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APPENDIX I

FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP  
SUMMARY AND CONTACTS

The following agencies have programs that provide technical and financial assistance to brownfields redevelopment efforts. Agency summaries are provided to establish the missions and background of federal partners as well as their significant contributions to the Brownfields National Partnership. In addition, specific financial, technical, and regulatory programs are described where appropriate.

## U.S. Federal Departments

### U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is a department of twenty-nine agencies that, together, cover a broad spectrum of responsibilities and authorities primarily geared to serving rural communities. The USDA's mission includes supporting the production of agriculture; ensuring a safe, affordable, nutritious, and accessible food supply; caring for agricultural, forest, and range lands; supporting the sound development of rural communities; and providing farm and rural residents with economic opportunities. In this respect, USDA might be likened to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of rural America—bringing levels of resources and technical assistance to rural communities comparable to those HUD brings to urban communities. Moreover, USDA uses Empowerment Zone (EZ) and Enterprise Community (EC) Initiative programs to bring economic redevelopment opportunities to disadvantaged communities in rural settings. Brownfields redevelopment is an issue for USDA because it is an initiative that can help save farmland. By promoting and supporting brownfields redevelopment, USDA strives to prevent prime farmland from being sacrificed, while helping bolster rural economies.

USDA works on the regional and local level through extension offices that can be found in almost every county in the United States. These USDA Service Centers have staff to help connect local efforts to federal resources. USDA builds on existing relationships between the community and USDA Service Center staff to disseminate information about brownfields and those USDA programs applicable to brownfields projects.

While USDA does not offer any grant programs, it supports brownfields and other development initiatives through loan and technical assistance programs. Because USDA is the primary agency working in rural America, such communities are accustomed to this type of financial assistance. Urban communities, on the other hand, typically receive grants from federal agencies more commonly than loans. Few USDA programs can readily be applied to urban proj-

ects, and funding through loans—instead of grants—may not make USDA support as attractive to urban areas. Whereas grants are often used to fund programs, USDA loans programs are used primarily for leveraging resources.

### Financial Assistance

While no USDA programs can be used toward site remediation, funds can be used to assist in the redevelopment of brownfields or the development of a business on brownfields site.

### USDA Urban Resources Partnership

The USDA Urban Resources Partnership employs the services of numerous federal, state, local, and independent stakeholders to address sustainable redevelopment issues in disadvantaged communities. USDA contributes funding, technical assistance, and access to existing resources to redevelopment projects originating at community and neighborhood levels. This partnership focuses on exploring and promoting the creative application of redevelopment of properties and mechanisms to return brownfields to “green” developments.

### Open Space Development and Tree Planting

USDA employs technical assistance and funding from the U.S. Forest Service to coordinate efforts with independent forestry organizations including American Forests, the National Tree Trust, and the National Arbor Day Foundation. Activities are intended to promote sustainable open space development, tree replanting, and the mitigating qualities trees may provide for brownfields remediation practices.

### Business and Industry Guarantee Loans

Business and Industry Guarantee Loans can be used to fund the initiation or development of a business on rural brownfields sites. These loans function much like loans from banks, except USDA offers technical assistance to its borrowers.

### Rural Utilities Service

The Rural Utilities Service lends money to fund infrastructure development or improvements, including those relating to brownfields projects in rural areas.

Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community  
The Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (Rural EZ/EC) program is designed to promote and support economic opportunity, sustainable community development, community-based partnerships, and strategic visions for change. With regard to brownfields, USDA plans to identify those rural EZ/ECs with brownfields pilots and to coordinate federal, state, and local redevelopment efforts. USDA will also award preference points to rural EZ/EC applications that include brownfields pilot sites.

### **Technical Assistance**

#### **State Urban Forestry Coordinators**

USDA uses coordinators within the U.S. Forest Service to promote environmental sustainability in urban development through land and brownfields reuse, conservation of local natural resources, and development of ecologically sensitive transportation infrastructure.

#### **Land-Grant Colleges and Universities**

Land-grant colleges and universities founded under the First Morrill Act of 1862 and the Second Morrill Act of 1890 can provide another source of regional information for brownfields-related issues. Those acts provided funding to establish at least one land-grant institution in each state to ensure the development of agricultural, mining, and other vocational technologies. Thus, land-grant universities may provide further insight into economic and cultural issues as well as strategies for economic and brownfields redevelopment in small or rural communities.

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### U.S. Department of Commerce

The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) promotes job creation, economic growth, and sustainable development through partnerships with businesses, universities, and communities. DOC emphasizes enhancing U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace by bolstering national economic infrastructure, developing innovative technologies, and managing valuable national resources. DOC is able to contribute to the Brownfields Initiative most effectively through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

### Economic Development Administration

The Economic Development Administration is an agency within the Department of Commerce whose purpose is to generate new jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically distressed areas. EDA assistance is available to rural or urban areas experiencing high unemployment, low income, or other severe economic distress. EDA has become a good friend to the Showcase Communities Program. Since 1997, EDA has identified brownfields as strategic priorities for the projects that it funds at the local level. Generally, EDA provides communities with funds to make infrastructure improvement and to begin capitalized revolving loan funds, as well as other forms of support.

To this end, EDA polices do not allow cities without comprehensive long-term planning documents to receive EDA grants or loans. This policy is EDA's way to encourage all cities to develop a comprehensive economic development and land-use strategy. EDA looks to carry this belief further in federal partnerships that are working with communities and local government. Such long-term planning serves many functions in brownfields redevelopment. First, it allows communities to better coordinate the multifaceted local approaches to brownfields. Second, long-term planning allows communities to understand how redevelopment and land use are part of larger goals. Last, and perhaps most important on the local level, communities will be able to better coordinate local, state, regional, and federal resources if they have long-term planning docu-

ments that demonstrate the communities' dedication to methodical redevelopment and their commitment to partnerships broader than just cities.

## Financial Assistance

### Public Works and Development Facilities Program

The Public Works and Development Facilities Program allows EDA to bolster economic development efforts in disadvantaged communities intended to attract local, private sector, and public sector funding for redevelopment projects. In many cases, grant funding is used to develop or revamp deteriorated infrastructure on brownfields sites that are well suited for industrial or commercial redevelopment or both. In addition, this program allows special infrastructure and property enhancements for specific industries as well as job training and creation.

### Economic Adjustment Program

EDA uses the Economic Adjustment Program (Title IX) to provide funding and technical assistance to tailor specific local, regional, and state economic redevelopment strategies in areas that have experienced drastic blows to or have sustained depletion of existing socioeconomic programs and institutions. Cases where Title IX funding is available include, but are not limited to, industrial or military complex closings, population emigration, and natural disasters.

### Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes, and Redevelopment Areas

EDA uses the Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes, and Redevelopment Districts to strengthen local economic bases in disadvantaged areas including Indian communities and designated economic districts. Funding is provided through planning grants to generate and retain jobs as well as to stimulate industrial and commercial growth.

### Planning Program for States and Urban Areas

The Planning Program for States and Urban Areas is the mechanism employed by the EDA to provide distressed urban metropolitan areas as well

as states with funding to encourage widespread economic revitalization. These planning grants encompass inclusive strategies and policies aimed at revitalizing commercial and industrial growth for an intrastate region or an entire state.

#### National and Local Technical Assistance Programs

EDA uses both the National and Local Technical Assistance Programs to provide funding and technical assistance to a broad range of communities and interest groups through state and local governments, educational institutions, and public-private institutions. Assistance and grants are offered to promote economic revitalization through comprehensive planning strategies including sustainable development and brownfields reuse.

#### University Programming

EDA awards grants to colleges and universities to develop programs that stress economic development strategies among private sector markets in local communities.

