing and economic development organization fostering collaboration among private and public sector leaders throughout the 18 counties of Northeast Wisconsin, known as the New North region. New North is a regional partner to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and the State of Wisconsin, as well as local economic development partners and represents more than 100 private Investors.

New North works closely with business, communities, & the DNR to repurpose remediated development sites throughout the region.

If funds are awarded, New North, Inc. is looking forward to working with the WBC to Provide outreach support to the general public and potential assessment funding users



New North, Inc.

600 N. Adams St. | Green Bay, WI 54307
920.336.3860 | www.thenewnorth.com

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the recovery after manufacturing sites close and remediation and redevelopment of brownfield properties will help promote economic development and job growth. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.

Please feel free to contact me at [contact information] if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Jerry Murphy
Executive Director
New North, Inc.

OfficersJoe Sensenbrenner, President
Brigid Elliott-Boger, Treasurer
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Development and
Communications DirectorSonya Sankaran
Badger Rock Program SpecialistTou Vang
Administrative AssistantCora White
Badger Rock Neighborhood
Center DirectorVenice Williams
Education Services Coordinator**School Food FOCUS****In-House Partners**Emily Bernstein-Hanlon
Research and Data AssociateFelice Chen
Program Assistant

December 3, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields
Funding Request

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of the Center for Resilient Cities, I am pleased to write in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities served by the Center for Resilient Cities (CRC) address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

CRC envisions a world of resilient cities filled with healthy people in economically thriving neighborhoods, clean air, clean water, green landscapes, and sustainable and just food systems. We cultivate robust and thriving communities that are healthy, just, economically viable and environmentally sound. Revitalization of sites in urban neighborhoods is central to our work. Brownfields assessment funds help organizations like ours ensure the health of people and communities, while addressing the sometimes high cost of necessary assessments.

If funds are awarded, CRC looks forward to working with the WBC in Madison and Milwaukee to provide outreach support to the general public and potential assessment foundering users; host or facilitate public meetings about specific site cleanup and redevelopment issues; and direct community organizations and groups wishing to redevelop brownfields sites to the DNR for potential funding support of their efforts.

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the recovery after manufacturing sites close and remediation and redevelopment of brownfield properties will help promote robust and thriving, environmentally sound communities. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the

Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it unfolds.

Please feel free to contact me at 414.930.4056, x 1, or marcia.catoncampbell@resilientcities.org if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcia Caton Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Marcia Caton Campbell, PhD
Executive Director

**GREAT FUTURES START HERE
IN KENOSHA.**

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President & Chief Volunteer Officer

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Vice President of Finance

Dennis DuChene
Vice President of Support Services

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District Attorney Robert Zapf

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Joseph & Shirley Madrigrano, Sr.
Dennis & Natalie Troha



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF KENOSHA**

NATALIE & DENNIS TROHA FAMILY YOUTH CENTER
JOSEPH & SHIRLEY MADRIGRANO FAMILY SPORTS COMPLEX

12/03/2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St.
Madison, WI 53703

RE: Letter of Support for Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's EPA Brownfields Funding Request

Dear Secretary Stepp:

On behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, I am writing in support of the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's (WBC) grant application for \$600,000 in EPA assessment funds. The \$600,000 in support that the WBC is seeking will help communities served by the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha address the environmental, public health and economic issues associated with the large number of manufacturing sites that have closed in Wisconsin in the last decade.

The BGCK's mission is to inspire, enable and provide resources to all young people of Greater Kenosha to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. The BGCK has three priority outcomes for our members that we focus on through our programs.

- **Academic Success**- Graduate from High School ready for college, trade school, military or employment.
- **Good Character & Citizenship**- Be an engaged citizen involved in the community, register to vote and model strong character.
- **Healthy Lifestyles**- Adopt a healthy diet, practice healthy lifestyle choices and make a lifelong commitment to fitness

If funds are awarded, the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha is looking forward to working with the WBC to:

- Provide outreach support to the general public and potential assessment funding users
- Refer potential brownfields sites where funding could be used
- Assist in identifying additional funding to support full recovery of sites
- Host or facilitate public meetings about specific site cleanup and redevelopment issues

The Wisconsin DNR's effort to assist with the recovery after manufacturing sites close and remediation and redevelopment of brownfield properties will help promote the mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha which will lead to assisting all young people of Greater Kenosha to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. We hope that the WBC's proposal is met with the full support of the US Environmental Protection Agency and we look forward to assisting the Wisconsin DNR and other WBC members in its work as it moves forward.

