



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **Brownfields grants awarded by EPA**

BATON ROUGE – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded approximately \$3.6 million in brownfields grants to Louisiana cities, parishes and organizations today.

Bolstered by funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, communities and organizations in Louisiana can utilize the funds for the cleanup of sites known as “brownfields.” The grants, which include \$200,000 from the Recovery Act and \$3.4 million from the EPA brownfields general program funding, will help revitalize former industrial and commercial sites.

Applicants selected to receive Recovery Act funds:

- City of Alexandria - \$200,000 to conduct environmental site assessments, cleanup planning and support community outreach activities in the downtown area and historical commercial corridors.

Applicants selected to receive brownfields general program funds are:

- Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana - \$200,000 for cleanup at the InterTech Science Park in Shreveport;
- City of Lake Charles - \$200,000 to conduct environmental site assessments and support for community outreach activities;
- City of New Iberia - \$200,000 for cleanup of Timeless Treasures site at 121 Bridge Street;
- Jefferson Parish - \$400,000 for identification of new brownfields locations, and to conduct environmental site assessments and support for community outreach activities;
- Regional Planning Commission - \$400,000 to conduct environmental site assessments for petroleum and hazardous substances and support for community outreach activities; and
- South Central Planning & Development Commission - \$2 million from the revolving loan fund to provide loans and subgrants to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with petroleum and hazardous substances.

Brownfields locations are vacant, abandoned or under-utilized properties where redevelopment may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of environmental contamination. The funding will help to assess, cleanup and revitalize those areas for future use and redevelopment.