#### Trade Adjustment Centers

EDA utilizes twelve regional Trade Adjustment Centers to revitalize U.S. corporations that have suffered because of foreign competition and relocation practices. Assistance is offered through cost-shared technical consultation geared to equip firms with innovative economic development strategies in global markets.

#### Defense Economic Conversion

EDA provides specific funding allocations to communities affected by military base closure or downsizing. Military economic conversion goals are used to attract private sector investment by providing an impetus for redevelopment through demolition, rehabilitation, or construction of facilities, as well as through infrastructure improvements.

#### Office of Economic Conversion Information

The Office of Economic Conversion Information (OECI) operates in partnership with Department of Defense to maintain a database of statistics related to defense economic conversion. The OECI

database is a free service and catalogs economic and technological information on existing military facilities, as well as government programming that may be used to revitalize communities affected by downsized or terminated operations.

#### Revolving Loan Funds

EDA offers funding initiatives aimed at promoting community economic redevelopment through private sector investment and job creation. Remitted funding and interest payments are then reinvested within the community to finance continued redevelopment efforts.

#### Research and Evaluation Programs

EDA provides grant funding and enters partnerships through the Research and Evaluation Program to provide concrete data on national economic development trends. Through directed studies, EDA identifies economic development practices that have succeeded and failed as well as strategies to prevent and overcome future development impediments.

#### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association of the Department of Commerce is charged with the mission to conserve and wisely manage the nation's coastal and marine resources. It is in this capacity that NOAA has become involved in brownfields redevelopment by providing funds, resources, and technical assistance to support brownfields development efforts on the local level. NOAA participation in the Brownfields National Partnership also provides an opportunity for the agency to engage in the land-use planning that is necessary to protect aquatic environments.

NOAA does not offer resources for brownfields through a consolidated brownfields program, nor are brownfields issues managed by one particular office within the agency. Rather, existing agency programs and funding have been modified to include brownfields redevelopment. NOAA is promoting such programming to be used to further brownfields redevelopment efforts.

## Financial Assistance

### Coastal Zone Management Program

The Coastal Zone Management Act allows the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management to offer technical and financial assistance in voluntary partnerships with states. The goal of those partnerships is to help states protect and revitalize coastal resources by empowering states to designate the specific uses of federal grants. Funding is typically not sufficient for site redevelopment but serves as seed money for projects such as feasibility studies, site assessments, and master plan development.

### National Marine Fisheries Service and Science Centers

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or “NOAA Fisheries” administers NOAA’s programs which support the domestic and international conservation and management of living marine resources. NMFS provides services and products to support domestic and international fisheries management operations, fisheries development, trade and industry assistance activities, enforcement, protected species and habitat conservation operations, and, through Science Centers offices, the scientific and technical aspects of NOAA’s marine fisheries program.

### National Ocean Service

The National Ocean Service (NOS), the nation’s principal advocate for coastal and ocean stewardship, develops the national foundation for coastal and ocean science, management, response, restoration, and navigation. The National Ocean Service maintains its leadership role in coastal stewardship by bridging the gap between science, management, and public policy in the following areas: healthy coasts, navigation, coastal and ocean science, and coastal hazards.

### Coastal Resource Coordinator Program

The Coastal Resource Coordinator Program engages the Office of Response and Restoration to protect delicate coastal resources from the adverse effects of hazardous contamination that may be linked to brownfields sites. While services are limited to assessing and remediating affected

coastal sites, technical information and remediation strategies may provide insight into brownfields that are responsible for second hand contamination.

### Showcase Community Workshops

The Office of Sustainable Development finances educational programming in appropriate Showcase Communities that is designed to alert stakeholders to the causes, effects, and remedial techniques associated with waterfront brownfields contamination.

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U.S. Department of Defense

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) operates within the Department of Defense and is charged with providing comprehensive engineering, management, and technical support to DoD and other federal agencies, as well as to state and local governments. USACE does not receive a mission-funded budget from Congress but, rather, generates revenue through services rendered. While unable to contribute monies to brownfields redevelopment projects USACE offers technical brownfields assessment, consultation, and service to communities and to other federal agencies. Many of those services focus on waterfront or waterway projects commensurate with USACE's history of waterborne navigation works. However, the agency is developing a new emphasis that balances the creation of public works with the maintenance of livable cities.

**Technical Assistance**

USACE's primary role in the Brownfields National Partnership is to provide technical consultation to brownfields redevelopment projects that require engineering services. USACE fulfills this role by developing comprehensive plans, reviewing and revising civil works policies, maintaining an inventory of formerly used defense sites (FUDS), and offering planning assistance to brownfields pilot communities. Planning assistance includes providing appraisal, title, and deed restriction services; performing market impact studies and cost-benefit analyses; sharing laboratory and field research data; developing environmental and structural frameworks for projects with contractors in pilot communities; and carrying out projects to protect, restore, or create aquatic and ecological habitats related to the disposal of dredged materials.

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U.S. Department of Education  
 The Department of Education (ED) is devoted to improving the overall quality and efficiency of all levels and varieties of U.S. learning institutions. This mandate is most often approached through enforcing national educational standards, regulating federal educational grants, and compiling national statistics through standardized testing and then distributing information to all levels of government. In addition, ED is able to encourage learning initiatives that emphasize emerging and contemporary issues such as sustainable development and brownfields redevelopment.

ED fulfills its commitment to the Brownfields National Partnership primarily through disseminating information on brownfields issues to local primary and secondary educational institutions. However, the Office of Vocational and Adult Education is able to provide more direct assistance with issues that often accompany brownfields and environmental justice problems.

### **Educational Assistance**

#### **School-to-Work Program**

The School-to-Work program allows ED to provide literacy programs, as well as vocational and technical training, to disadvantaged adults in low-income communities. Not only do such programs bolster community confidence, but they also may act as direct avenues to provide brownfields redevelopment training and, in turn, generate jobs and revenue in impoverished communities.

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## U.S. Department of Energy

The Department of Energy (DOE) is the primary scientific and technical research agency regarding national energy, security, and subsequent environmental concerns. In other words, DOE is often affiliated with high-level contamination associated with nuclear energy and weapons facilities. Following recent trends of military downsizing and nuclear disarmament, DOE has made the assessment of environmental quality and public health concerns at underused or unused facilities the top priority of the agency.

DOE contributes to the Brownfields National Partnership by studying, developing, and sharing information as it relates to remediation methodologies and technologies of high-level contamination. Through the experiences that are typically unique to DOE protocol and jurisdiction, brownfields reuse strategies may directly shape or be incorporated into site-specific projects. Finally, DOE is able to contribute funding to research ventures that address efficient energy technologies in land-reuse projects.

**Technical Assistance**

The National Institute for Environmental Renewal DOE has entered into a partnership with the National Institute for Environmental Renewal in an effort to reach multiple levels of stakeholders in energy and related strategies, technologies, and alternatives in brownfields redevelopment.

## Office of Environmental Management

The Office of Environmental Management operates within DOE to fund contamination remediation as well as to research and develop innovative technologies designed specifically for identifying and treating high-level hazardous wastes. In this capacity, DOE is able to rectify hazardous waste issues implicit to historical departmental operations while providing tools to address a broad range of brownfields contaminants.

## Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy/Center for Excellence for Sustainable Development

DOE employs this office to compile, research, and develop resources commonly associated with

sustainable development practices: land-use planning, municipal energy, green development, and ecological industry. Brownfields redevelopment is among core strategies to promote sustainable development.

#### Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs

DOE uses the Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs to coordinate information resources among governments, industries, and communities relating to energy-efficient construction and distribution. Findings of the program are used to develop and implement programs designed to balance energy consumption and waste reduction to promote more energy-efficient buildings, infrastructure, and communities—including practices used and facilities erected during brownfields redevelopment.