Please feel free to contact me at 262-620-3066 if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Dennis A DuChene II
Interim Chief Professional Officer



www.bgckenosha.org • info@bgckenosha.org
262.654.8200 • 1330 52nd Street • Kenosha, WI 53140

Attachment D: Committed Leveraged Resources

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)

November 12, 2015

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Secretary Stepp:

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) supports the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition in its efforts to apply for additional Environmental Protection Agency brownfield assessment funds for the state of Wisconsin. WEDC shares the mutual goal of addressing the environmental issues at closed and closing manufacturing plants to return properties to productive use.

WEDC commits to continue working with the WDNR to identify brownfield manufacturing sites, and to leverage our respective state and federal funds when possible to gain both the economic and environmental benefits of redevelopment. In particular, WEDC has \$1,000,000 in state assessment funds and \$3,500,000 in state brownfield grant funds for demolition, investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties. Additionally, WEDC developed a program in which municipalities may receive funding for the redevelopment of large vacant industrial or commercial properties which prove challenging to redevelopment by the private sector alone. In most cases, these properties exhibit soil and/or groundwater contamination and require both private and public sector resources to succeed.

WEDC values the partnership created with the WDNR and fully supports the efforts being made to obtain the additional funding needed to assure the reuse and redevelopment problem properties.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Hogan
Secretary/CEO



201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703

P.O. Box 1687
Madison, WI 53701

608.210.6700
855-INWIBIZ
inwisconsin.com

ATTACHMENT E: Letters of Commitment from Coalition Members

Regional Planning Commission	Contact
Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission	Richard Heath, Executive Director
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission	Kamran Mesbah, Executive Director
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Eric Fowle, Executive Director
Mississippi River Planning Commission	Greg Flogstad, Executive Director
North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Dennis Lawrence, Executive Director
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Myron Schuster, Executive Director
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Kenneth Yunker, Executive Director
Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Larry Ward, Jr., Executive Director
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Lynn Nelson, Executive Director



November 30, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and strongly support the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. The Bay-Lake RPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin in 1972, in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes s.66.0309. The Bay-Lake region encompasses eight-counties comprised of Brown, Door, Florence, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, and Sheboygan counties.

Bay-Lake RPC provides professional planning services in a variety of program areas including: community assistance, transportation, economic development, natural resources, and geographic information systems. The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals as outlined in the *Bay-Lake RPC 20-Year Regional Comprehensive Plan*. More specifically, the funding will: support sound land use management practices; enable local governments to make better use of existing infrastructure; promote quality economic development in urban and rural communities; and help protect citizens from environmental pollutants.

Bay-Lake RPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations to assist with promotion and outreach efforts. Bay-Lake RPC will also help identify locations with the greatest need in the region. One particular location is the former Fabry Glove Manufacturing site in Green Bay. This site is surrounded by residential homes and is ½ mile from the East River (a tributary of the Fox River). These grant funds would go a long way to improving the area and create conditions for community revitalization.

Sincerely,

Cindy J. Wojtczak
Executive Director



November 18, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921



Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. The Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. CARPC represents the following counties: Dane County and all municipalities with territory in Dane County.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. CARPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes (attached).

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways: a) It supports sound land use management; b) It fosters reuse of existing infrastructure; c) It promotes economic development in urban and rural communities; and d) It helps restore our natural resources and protect citizens from contamination.]

CARPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations. CARPC will provide information related to Brownfields opportunities to local units of government as part of our ongoing land use and infrastructure planning work with these communities.

Sincerely,

Kamran Mesbah, PE, AICP
Director of Environmental Resources Planning

November 30, 2015

Ms. Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our Commission's membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. The ECWRPC represents the following member counties: Calumet, Fond du Lac, Menominee, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. The ECWRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin in 1972, in accordance with state statutes (attached).

