



June 2008

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Ohio to Fund “Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund” Through 2009

The Clean Ohio Council recently approved two additional rounds of the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund (CORF). CORF is a statewide competitive program in which private parties partner with communities and compete for grants of up to \$3 million to clean up Brownfield properties. Applications are due August 25, 2008 for round five funding; projects will be awarded in mid-December. Round six applications will be due in early January 2009, with projects awarded in May 2009. It is believed that awarding projects for two rounds within six months enables the Clean Ohio program to better respond to redevelopment opportunities and timetables. Additionally, parties that are not successful in round five will be able to seek funding in round six, hopefully providing a payoff for their investment in the application process.

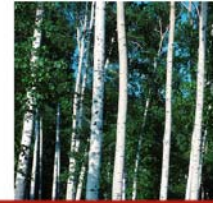
CORF now has two funding tracks: the “known end user” track, which awards grant monies for demolition, remediation, infrastructure and site acquisition, and a “redevelopment ready” track, which provides grant monies for site demolition and remediation only.

KNOWN END USER TRACK

This track is available for projects with a committed end user ready to develop an enterprise providing jobs, retain and expand a current business, or construct a residential development. A maximum grant of \$3 million is available and may be used for site acquisition, demolition, cleanup and infrastructure development. The potential economic benefit of the project and the number of jobs to be created are the most important factors in the Council’s evaluation of the project. Environmental assessment activities must be complete, the remedy (if any) planned, and costs known. The applicant must put up a 25 percent match of total project costs.

REDEVELOPMENT READY TRACK

The new redevelopment ready track is available for projects that are marketable and ready for redevelopment. The plan must be consistent with a community or master plan. The maximum grant under this track is \$2 million, which may be used for demolition and cleanup only. The most important factors in evaluating redevelopment ready projects are the parties’ readiness to proceed, the proximity of the site to infrastructure and roadways, and the importance of the site in the community’s future plans. As with the known end user track, environmental assessment activities must be complete, the remedy (if any) planned, and costs known. The applicant also must contribute a 25 percent match of the total project costs.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

The state of Ohio provides further information concerning the CORF program at http://www.odod.ohio.gov/ud/CORFRound5_6.htm, or you may contact the state's Urban Development office at 614.995.2292.

Thompson Hine can assemble the appropriate team to assist you in obtaining CORF funding for your Brownfield project. For more information on our services, please contact Wray Blattner at 937.443.6539 or Wray.Blattner@ThompsonHine.com, or your primary Thompson Hine Environmental lawyer. For a list of Thompson Hine Environmental lawyers, please go to <http://www.ThompsonHine.com/practices/environmental/>.

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