#### Office of Industrial Technologies

The Office of Industrial Technologies (OIT) creates partnerships among industry, trade groups, government agencies, and other organizations to research, develop and deliver advanced energy efficiency, renewable energy and pollution prevention technologies for industrial customers.

#### Office of Power Technologies

The Office of Power Technologies (OPT) seeks to develop clean, competitive power technologies including renewable energy (solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass), energy storage, hydrogen, and superconductors. OPT works with members of the power sector on initiatives dedicated to lowering energy costs, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants, and improving the reliability of services.

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U.S. Department of Health  
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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the principal agency for protecting the health of U.S. citizens. HHS has eleven operating divisions and 300 programs that focus on a variety of issues including research, disease prevention, financial assistance, and health care. Two divisions, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), have been particularly engaged in brownfields programming.

#### **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry was created through Superfund 104 legislation to reduce exposure to and to prevent adverse human health effects and the diminished quality of life associated with exposure to hazardous substances from waste sites, unplanned releases, and other sources of pollution. ATSDR activities include public health assessments, applied research, emergency response, and education. ATSDR's brownfields work is administered through the Office of Urban Affairs, which provides leadership in the areas of environmental justice, brownfields, and minority health issues.

#### **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences**

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences strives to reduce human illness through investigating and understanding health issues resulting from environmental causes. To reach this goal, NIEHS conducts community outreach, prevention, intervention, research, and education. NIEHS supports the Showcase project through its involvement with worker training, including the administration of the Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program, and through research conducted by the Superfund Basic Research Program.

ATSDR and NIEHS both receive their funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) but are administered through HHS, so directives and funding do not always correlate in programming. In recent years, funding has been cut to both agencies. In spite of funding cuts, HHS

is developing a brownfields strategy and process that examine the capacity and coordination of issues at the local, regional, and state levels; improve education among local stakeholders; effectively communicate issues to the public; and address environmental justice concerns.

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**Office of Community Services**

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been one of the most active federal agencies in brownfields issues. HUD asserts that brownfields redevelopment strategies comprise integral methods to achieve urban economic revitalization and sustainable development. Thus, HUD has a number of programs aimed directly at or applied to brownfields renovation. In addition, HUD uses a network of regional and field offices with a broad base of professional expertise in community and economic development, transportation, public health, housing, and a number of other fields to extend technical assistance to local governments and community groups.

**Financial Assistance**

Community Development Block Grants

Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs) are largely administered to address brownfields issues in “entitlement communities” of urban and surrounding metropolitan areas. Through state governmental partnerships, HUD also allocates CDBG funding to smaller communities. In both cases, either the urban development authority or the state directs how funding will be specifically disseminated to accomplish site assessment, remediation, and redevelopment, as well as planning initiatives. However, activities must be commensurate with HUD mandates requiring that projects accommodate low- and moderate-income households, prevent or eliminate disadvantaged neighborhoods, or address imminent community redevelopment needs.

Section 108 Guaranteed Loans

Section 108 guaranteed loans act as a second-tier funding mechanism to recipients of CDBG financing and are intended to provide a greater impetus for private investment among redeveloping communities. Entitlement communities and states may use these secured loans to finance logistically and economically extensive redevelopment projects that often address multiple facets of community revitalization by committing an agreed portion of CDBG funding as collateral. Limitations

on Section 108 guaranteed loans require that funds be administered to address community needs as specified in CDBG financing.

**Brownfields Economic Development Initiative**  
The Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) is derived from HUD's Economic Development Initiative (EDI) to complement Section 108 funding. EDI provides access to emergency funding should a state or community development authority default on a Section 108 guaranteed loan or assuages liability concerns by being applied to specific components of a redevelopment project—as in a brownfields renovation. BEDI funding is adapted specifically to brownfields redevelopment projects in lieu of private investments that are increasingly difficult to acquire because of liability concerns.

**Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities Initiative**  
The Empowerment Zones (EZ) and Enterprise Community (EC) initiative is jointly administered through HUD and USDA to create an emphasis on the revitalization of disadvantaged communities; HUD oversees EZ/EC programming in urban settings while USDA oversees rural EZ/ECs. An EZ or EC designation automatically qualifies a community for enhanced access to federal programming intended to promote economic redevelopment and neighborhood revitalization. In efforts to give distressed communities critical financing considerations, EZ or ECs receive numerous tax abatements and restructuring aimed at remediating and redeveloping brownfields sites, bolstering educational institutions and community centers, and encouraging commercial and residential development projects.

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**Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program &  
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**<http://www.hud.gov/prodesc/cdbg-108.html>**

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### U.S. Department of the Interior

The Department of the Interior (DOI) manages the internal affairs of the United States by conducting scientific research on natural ecosystems, protecting and conserving federal land holdings, and enforcing regulations that pertain to both.

#### **National Park Service**

The National Park Service (NPS) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of natural resources, and appropriate education services relating to natural resource preservation. NPS fulfills its commitment to the Showcase Program by aiding local groups in undertaking conservation projects and by helping create sustainable participatory organizations on the local level.

NPS is involved in brownfields, primarily through its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program and through the RTCA Groundwork Trust. The RTCA program, founded in 1988, is intended to help local groups undertake conservation projects, such as upgrading properties, creating trails, and protecting rivers or urban forests. The RTCA Groundwork Trust is an independent, nonprofit organization designed to aid communities in carrying out development and conservation efforts. The Groundwork Trust model began twenty years ago in the United Kingdom. Since then, program interest has spread to Europe, Japan, and—through the NPS—the United States. With a sustainable program in place, local groups can participate in redeveloping their communities.

A sustainable organization like the RTCA Groundwork Trust encourages brownfields pilots to participate in and benefit from opportunities beyond those provided by funding alone; the Groundwork Trust assures investors that communities are interested in supporting redevelopment. Businesses can work with residential communities to aid in development such as planting trees along roads. NPS and the RTCA Groundwork Trust serve as liaisons among various groups involved in brownfields projects, enhancing communication among stakeholders such as investors, community members, and brownfields staff members. Currently, NPS is looking for corporate partners to sponsor the Groundwork Trust in the United States.

### **Technical Assistance**

#### **Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program**

The RTCA program and the RTCA Groundwork Trust allow NPS to help local governments and organizations plan and undertake conservation projects, such as upgrading properties, creating trails and protecting rivers or urban forests, as well as providing consultation and education through community workshops. The RTCA Groundwork Trust is an independent, nonprofit organization designed to aid a community in carrying out development and conservation efforts.

#### **Federal Lands-to-Parks Program**

NPS extends its informational resources to state local governments in the pursuit of purchasing surplus federal land. NPS provides this service freely but requires that all facilities established on those lands—as well as all lands—be open to the general public and be operated and maintained to foster parks and recreational activities.

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is charged to conserve, protect, and enhance the quality of aquatic and land ecosystems in the United States. In so doing, USFWS provides better environmental quality for animal and plant wildlife habitats for the benefit of indigenous species as well as for the enjoyment of the American public. The majority of this task is accomplished through management of the 93 million acres of the National Wildlife Refuge System—consisting of 520 National Refuges and thousands of smaller special management areas (wetlands). Specific management duties of USFWS include enforcing wildlife laws, protecting endangered species, managing migratory birds, restoring nationally significant fisheries, conserving and restoring wildlife habitats, and cooperating with foreign governments in international conservation efforts.

To effectively regulate activities spread throughout the United States, USFWS relies on over 700 field units within seven geographic regions. In addition, because many targeted

habitats extend onto or lie within nonfederal lands, USFWS fosters many partnerships among government, public, and private institutions to encourage voluntary conservation efforts on private properties. Among other federal agencies, USFWS has worked with EPA in the Chesapeake Bay Program, the Gulf of Mexico Program, and the National Estuary Program. Other partnerships have included the NOAA in the Coastal Zone Management Program and National Marine Fisheries Service. In addition, USFWS has been involved in numerous channeling and dredging projects with USACE. Finally, nongovernmental partnerships have included the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, and the National Audubon Society.