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways. Our current regional comprehensive plan has the following vision for land use: *"In 2030 in the East Central Wisconsin region, efficient regional land use patterns foster healthy communities, individual community identity, and respect the natural environment"*. The re-use and revitalization of brownfields are a critical element in achieving this vision and the funding which is sought will provide the tools necessary to get us there.

Ms. Darsi Foss
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
November 30, 2015
Page 2

The ECWRPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations by participating in regular conference calls. Furthermore, the ECWRPC will promote the availability of assessment program services to communities within our region; and, will help to identify areas of greatest need/opportunity within the region for brownfield revitalization through our Regional Comprehensive Plan Update process scheduled to begin in 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric W. Fowle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "F".

Eric W. Fowle, AICP
Executive Director

Enclosure



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 41

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED, in accordance with the provisions of Section 66.945 (2) of the Statutes, a regional planning commission which shall have jurisdiction in the counties of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Menominee, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison, this twenty-ninth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two.



Patrick J. Lucey
 PATRICK J. LUCEY
 GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

William W. Zimmerman
 Secretary of State



**MISSISSIPPI RIVER
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

1707 Main Street, Suite 435
La Crosse, WI 54601
Phone: (608) 785-9396
Fax: (608) 785-9394
Email: plan@mrrpc.com
Website: mrrpc.com

James Kuhn, Cashton, WI
Chairman
Margaret Baecker, Independence, WI
Vice Chairman
Vicki Burke, Onalaska, WI
Secretary & Treasurer
Greg Flogstad, Onalaska, WI
Director



November 25, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. The Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission (MRRPC) formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. The MRRPC represents the following counties: Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Trempealeau and Vernon.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. The MRRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes (attached).

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways. A goal in MRRPC's Regional Comprehensive Plan 2014-2034 is to: "Promote the Use of Environmentally Contaminated Sites". The MRRPC supports sound land use management and encourages the reuse of existing infrastructure while restoring natural resources and protecting citizens from harmful contamination.

The MRRPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations. The Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission will promote brownfield assessment program services; help communities identify brownfields that are in economically strategic locations creating conditions for community revitalization; and assist communities in securing funds for environmental remediation of brownfields.

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Planning and Development Issues •Coordinator for Programs and Activities •Advocate on Issues Affecting the Region

Darsi Foss, Director
Page 2
November 25, 2015

Examples of brownfield sites in the MRRPC region that are ideal for development into public use areas are: 1) the Tomah Lumber site in Tomah located adjacent to the Tomah Community Pool; 2) the Webster Hardwoods/Stella Jones site in Bangor located next to the River State Trail and 3) The Sparta Manufacturing Site in Sparta located next to the famous Sparta-Elroy trail. These brownfield sites if developed could become centerpiece public use areas enhancing economic development and improving the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregory Flogstad". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Greg Flogstad, MRRPC Director
Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
Telephone: 715-849-5510 Fax: 715-849-5110
Web Page: www.ncwrpc.org Email: staff@ncwrpc.org



SERVING ADAMS, FOREST, JUNEAU, LANGLADE, LINCOLN, MARATHON, ONEIDA, PORTAGE, VILAS AND WOOD COUNTIES

November 18, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Subject: Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

On behalf of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC), I am submitting this letter to confirm our continued membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC) and express our support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. NCWRPC formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This program helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. NCWRPC has worked with the Wisconsin DNR and coalition members in past efforts and will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations.

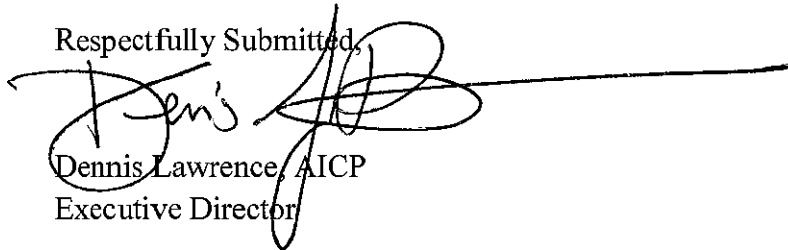
Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. NCWRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes. The NCWRPC represents the following ten counties: Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage Vilas and Wood Counties.

