The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.

Brownfields Redevelopment
Resources for Turning Your
Community's Liabilities Into Assets



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South Carolina Municipal Association 2024 Annual Meeting

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What is a Brownfield?

"Brownfields are real properties for which the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence, or potential presence, of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants."

Common Brownfield Sites

- Former Textile Mills
- Former Service Stations
- Former Landfills



Why take on a Brownfield Project?

To encourage reuse or redevelopment of these sites in lieu of using a "green" site, and to:

- Put abandoned properties back on tax rolls
- Add park and recreational resources
- Create jobs
- Improve communities

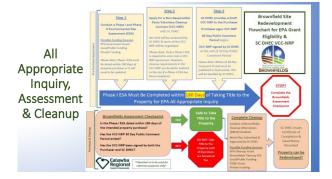


What is CERCLA?

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980
- CERCLA is often referred to as the Superfund Law

Am I Liable for Contamination under CERCLA?

- Owner and operator
- Person who owned or operated at the time of release
- Person who arranged for disposal, treatment, transport
- Person who accepted for disposal, treatment, transport



Questions Break

Where do I start?

SC's Voluntary Cleanup Program

- Allows DHEC involvement and reimbursement of DHEC oversight costs
- Creates incentives to conduct environmental actions at a site
- Liability protection is granted to a Non-Responsible Party if requirements are met
- Application requires a Phase I ESA

SC Brownfields Environmental Site Testing Program (SC BEST)

- \$1 million available for environmental assessments across the state
- Funding allocations based on number of counties and population per region, along with poverty levels
- SC BEST funds are available for the benefit of non-profit, governmental, and private for-profit entities and approved based on the following:
 - Potential economic redevelopment opportunities
 - Potential to identify and eliminate environmental hazards
 - Potential to redevelop a property for public benefit/use
 - Potential to eliminate slum and blight in a community
 - Potential benefit to low-moderate income and/or rural communities

SC BEST Projects

- 44 Sites
- 26 SC Counties
- 1,000+ Acres
- 60+ Environmental Reports issued or underway





SC BEST COG Contacts by Region

- Appalachian Regional COG Jill Francisco
- Berkley-Charleston-Dorchester COG Kristin Migue
- Catawba Regional COG Tyler Lewis
- Central Midlands COG Gregory Sprouse
- Lowcountry COG Tiffany Dantzler
- Lower Savannah COG Emory Langston
- Pee Dee COG Lindsay Privette
- Santee Lynches COG Jeff Parkey
- Upper Savannah COG Rick Green
- Waccamaw Regional COG Rusty Gaskin



SC Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Funds available to finance environmental cleanup and removal activities at brownfields sites across the state. Loan funds are available to non-profit, governmental, and private for-profit borrowers at a below market interest rate. Non-profit and governmental borrowers are eligible to receive loan forgiveness of up to *50% of the loan, to a maximum of \$500,000.* To Date, 28 BCRLF loans and Subgrants have been Closed for \$14.6 Million in Funding, Of that, \$2.1 Million has been forgiven for













Helpful Links & Resources

- EPA Brownfields Website www.epa.gov/brownfields
 - EPA Assessment Grants
 - EPA Cleanup Grants
- New Jersey Institute of Technology www.njit.edu/tab/
 - Assistance with public meetings
 - Assistance with grant application reviews
 - Assistance with procurement process related to brownfield grants
- SC DES VCC Program www.des.sc.gov



"I will prepare and someday my chance will come."

-Abraham Lincoln

"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time."

- Abraham Lincoln

Brownfields Redevelopment

For more information about the SC BEST and RLF programs, please contact: Tyler Lewis: (803) 327-9041; Tlewis@catawbacog.org Robert Hodges: (803) 898-0919;