Concerning brownfields redevelopment, USFWS may apply its enforcement and restoration policies liberally. In other words, if a revitalization project can be linked to habitat restoration or protection and conservation of potentially affected ecosystems, then USFWS is likely to get involved. For example, under the Environmental Contaminants Program, USFWS assesses the effects of oil spills, point- and nonpoint-source pollution, and hazardous waste contamination. In addition, USFWS undertakes remedial efforts to living resources in Superfund and brownfields cleanups. In other cases, although USFWS may not be providing direct resources or funding to a project, it may be called upon for technical consultation where relevant.

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### U.S. Department of Justice

The Department of Justice (DOJ) is the central agency dedicated to legal and justice issues. DOJ is ultimately responsible for national law enforcement and community policing efforts that include drug enforcement policies and the maintenance of federal prisons. The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) operates within DOJ and focuses on state and local justice issues. Concerning commitments to the Brownfields Initiative, DOJ influences are manifested mainly through two divisions of OJP: the Executive Office of Weed and Seed (EOWS) and the Community Relations Service (CRS).

#### **Executive Office of Weed and Seed (EOWS)**

The Weed and Seed Program within the Office of Justice Programs has been most active in brownfields redevelopment. Essentially, Weed and Seed is a strategy that “weeds out” violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in targeted neighborhoods, and then “seeds” the area with social and economic revitalization programs. The Weed and Seed strategy recognizes the importance of linking federal, state, and local law enforcement programs with social services, the private sector, and community efforts to maximize the impact of existing programs and resources. Law enforcement activities constitute the majority of the “weed” portion of the program, while revitalization efforts that include prevention, intervention, and treatment services as well as neighborhood restoration constitute the “seed” element. Community policing acts to link both the weed and seed elements.

DOJ incorporates EOWS programming into brownfields pilots by offering up to \$50,000 in flexible funding to be used at the discretion of local communities for brownfields activities. Weed and Seed funds can be used in brownfields for any of the following activities: conducting education and outreach to inform and involve citizens and businesses; building partnerships among stakeholders; planning community involvement or environmental justice initiatives; assessing and evaluating potential reuse sites; renovating existing facilities; fostering local job development and training initiatives; and assisting not-for-profit entities in economic development projects.

#### **Community Relations Service**

The Community Relations Service (CRS) is dedicated to preventing and resolving perceived and actual discriminatory allegations in local communities. CRS acts mainly to address environmental justice concerns in communities and neighborhoods where brownfields redevelopment issues are prevalent. Moreover, CRS works to educate leaders of minority and impoverished communities about techniques to resolve disputes, as well as about the financial merits of brownfields revitalization efforts.

DOJ was not an original member of the Brownfields National Partnership when it was established in 1997. For that reason, DOJ did not make any contributions to the Action Agenda. DOJ has conducted regional meetings and a national training conference where EPA representatives have made presentations that discuss the link between Weed and Seed and brownfields. EOWS has also developed the Sustainable Safety and Community Enhancement Prototype Initiative that works to sustain economic development within distressed areas. The initiative brings jobs and money into the areas so that those most in need can benefit from the revitalization.

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**Executive Office of Weed and Seed**

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U.S. Department of Labor

The Department of Labor (DOL) fosters, promotes, and develops the welfare of working people by improving working conditions and enhancing opportunities for profitable employment. DOL's role in the Brownfields National Partnership falls within the existing departmental mission: to provide job training and permanent job placement. In addition, DOL's basic job and life skills training complements other more environmentally focused training programs designed to help assess and clean up brownfields.

The brownfields program at DOL started in the Office of Policy and Research, where pilots and demonstration projects are launched. Early in 2000, the brownfields program moved to the Office of Adult Services of the Employment Training Administration, which has more field programs and more funding to extend to program initiatives. Together these programs ensure that the community residents most affected by brownfields will directly benefit from their redevelopment.

**Technical Assistance**

Job Training Partnership Act and Workforce Investment Act

DOL is working through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act to promote stakeholder participation in the Showcase Program. The JTPA provides job-training services for economically disadvantaged adults, dislocated youth, and others who face significant employment barriers. The act seeks to move jobless individuals into permanent, self-sustaining employment. There are more than 600 JTPA designees nationwide, and the program has \$5 billion in annual funding, although none of that money is earmarked for brownfields.

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### U.S. Department of Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) seeks to advance national growth through efficient and flexible transportation and to protect the natural environment that is affected by DOT-funded transportation. DOT addresses brownfields in many of its agencies, including: the Federal Highway Administration; the Federal Transit Authority; the Federal Railroad Administration; the Maritime Administration; and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation.

DOT has adopted a new policy making brownfields cleanups an eligible activity for funding in transportation projects; previously, DOT policy avoided all brownfields situations. Now, DOT is encouraging the development of brownfields sites in conjunction with transportation projects and is examining all policies as they relate to brownfields. DOT is also working to address brownfields situations in transportation planning through new guidance and a series of technical assistance efforts. DOT is also distributing information to field offices, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), transportation associations, and State transportation agencies about brownfields redevelopment opportunities. Moreover, DOT and EPA are working together to explore liability issues as they relate to brownfields contamination. Finally, DOT is including brownfields as one focus area in its \$25 million (over five years) research program on transportation, land use, and sustainability issues.

Generally, DOT policies dictate that the federal office does not make transportation or land-use decisions. DOT also does not directly fund cities; rather it funds MPOs and state departments of transportation. In turn, those agencies allocate funding to individual jurisdictions and projects. Typically, MPOs and state departments of transportation work with local governments and regional groups to develop three-year and twenty-year planning documents that suggest local transportation developments. Accordingly, localities must contact their MPO or state department of transportation when addressing brownfields that contain or when they intend to renovate or construct transportation infrastructure.

## Financial and Technical Assistance

**Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**  
The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) was enacted in June 1998 and authorizes highway, highway safety, transit, and other surface transportation programs for the next six years. In the TEA-21 Restoration Act, subsequent technical corrections have been incorporated; thus, the material presented here reflects the combined effects of both acts and the two are jointly referred to as TEA-21.

TEA-21 builds on the initiatives established in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), which was the last major authorizing legislation for surface transportation. TEA-21 combines the continuation and improvement of current programs with new initiatives to meet the challenges of improving safety as traffic continues to increase at record levels, of protecting and enhancing communities and the natural environment as transportation is provided, and of advancing America's economic growth and competitiveness domestically and internationally through efficient and flexible transportation.

### Federal Highway Administration

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) contributes funding and technical assistance to programs designed to improve or develop interstate highways and affiliated roadways. In addition, FHWA supports infrastructure that accompanies highways, including intermodal service and recreation facilities, access roads, bridges, and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as safety devices including guardrails, signs, and reflective road markers.

## Technical Assistance

### Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program

The Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot (TCSP) program allows DOT to apply direct technical assistance to state and local governments as well as MPOs so that brownfields development strategies become eligible for federal

funding measures. Usually, DOT provides training and guidance to local and state authorities when planning to improve or construct transportation infrastructure on or connecting to brownfields properties.

## Financial Assistance

### Surface Transportation Program

FWHA funding is administered to state, regional (MPOs), and local agencies through which it is allocated—through predetermined formulas—to various forms of roadway transportation planning and enhancement. Some uses for FHWA funding include alleviating traffic congestion, installing service and safety facilities, preserving or rehabilitating historical areas, acquiring land easements for scenic vistas, and mitigating run-off water pollution.

### Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program provides DOT funding to innovative roadway planning strategies that include specific measures to reduce air pollution through traffic control measures. Examples of CMAQ programming include high occupancy vehicle (HOV) incentives and state or county emissions testing and certification for registered automobiles.