The work that will be achieved with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals as outlined in our Regional Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Some of the specific strategies include: supporting sound land use management; fostering reuse of existing infrastructure; promoting economic development in urban and rural communities; and helping restore our natural resources and protect citizens from contamination.

The assessment program also supports many of the local comprehensive planning, economic development planning, redevelopment planning, and transportation planning efforts we undertake in conjunction with our counties, cities, villages and towns throughout the region. Additionally, the NCWRPC will promote the assessment program within our region, help identify areas of greatest need within our region, identify specific projects for the program, and educate communities about the issues related to brownfields and general strategies to address.

This program is critical to much of the work we do and is an important tool for our local governments. Again, we urge your support of the 2016 Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition grant application.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Lawrence", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and includes a large loop.

Dennis Lawrence, AICP
Executive Director



Northwest Regional Planning Commission

an economic development district

Serving communities within and counties of
**ASHLAND • BAYFIELD • BURNETT
DOUGLAS • IRON • PRICE • RUSK
SAWYER • TAYLOR • WASHBURN**
And the Tribal Nations of
**BAD RIVER • LAC COURTE OREILLES
LAC DU FLAMBEAU • RED CLIFF • ST. CROIX**



November 18, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. NWRPC represents the following counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, and Washburn.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. NWRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes (attached).

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways. NWRPC provides a variety of community and regional services focusing on economic, community and business development, transportation, land use, coastal and environmental services. NWRPC has been able to assist member counties and communities with redevelopment opportunities where past activities have required brownfield related work.

Northwest Regional Planning Commission will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations. Northwest Regional Planning Commission will: promote environmental assessment programs available to communities and others, encourage and assist in potential redevelopment brownfield sites; and be a resource for northwest Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sheldon Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheldon Johnson, Deputy Director
Northwest Regional Planning Commission

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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November 25, 2015

Ms. Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5)
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

We are writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) represents Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties. SEWRPC formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin to provide environmental assessments that help further environmental improvement, community enrichment, and economic growth through the cleanup and redevelopment process.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. SEWRPC was created by an executive order of the Governor, in accordance with *Wisconsin Statutes*.

The work that will be done with these grant funds is a good fit with our regional planning goals for several reasons:

- It supports sound land use management.
- It helps local governments take advantage of existing infrastructures.
- It promotes economic development in urban and rural communities.
- It helps restore natural resources and protects citizens from environmental pollutants.

A specific example of a brownfield site in our Region that is in need of assessment is the Zizzo Scrap Iron and Paper Dealer property in the City of Kenosha. Previous uses of the site include automotive salvage, coal yard, wood furniture manufacturer, heating fuel company, motor cycle dealer and repair shop, and waste disposal company. Potential or known contaminants on the site include mercury, chromium, polychlorinated biphenyls, chlorinated volatile organic compounds, and metals. The site is adjacent to a Boys and Girls Club and there is evidence of people frequenting the property and potentially being

Ms. Foss
November 25, 2015
Page 2

exposed to the hazards present. The site is a good candidate for Phase 1 and 2 environmental site assessments.

In addition, SEWRPC has prepared comprehensive plans for the counties and municipalities of the Region pursuant to *Wisconsin Statutes*. The comprehensive planning process offers an important means of identifying opportunities for brownfields assessment, remediation, and redevelopment and promoting such redevelopment at the local level. The comprehensive plans prepared by SEWRPC have recognized the potential for remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites, have presented inventories of contaminated sites, have recommended consultation with WDNR regarding development or redevelopment of brownfield sites, and have included descriptions of available brownfield assessment and remediation grants.

Comprehensive plans are updated every 10 years and the next round of updates will begin in 2016. When preparing those plans, SEWRPC, in collaboration with the counties and municipalities, will 1) continue to promote brownfield redevelopment; 2) include specific plan goals, objectives, and policies related to redevelopment of brownfields; 3) identify brownfield assessment and redevelopment opportunities to the extent practicable, and 4) and support brownfield remediation and redevelopment in collaboration with WDNR. Taken as a whole, these plan components will assist the counties and communities of the Region in creating conditions for community revitalization and reducing environmental contamination.