### FHWA Field Organization

The field organization delivers program services to FHWA's partners and customers. This organization consists of resource centers, and divisions to state-level federal aid and federal lands highway divisions.

### Resource Centers

FWHA resource centers support the state-level division offices in their primary role of program delivery to partners and customers by providing leadership on strategic initiatives; expert assistance on technical, process, and program issues; training; technology transfer; intermodal and interagency coordination; legal services; and expertise on civil rights. FHWA has four resource

centers, each serving a core constituency of federal-aid division offices and agency partners and customers in designated states. The term “core constituency” means that, for the purpose of providing administrative supervision to the division offices, the resource centers are assigned a designated group of states in their respective geographical areas. However, specific technical expertise in a given resource center may be shared with other resource centers and division offices throughout the country. The resource centers do not exercise program control over the division offices.

#### Federal-Aid Division Offices

These division offices provide front-line assistance in delivering federal-aid programs to partners and customers in highway transportation and safety services, including but not limited to planning and research, preliminary engineering, technology transfer, right-of-way, bridge, highway safety, traffic operations, environment, civil rights, design construction and maintenance, engineering coordination, highway beautification, and administration. Each of the fifty-two operating division offices (one in each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico) is located in the same city as the State department of transportation, usually the state capital. In addition, jointly with the FTA, the FHWA operates four metropolitan offices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; New York, New York; Chicago, Illinois; and Los Angeles, California, that are extensions of their respective division offices. Those offices provide assistance, guidance, and information regarding Federal transportation programs to local, state, and other federal agencies in those metropolitan areas.

#### Federal Lands Highway Divisions

The federal lands highway (FLH) divisions, which report to the Headquarters Federal Lands Highway Office; administer FLH programs (Forest Highways, Park Roads and Parkways, Public Lands, Refuge Roads, and Indian Reservation Roads), the Defense Access Roads Program, and the Emergency Relief Program on federally owned roads; provide engineering-related services to other Federal agencies, FHWA offices, and foreign

countries as directed; and carry out technology and training activities related to FLH projects.

#### Federal Railroad Administration

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) contributes funding and technical assistance to programs that encourage the development or rehabilitation of rail infrastructure and technologies. Although lacking specific brownfields programming, the FRA contributes planning resources to efforts to redevelop railways and related facilities.

#### Federal Transit Administration

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides financial and technical assistance to local and regional transit initiatives. Since 1998, FTA has configured programming to incorporate brownfields redevelopment plans when appropriate. As many brownfields are located in densely populated areas—where mass transit programs are extensive—FTA has become an integral DOT contributor to redevelopment programs. FTA has also adopted policies that allow funding to be allocated to brownfields redevelopment efforts, as long as projects are related to transit development or enhancement. However, those funding measures are limited to site assessment and remediation activities. In addition, FTA encourages the development of joint projects and relationships among transit authorities and various private and public sector organizations as long as initiatives are physically and functionally oriented toward transit activities. FTA also fosters initiatives for transit development in rural areas and for programs that provide transit options in impoverished communities.

### Financial Assistance

#### Urbanized Area Formula Grants

Urbanized Area Formula Grants establish a cost-sharing program between FTA and local transit authorities to fund transit initiatives in metropolitan areas of 50,000 or more residents. The required funding ratio is 80:20 between the FTA and local agencies.

### Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grants

Non-urbanized Area Formula Grants administer FTA financial resources to state governments to develop or enhance transit programs in areas of less than 50,000 residents. The only requirement placed on the grants is that 5 percent to 15 percent of allocated funding be used to ensure that inter-city bus service needs are satisfied.

### Grants for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities

FTA provides funding measures to states to promote the development of transit modifications that assist elderly or physically challenged passengers. This funding can be allocated not only to transit authorities, but also to nonprofit and public research and development organizations.

### Discretionary Capital Program

The Discretionary Capital Program allows FTA to disseminate funding to improve, enhance, or extend fixed guideway and bus services and facilities.

### Metropolitan Planning Funds

Metropolitan planning funds are apportioned to state governments according to levels of urban population. State governments then transmit monies to MPOs in urban areas of 50,000 or more residents. To be eligible for metropolitan planning funds, MPOs must incorporate transit projects into approved Transportation Long-Range Plan and Transportation Improvement Program initiatives. The funds are then used to conduct studies of local and regional transit priorities including land use, economic and demographic trends, and expense projections.

### Rural Transit Assistance Program

The Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) encourages the development of both public and private transportation services in rural settings. RTAP funding emphasizes private sector involvement and safety measures in rural transit programs, as well as the use of rural transit mechanisms as a means of information dissemination.

### State Planning and Research Program

The State Planning and Research Program fosters innovative pursuits conducted by state organizations to enhance urban, suburban, and rural transit

initiatives. Funding is appropriated on a formulaic basis and benefits research and development, technical assistance and training, and composition of statewide transit and safety initiatives.

### Welfare-to-Work Legislation

Welfare-to-Work legislation allows FTA to provide supplementary funding and transit options to welfare recipients and other economically disadvantaged persons. The program provides access transit services to employment-related destinations including child care and medical facilities as well as schools and community centers.

### Regional Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Program

The Regional Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Program encourages transportation planning that facilitates transit for welfare recipients and other economically disadvantaged persons to and from employment-related facilities. In addition, the program emphasizes the collaboration of community stakeholders—especially in impoverished neighborhoods—in metropolitan transit initiatives.

### Transit-Community Initiatives

FTA uses several programs to encourage the proliferation of transit use in communities through land-use and urban design education. The Transit-Oriented Development and Livable Communities Initiatives urge local transit authorities not only to implement programming, but also to advertise the merits of transit options, including decreased automobile congestion, pedestrian accessibility, and efficient and safe transportation.

### Federal-Aid Division Offices

See discussion of Federal-Aid Division Offices under Federal Highway Administration: Financial Assistance.

### U.S. Maritime Administration

The U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) oversees the interests of U.S. domestic and international waterborne commerce. Two hallmark principles of MARAD are maintenance of a safe and environmentally sound maritime transportation system and promotion of national

security and economic growth through maritime endeavors.

MARAD is able to contribute directly to brownfields redevelopment efforts when a port facility is involved. A key function of MARAD is to provide technical assistance for port facilities concerning operating procedures, maintaining facilities, and regulating commercial traffic. MARAD also emphasizes the importance of shipyard revitalization and upkeep and has devised a number of programs to streamline operations in this industry. In addition, MARAD is making efforts to extend its authority to govern environmental compliance, planning, management, and implementation matters within U.S. ports. These programs, however, do not address brownfields remediation in the conventional sense, but rather they encourage financial stability and bureaucratic efficiency in shipbuilding industries.

### **Financial Assistance**

#### **Title XI Guarantees**

Under a presidential mandate in 1993, MARAD was given the authority to administer Title XI guarantees to foreign clients and lenders supporting U.S. shipbuilding corporations. Those provisions ensure that investors will receive compensation for principal and interest accrued should a shipyard default on a project or loan. In this way, MARAD attempts to reinvest in a shipbuilding industry that has suffered in the latter decades of the twentieth century.

#### **MARITECH**

MARITECH is a joint effort between MARAD and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which subsidizes U.S. shipbuilding industries by matching funding made by private investors. The funding is then used to encourage competitiveness in a global shipbuilding industry through revisions of U.S. policies such as innovative technologies, marketing strategies, and communication practices.

National Maritime Resource and Education Center  
MARAD sponsors the National Maritime Resource and Education Center (NMREC) whose mission is

to place U.S. shipping industries among international frontrunners through the revision and elimination of unnecessary bureaucracy. NMREC works to establish newer and more practical standards among domestic maritime shipping regulations.

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U.S. Department of the Treasury  
The Department of the Treasury (Treasury) is dedicated to promoting a prosperous and stable American and global economy and managing the government's finances. Concerning brownfields redevelopment, Treasury works to ensure the passage of the Brownfields Tax Incentive. In addition, Treasury educates and encourages the financial community about the Community Reinvestment Act.

**Financial Assistance**

**Brownfields Tax Incentive**

The Brownfields Tax Incentive is aimed at leveraging private sector investments for brownfields redevelopment projects. The incentive allows taxpayers to deduct or not to report environmental remediation expenditures in specified districts on capitalized accounts. Districts specified by Treasury include HUD EZ/EC communities; EPA Brownfields Demonstration Assessment Pilot communities; communities designated by U.S. Census Bureau tracts as having poverty rates of 20 percent or higher; or communities designated by U.S. Census Bureau tracts as having fewer than 2,000 residents, where more than 75 percent of lands are zoned for commercial or industrial use or are adjacent to communities with poverty rates of 20 percent or higher.

**Community Development Funding  
Institutions Fund**

The Community Development Funding Institutions (CDFI) fund expands the availability of credit, investment capital, and financial services in distressed urban, rural, and Native American communities by stimulating the creation and expansion of community development financial institutions, as well as by providing incentives to traditional banks and thrifts. CDFI investments work toward building private markets, creating healthy local economies, and empowering residents in blighted communities.

**Bank Enterprise Award Program**

The Bank Enterprise Award (BEA) program provides incentives for banks to invest in CDFIs and to increase lending and the provision of

financial services in distressed communities. The BEA program supports the community reinvestment efforts of those banks, many of which fund brownfields redevelopment.

### **Regulatory Assistance**

**Office of the Comptroller of the Currency**  
The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) operates as a bank regulatory organization supervising some 60 percent of assets in the commercial banking system. OCC is one of five such regulators in the U.S. including the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of Thrift Supervision, the Federal Reserve, and the National Credit Union. As a regulator, OCC has no money to contribute to brownfields redevelopment programs, but it has been working to educate the financial community about lender liability.

OCC is interested in clarifying how banks can lend on properties with contamination. To this end, OCC works with other banking regulatory agencies to develop guidance about lender liability on contaminated properties. OCC advocates the use of environmental insurance to assuage concerns of regulatory lender liability in cases of environmental contamination on properties. As local governments begin to acquire contaminated properties and to redevelop brownfields, they may become interested in spending more time discussing liability and lending issues with banks. In addition, OCC provides consultative advice to bankers on strategies for community economic redevelopment, including welfare investment programs, programs permissible under the National Bank Act, and options for satisfying Community Reinvestment Act requirements.

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## U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) works to meet the health care and rehabilitation needs of veterans. VA has three divisions: the National Cemetery Administration, the Veterans Health Administration, and the Veterans Benefits Administration.

VA support of brownfields comes through the Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) Program. This program is a therapeutic employment program. In 1997, VA pledged \$250,000 for up to ten pilot programs to work with job-ready homeless and disabled veterans for cleanup and redevelopment opportunities at brownfields sites. The pledge has not yet been fulfilled because the agency must ratify memoranda of understanding (MOUs) to work with any other agencies. The VA language for MOUs is still being developed and has been delayed because of liability concerns. Once finished, it will go before the VA secretary for final approval. If approved, the MOUs will go to the other federal agencies that VA wished to form partnerships with to be ratified. The secretary of the VA will not allow any interagency actions until the MOUs are ratified.

Various levels of staff have been active in the brownfields effort, and the Veterans Benefits Administration has general working programs in place to manage liability issues. However, the training of veterans for brownfields-related programs has not occurred. Once an MOU between EPA and VA is completed, approved, and signed, the job-training efforts will focus on post-cleanup employment opportunities at brownfields sites.

## Contact Information

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## Federal Agencies and Commissions

### Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) was established by Congress in 1965 to support economic and social development in the Appalachian region. ARC is a unique partnership composed of the governors of the 13 Appalachian states and a presidential appointee representing the federal government. Dedicated to bringing economic, social, and environmental sustainability to the Appalachian region, ARC strives to fulfill five basic goals: (1) providing education and workforce training; developing and maintaining physical infrastructure; enhancing civic capacity and leadership; promoting business development; and improving health care. Grassroots participation is provided through local development districts and multicounty organizations with boards composed of elected officials, businesspeople, and other local leaders.

### Financial Incentives

#### Appalachian Highway Development System

The Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) is the backbone of ARC's cooperative regional approach to problem solving and of all its other development efforts. ADHS ensures that federal funding and programming initiatives accommodate the interstate and highway transportation needs in the Appalachian region. Since its implementation in 1965, ADHS has completed nearly 2,500 miles of a 3,000-mile highway initiative; the completion of the highway system remains a top priority of ADHS and ARC.

#### Distressed County Program

ARC has provided special funds for the region's poorest counties since 1983. Currently 114 counties qualify for distressed county status on the basis of low per capita income and high rates of poverty and unemployment. The distressed county program focuses on providing badly-needed public facilities, especially systems to furnish clean drinking water and sanitary waste disposal, and human resource projects such as literacy training. Under pre-1983 guidelines, most of these counties were too poor to qualify for federal aid for these facilities.

### Local Development Districts

To ensure that funds are used effectively and efficiently, and to strengthen local participation, ARC works with the states to support a network of multicounty planning and development organizations, or local development districts (LDDs), throughout the Appalachian region. Seventy-one LDDs encompass all 406 counties in the ARC program and focus on convening citizens and identifying the priority needs of local communities. Based on these needs, LDDs work with their board members and other local citizens to develop plans to enhance local economic development initiatives, to target and meet the most pressing community needs, and to foster positive relationships among all members of the community; and to strengthen leadership practices and policies among local governments.

### Entrepreneurship Initiative

The Entrepreneurship Initiative is a three-year, \$15 million program designed to provide communities with tools to assist entrepreneurs in starting and expanding local businesses. One major focus of all these activities is to leverage support from other institutions and to broaden and deepen the culture of entrepreneurship throughout the Appalachian region. Key activities include allowing entrepreneurs greater access to capital; educating and training entrepreneurs; encouraging sector-based strategies to maximize the economic strengths of local communities; and providing strategic support for business incubators. To date, ARC has leveraged approximately \$8.8 million and funded more than eighty entrepreneurship projects that are expected to create or expand over 1,200 small businesses throughout the Appalachian region. In addition, ARC has formed advisory committees for each of its major activities and has conducted more than a dozen conferences, meetings, and workshops to help homegrown businesses grow and prosper.

### Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities

ARC uses the Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to

enhance economic development initiatives in the Appalachian region through tax incentives, performance grants, and loans. ARC helps to identify EZ/EC communities and assists local officials with application procedures and implementation of federal allocations. To date, sixteen Appalachian communities have received EZ or EC designation and have received mini-grants for technical assistance with the application process.

**Business Development Revolving Loan Funds**  
Business Development Revolving Loan Funds are used by ARC to create and retain jobs throughout the Appalachian region. Revolving Loan Funds (RLFs) have long been used by ARC as an effective tool of economic development and the commission recently adopted new RLF guidelines to clarify operating policies, reduce paperwork, and improve cash management.

#### **Technical Assistance**

Over the years ARC has become a national resource for information on socioeconomic trends affecting the Appalachian region. Data and research on the Appalachian region are available on the ARC Web site at: <<http://www.arc.gov/research/resmain.htm>>.