We encourage USEPA to support the positive impact that the brownfields assessment services program has had in Wisconsin. SEWRPC pledges to work with WBC members and partner organizations to publicize the program and to identify areas of greatest need, where funds can support the turnaround of distressed properties and create conditions for community revitalization. The SEWRPC staff would be available to assist WDNR and municipalities within the Region in arranging public meetings associated with potential site assessment and /or remediation projects.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Michael G. Hahn, SEWRPC Deputy Director, at (262) 953-3243.

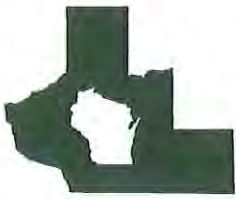
Sincerely,



Kenneth R. Yunker, P.E.
Executive Director

KRY/MGH
#229092 – Coalition Membership

cc: Ms. Elisabeth Olson, WDNR-Madison
Ms. Gena M. Larson, WDNR-Madison
Mr. Thomas J. Coogan, WDNR-Madison
Mr. Jeffrey B. Labahn, City of Kenosha



Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Serving the Counties of Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland
Helping Communities Reach Their Goals



November 20, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant. Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC) formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WBC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvement, community enrichment and economic growth. The SWWRPC represents Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, and Richland Counties in Southwestern Wisconsin.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. SWWRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes (attached).

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways. First, our small communities might gain access to funding to plan and remediate contaminated sites. Second, such actions have been shown to have positive environmental and health benefits for communities. Lastly, reclaimed sites can have positive economic impacts for communities. Our small communities often do not have the administrative capacity to pursue grants and programs out of the norm and SWWRPC serves as grant writer and administrator to these small communities. We also serve as the champion of these small jurisdictions when their interests and needs intersect with State and Federal programs.

SWWRPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations, and we will promote assessment program services, help identify areas of greatest need within our area, especially places where funds can support the turnaround of distressed properties, and we will work with WBC to create conditions for community revitalization.

Sincerely,

Lawrence T Ward, Jr. AICP
Executive Director



An innovative leader in responsible planning and development for over 40 years.

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November 20, 2015

Darsi Foss, Director
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street (RR/5), P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Coalition Membership, Eligibility and Support for the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Foss:

I am writing to confirm our membership in the Wisconsin Brownfields Coalition (WBC), and express enthusiastic support for the WBC's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 FY 2016 brownfields assessment coalition grant, West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission formally agrees to serve as an active and engaged member of the WBC, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

The WCWRPC has a highly successful record of working collaboratively with rural communities and central city neighborhoods across Wisconsin. The coalition delivers completed professional environmental assessments to municipalities that don't have the time, resources, or capacity to undertake this work themselves. This turnkey service helps spur environmental improvements, community enrichment, and economic growth. WCWRPC represents the following counties: Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix.

Our organization is an eligible coalition applicant as a general purpose unit of local government per 40 CFR Sec. 31.3. WCWRPC was created by an executive order of the governor of Wisconsin, in accordance with state statutes.

The work that will be done with these grant funds complements our regional planning goals in several ways:

- 1) Support of sound land use management,
- 2) Encouragement and reuse of existing infrastructure,
- 3) Promotion of economic development, and
- 4) Restoration of natural resources and the protection of our citizens from contamination.

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

800 Wisconsin Street • Building D2-401 • Mail Box 9 • Eau Claire, WI 54703-3606
Phone: 715-836-2918 • Fax: 715-836-2886 • Email: wccwrpc@wccwrpc.org

WCWRPC will continue to work closely with all WBC members and partner organizations. We will also work with units of government and businesses in our area as they seek to assemble projects and address issues with brownfield sites. We will promote assessment services and will identify areas of greatest need that could best utilize the funding with particular emphasis on places where funds can support the turnaround of distressed properties and create conditions for community revitalization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynn Nelson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Lynn Nelson
Executive Director