#### Contact Information

##### **Appalachian Regional Commission**

**<http://www.arc.gov>**

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Ms. Sakina Thompson  
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Mr. Jesse L. White, Jr.  
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established as an independent agency dedicated to the protection of human health and the surrounding natural environment. One of EPA's most prominent brownfields programs, the Brownfields Showcase Communities Initiative, serves as a tool to disseminate services, information, and funding to sanction state and local community stakeholders to actively participate in the development and synthesis of brownfields revitalization strategies. EPA is the lead agency within the Interagency Working Group, and, therefore, administers the Brownfields Showcase Communities Initiative and coordinates efforts among federal partners in the Brownfields National Partnership. In addition, EPA uses a breadth of resources from its regional offices and its partnerships with state environmental agencies, technical assistance, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and various nonprofit organizations to reach stakeholders throughout the nation.

To date, EPA has designated and launched 362 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots accompanied by grants that exceed \$69 million; the latest round of pilots included 54 communities announced in April 2000. In addition, thirty-seven EPA Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots are underway and ten additional communities will be announced in December 2000. In addition, EPA has awarded 104 Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loans to numerous Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot and Brownfields Showcase Communities. Finally, in addition to the initial sixteen Brownfields Showcase Communities, ten additional communities entered the initiative in October 2000.

### **Financial Assistance**

Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot  
EPA administers funding to communities with brownfields concerns through Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots. Pilot funding is intended to assist financially disadvantaged communities in assessing and identifying brownfields, educating community members on

the status and significance of brownfields redevelopment, and in providing means of creating unique, local financing programs. Pilot communities receive up to \$200,000 over two years to fund the following activities:

- Environmental surveys prior to cleanup, including site assessments, site identification and characterization, site response, or remediation planning and design;
- Public outreach and education; and
- Alternative financing efforts such as tax incremental financing, revolving loan funds, or other creative applications.

Pilot funds may not be used to fund actual remediation efforts or to further development on remediated brownfields.

Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilot  
Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) Demonstration Pilots allow EPA to assist state and local governments with grants of up to \$500,000 for brownfields cleanup projects. The BCRLF program is authorized and funded under CERCLA section 104(d)(1) and is subject to appropriate CERCLA funding restrictions. In addition, EPA restricts grant eligibility to entities affiliated with pilot communities including political agencies with jurisdiction over designated brownfields sites. However, funding is not limited to those sites previously selected for or assessed under Pilot grants. Moreover, because BCRLF monies are awarded on a competitive basis, coalitions of multiple stakeholders are also permitted to apply for funding although only one entity may legally receive and distribute funds.

### **Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots**

EPA Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots incorporate job-training measures into brownfields redevelopment projects. Training is intended not only to provide workers with the necessary skills to address immediate and future brownfields cleanup projects, but also to create additional employment opportunities in impoverished communities.

Similar to Assessment Pilots, Job Training and Development funding is administered in amounts up to \$200,000 over a two-year period.

#### Clean Air/Brownfields Partnership Pilot

In conjunction with the Economic Development Administration and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, EPA has developed the Clean Air/Brownfields Partnership Pilot. Funds are administered in amounts up to \$500,000 to improve air quality and stimulate economic revitalization in communities by:

- Assessing and identifying links among air quality, brownfields redevelopment, and economic development issues;
- Determining environmental and economic benefits of urban brownfields redevelopment versus outward greenfields development;
- Creating mechanisms for urban developers to mediate urban brownfields redevelopment by offsetting emissions among other polluting facilities and institutions; and
- Examining potential improved air-quality measures by implementing innovative technologies to remediate urban brownfields and to develop new facilities.

To date, this program remains in demonstration phases in Baltimore, Chicago, and Dallas.

#### Sustainable Development Challenge Grant

EPA encourages stakeholder collaboration toward sustainable community development with Sustainable Development Challenge Grants. Funds may be applied to proposed development projects that contain various sustainable practices including resource conservation, economy revitalization, infill development, and brownfields redevelopment. Eligible parties include local governments, tribal councils, educational institutions, and affiliated nonprofit organizations. Recipients are identified and designated for two levels of funding: (1) up to \$50,000 and (2) \$50,000 to \$250,000.

#### Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants

Although limited in funding resources, Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants affect brownfields by

benefiting communities that demonstrate innovative means of reducing solid waste generation, efficient recycling programming, and creative landfill practices and alternatives. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis, and state and local governments may receive up to \$50,000 to fund research and development of solid waste management technologies and related job-training programs.

#### Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund

EPA uses this program derived from the Clean Water Act to provide funds for state revolving loan funds (SRFs) for various clean water projects. Brownfields become eligible for such funding because EPA dictates that SRF funding may be applied to nonpoint-source water quality issues as long as the sites are included in the state's nonpoint-source management plan. In addition, any designated Brownfield Showcase and Pilot are automatically eligible for Clean Water SRFs. Clean Water SRFs are low-interest loans; therefore, states must demonstrate an established means of repayment. Specific allocations of Clean Water SRFs are determined by state governments and include a range of activities such as site assessments; isolation, extraction, treatment, and disposal of contaminants; capping abandoned wells and aqueducts; reconstructing wetlands; and development of innovative treatment technologies.

#### Environmental Education

EPA accepts applications for and awards funding up to \$25,000 to local and state government entities, colleges and universities, and independent or special interest organizations that wish to create and disseminate educational media concerning environmental remediation, including brownfields.

## Technical Assistance

### Targeted Site Assessments

EPA provides personnel and tools to conduct site assessments to regional, state, and local governments to detect potential contaminants on brownfields sites. In such cases, no funding is provided and services are intended for communities that are not receiving other forms of Brownfields Pilot funding.

### Contact Information

#### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov>

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#### Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/index.html>

Ms. Elisabeth Freed  
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Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance  
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#### Office of Emergency and Remedial Response (OERR)

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#### Office of General Counsel (OGC)

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/ogc.htm>

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#### Office of Program Planning and Evaluation (OPPE)

Ms. Harriet Tregoning  
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#### Office of Site Remediation Enforcement (OSRE)

Ms. Tessa Hendrickson  
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#### Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)

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#### Technical Innovation Office (TIO)

<http://www.epa.gov/swertio1/index.htm>

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Executive Office of the President  
The White House offices and agencies make up the Executive Office of the President (EOP). These offices help develop and implement the policy and programs of the President.

### **Council on Environmental Quality**

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) was established by Congress within the EOP with passage of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. CEQ coordinates federal environmental efforts and works closely with agencies and other White House offices in the development of environmental policies and initiatives. The Council's Chair, who is appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, serves as the principal environmental policy adviser to the President and Vice President. In addition, CEQ reports annually to the President on the state of the environment; oversees federal agency implementation of the environmental impact assessment process; and acts as a referee when agencies disagree over the adequacy of such assessments.

### **Office of Management and Budget**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) leads development of governmentwide policy to assure that grants are managed properly and that federal funds are spent in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Thus, by working cooperatively with grant making agencies and the grantee community, OMB becomes involved in many federal funding initiatives including brownfields redevelopment.

### **President's Council on Sustainable Development**

The President's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD) was established by President Clinton in June 1993 to advise him on sustainable development and develop initiatives devoted to improving the economic stability and human and environmental health nationwide. To accomplish those goals PCSD strives to forge consensus on policy by bringing together diverse interests to identify and develop innovative economic, environmental and social policies and strategies; demonstrate implementation of policy that fosters sustainable development by working with diverse interests to

identify and demonstrate implementation of sustainable development; evaluate and report on progress by recommending national, community, and enterprise level frameworks for tracking sustainable development; and distribute information about it the word out about sustainable development in general. Although PCSD ended operations in June 1999, information on basic issues related to sustainable development and a list of accomplishments is available on the council's Web site at: <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/PCSD>>.

### Contact Information

**Executive Office of the President**  
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**Council on Environmental Quality**  
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Council on Environmental Quality  
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Washington, D.C. 20501

**Office of Management and Budget**  
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Natural Resources Division  
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Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is primarily responsible for maintaining the stability of the nation's financial system, as well as for protecting up to \$100,000 of each depositor's funds at FDIC-insured financial institutions. However, FDIC is also involved in a number of lesser-known activities, including managing brownfields. Currently, as a member of the Brownfields National Partnership, FDIC is performing outreach to educate communities about redevelopment financing issues, facilitating discussions between borrowers and lenders, and promoting the existing programs and services.

Current objectives through the Brownfields National Partnership are to educate communities about services and to promote the FDIC's will and ability to work with communities on redevelopment. FDIC also helps communities and local governments by bringing together borrowers and lenders for roundtable discussions. In an effort to prevent perceived risks from impeding loan approvals, FDIC educates lenders on the actual risks involved in financing brownfields projects. The community affairs officers in each FDIC regional office are dedicated to linking communities to these resources.

### **Technical Assistance**

#### Site Assessments and Environmental Conditions Web Site

FDIC prepares sites for sale by conducting Phase I and sometimes Phase II environmental site assessments. If a potential or known environmental hazard is identified on a property, FDIC designates such properties on a Web site. Environmental assessments are disclosed to prospective buyers when such properties are made available for sale. The sites are then remediated and sold or developed for profit.

Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs  
The Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs works with lenders and the public to revitalize communities, to serve as an intermediary to further develop lending objectives, and to educate lenders and the public about brownfields-related finance programs such as the Community Reinvestment Act.

#### Contact Information

#### **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**

**<http://www.fdic.gov>**  
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Washington, DC 20434

Mr. Michael Hein  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
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### Federal Housing Finance Board

The Federal Housing Finance Board (FHFB) is involved in brownfields redevelopment through its role as regulator of the national Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLBank) system. FHFB acts as a wholesale lender, lending money to twelve regional FHLBanks at an interest rate just slightly higher than Treasury rates. This process enables FHLBanks to supply funds to their local member banks for financing loans at interest rates lower than those of non-FHLBank members.

FHFB also represents the private sector banking role in the Brownfields National Partnership. While local governments and agencies spearhead many brownfields programs, the private sector also has a significant role in the brownfields redevelopment process. FHFB works with other federal agencies and federal partners to make programs and resources applicable and tangible for the private sector as well as the public sector.

In addition to offering financial assistance programs, FHFB demonstrates its commitment to brownfields by educating member banks about brownfields redevelopment. Even with all of the regulatory provisions in place that protect lenders from liability, many banks are reluctant to lend money for brownfields projects. Through its participation in the Brownfields National Partnership, FHFB continues to educate FHLBanks about brownfields and liability issues. Outreach to the many members of the FHLBank system is a challenge because of the number of people involved in the system. However, FHFB holds regional conferences and forms strategic alliances as ways to reach its members. In addition, FHFB works with regional chambers of commerce to promote and educate about brownfields redevelopment and the role that FHLBanks can play to support local redevelopment efforts.

### Financial Assistance

#### Community Investment Program

Brownfields projects are also eligible for financing through the FHFB Community Investment Program (CIP). CIP finances commercial and economic development activities benefiting low- and moderate-income neighborhoods through community oriented mortgage lending.

#### Cash Investment Cash Advance Program

FHFB administers Community Investment Cash Advance (CICA) funds to encourage economic redevelopment in overlooked urban and rural communities. To be eligible for CICA funding, planning strategies must include properties that qualify for the Brownfields Tax Incentive program of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

#### Federal Home Loan Bank Standby Letters of Credit

Federal Home Loan Bank Standby Letters of Credit (LOC) allow FHFB to create lending margins for FHLBanks when considering the financing of brownfields-related redevelopment projects. In this manner, LOC assurances mitigate potential financial risks to lending institutions that often accompany brownfields sites.

#### Affordable Housing Program

The Affordable Housing Program (AHP) allows FHFB to subsidize housing projects in disadvantaged communities through members of the FHLBank system. Through AHP loans and advances, FHFB encourages the development of creative programming and provides direct subsidies to lending institutions engaged in projects intended to create long-term, owner-occupied, affordable housing in low- and moderate-income communities.

#### Purchasing Taxable Bonds

FHLBanks promote local redevelopment of brownfields by purchasing taxable bonds and by allocating accrued proceeds to revitalization projects. In addition, FHLBanks may offer advances to local banks to purchase the same bonds intended for use in brownfields redevelopment projects.

### Contact Information

#### Federal Housing Finance Board

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#### Office of Housing Finance

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### **Community Investment Program**

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U.S. General Services Administration  
The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) operates as one of three independent federal management offices and provides managed space, supplies, services, and solutions to federal departments and agencies. Within GSA, three departments accomplish information, logistic, and land-use tasks. Information Technology maintains federal telecommuting and child care services while the Federal Supply Service oversees federal vehicle fleets and personal property issues. The Public Building Service is involved in all facets of real estate concerns surrounding federally owned or leased properties. PBS, therefore, is often the largest service to contribute to the Showcase Communities Project.

PBS manages all building, developing, and leasing policies on federal landholdings, including property management and disposal as well as construction and maintenance of facilities therein. PBS policies include an emphasis on maximizing the potential use and value of federal lands, especially those that lie within or near established communities. Furthermore, PBS reviews and designates federal lands that are underused as well as keeping track of such properties through geographic information system databases. Therefore, PBS recognizes the importance of brownfields remediation and reuse not only to decrease blighted, underused properties, but also to improve the quality of life in affected communities.

### **Technical Assistance**

GSA reviews and identifies underused federal properties that could be eligible for brownfields redevelopment programming. Through this commitment, GSA has surpassed its original goal of identifying such properties in twelve areas by expanding its search to thirty-eight project locations. In addition, GSA has incorporated geographic, demographic, economic, and environmental mental information into site profiles in a GIS database to assist local, state, regional, and federal entities to determine the best uses for available properties.

GSA formed a National Team of Specialists to share technical and real estate expertise pertaining to brownfields redevelopment of federal land

holdings with local government officials. The team is composed of seven regional offices that convene of an annual basis to discuss the latest issues and practices related to brownfields redevelopment.

### **Financial Assistance**

GSA committed \$1 million to fund environmental site assessments on federally held brownfields properties.

### Contact Information

#### **U.S. General Services Administration**

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Office of Property Disposal  
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#### U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is an independent federal agency charged to aid, counsel, and protect the interests of small businesses throughout the nation. SBA offers financial management and technical and government-contracting assistance to current and prospective small business owners. SBA also has specialized programs to target minority- and women-owned small businesses.

Under the influence of brownfields redevelopment initiatives, SBA has changed its loan policies to accommodate the promotion of small business development on contaminated and remediated properties. In December 1997, SBA revised its procedures to give field offices great latitude in evaluating the risk to collateral property from environmental contamination. The revision provided guidance to field offices to determine whether the risk was manageable so that financial assistance could be provided. Even though SBA has no specific funds for brownfields remediation, businesses on brownfields are now eligible for all SBA programs and assistance.

### **Financial Assistance**

#### Loan Guarantee Program

SBA provides guaranteed loans to small businesses to permit them to start or expand operations. The loans in this program are primarily focused on leveraging support from local commercial banks as well as other private and public lending institutions.

#### Minority Enterprise Development Program

SBA provides specific programming designed to teach minority small business owners effective managerial and marketing skills. Eligible ventures include any business that is 51 percent owned by a member or members of a racial or ethnic minority group that meets SBA 7(a) eligibility standards; or that is a for-profit, non-religious institution.

### **Technical Assistance**

**Small Business Development Centers**  
SBA sponsors fifty-seven Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) around the United States that have authority to provide technical assistance on behalf of SBA. SBDCs are joint ventures among local, state, and federal governments as well as private sector and educational institutions. SBA has been working through its SBDCs to distribute brownfields information.

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