



R04-16-R-003

Catherine E. Heigel, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

Barbara Alfano, Region 4 Brownfields Coordinator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street SW, 10th FL
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

December 17, 2015

Dear Ms. Alfano:

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control is pleased to submit herein our proposal in application for an EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant. The proposal has been prepared in accordance with FY16 Guidelines for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants as presented in RFP No. EPA-OSWER-OBLR-15-05. Please find included in our proposal the following: 1) this Transmittal Letter; 2) the Narrative Proposal; and, 3) the following attachments: Threshold Documentation; Legal Opinion; Letters of Support; Letters substantiating firm commitments of leveraged funding; and, SF 424 and SF 424A forms (via grants.gov).

In accordance with the guidelines this letter provides the following:

- a) Applicant Identification: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- b) Applicant DUNS Number: 808385892
- c) Funding Requested:
 - i. Grant Type: RLF
 - ii Federal Funds Requested: \$1,000,000. No cost-share waiver is requested.
 - iii. Contamination: Hazardous Substances
- d) Location: State of South Carolina
- e) Contacts:

i. Project Director: G. Kendall (Ken) Taylor, P.G., Director
Division of Site Assessment, Remediation, and Revitalization
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2600 Bull Street
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E-mail Address: taylorgk@dhec.sc.gov

ii. Chief Executive: Myra C. Reece
Acting Director of Environmental Affairs
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

Address: SCDHEC
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Telephone: (803) 898-3136

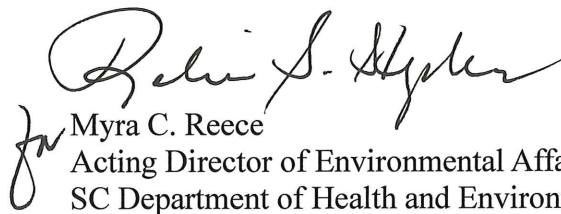
E-mail Address: reecemc@dhec.sc.gov

- f) Date Submitted: December 17, 2015
- g) Project Period: October 1, 2016 thru September 30, 2021
- h) Population: 4,625,364
- i) Special Considerations: No special considerations are applicable to our proposal.
Therefore, the checklist is not attached to this letter.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ken Taylor (contact information above) or Robert Hodges, Manager, Brownfields Program at 803-898-0919 or hodgesrf@dhec.sc.gov at your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,


Myra C. Reece
Acting Director of Environmental Affairs
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

attachments

cc: Ken Taylor, BLWM

Appendix 3 RLF Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: South Carolina Dept. of Health & Environmental Control

Please identify (with an **X**) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Other Factor	Page #
<i>None of the Other Factors are applicable.</i>	
Community population is 10,000 or less.	
Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	
Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	10 - 11
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
Applicant is one of the 24 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy party, of a "manufacturing community" designation provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, applicants must clearly demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach documentation which demonstrate either designation as one of the 24 recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient's IMCP proposal which lists/describes the core partners and implementation strategy parties.	
Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the project area. Examples of PSC grant or technical assistance include a HUD Regional Planning or Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA Smart Growth Implementation or Building Blocks Assistance, etc. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation.	12
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	

SC DHEC BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT APPLICATION NARRATIVE PROPOSAL

1. Community Need

a. Targeted Community and Brownfields

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) is applying for a new Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (BRLF) grant to recapitalize a productive statewide BRLF program that since 2005 has made twelve loans and four sub grants for Brownfields projects throughout the state. (Two additional loans and a sub-grant for a total of three different projects are in underwriting). The closed BRLF loans have been successful and are already returning funds to the program. Additional capitalization is needed to address further state needs. The EPA Region has indicated that due to the age of the original grant, SC will no longer have access to supplemental funding which has been important to the statewide program's success. This application is for \$1 million in new funding to cleanup properties in three targeted former textile communities as described below, as well as to augment the overall SC DHEC BRLF pool for additional projects in the longer term pipeline.

i. Targeted Community Description

A majority of past loans/sub- grants have been for the clearance and reuse of former textile mills. Continuing state demand is shown in this application for additional textile mill cleanup. The prominence of abandoned former textile mills in South Carolina reflects the state's textile heritage. From the late 1800s until the 1980s, South Carolina developed one of the nation's largest concentrations of textile mills and apparel operations. By the early 1970's, there were 449 textile mills in South Carolina employing 139,000 + workers (US Census, County Business Patterns, 1972).

In the 1980's, the nation's textile economy, including South Carolina's, experienced a steep decline due to globalization and related factors. Today significantly fewer textile mills operate in the state. To put this decline in context, by 2012, SC had lost 297 plants. Only 152 plants remained employing 13,369 workers, one-tenth of its former employment strength. (US Economic Census of Manufacturing, 1997 and 2012).

Abandoned, former mills, stripped of any marketable materials, litter the landscape. These sites are generally contaminated and pose health and welfare risks to those around who are disproportionately lower income residents. Many of these sites are relatively large (10 acres or more), centrally located within their towns and communities, and often surrounded by mill housing, in many cases still occupied. As these former mills sit idle, they quickly become sources of health hazards and blight, particularly for the adjoining mill villages. When first established, these mill villages were essentially company towns. They provided modest worker housing generally adjacent to the mill. The mills also provided company stores, common meeting halls, and recreational areas. Even though mills have closed, mill village housing still is found near the old plant sites. Some of the same textile workers who previously worked within the mills remained in the same housing.

Many of the textile mill sites pose health and safety risks to these nearby residents, whom represent sensitive populations defined by low income, children and elderly, single family households, women of child bearing age and poor health. These sites have the potential for serious environmental issues on and off-site resulting from hazardous substances often associated with previous textile mill operations. These substances include: friable asbestos, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), chromium, lead and other metals. These vacant mill sites have other significant public health and safety costs that include illegal dumping, increased costs for demolition and nuisance cleanups, crime, and vagrancy.

The mills were once prominent landmarks and were close to community downtown areas. Due to their current status as contaminated property, these Brownfield sites discourage new

commercial or industrial redevelopment and further downgrade area opportunities for community revitalization.

Abandoned textile sites often reside in South Carolina communities without the financial resources to undertake any meaningful cleanup on their own. Two of the targeted communities in this application have populations of less than 30,000. Their financial resources are often very limited in comparison to scope and total cost of cleanup required. Brownfield sites of this nature generally remain neglected, even though there is community vision and desire for cleanup.

The first targeted community is the City of **Chester**. This small city (population 5,607) is located in north central South Carolina. Chester, until the mid-1980s, was home to three major textile mills which formed the basis of its local economy. All three are closed and abandoned. The targeted project is the site of the former Springsteen Textile Mill. This site contains 12.4 acres in the heart of Chester's downtown. The city itself is very compact, in area. Because of Chester's small physical size (3.27 square miles), the targeted area for this site cleanup and reuse is essentially the city as a whole, for which appropriate statistics are provided. **The total population has a minority (African American) percentage of 66 percent. The median income of the city's households is only 49% and 44 % of comparable state and national averages.** Forty five percent of its households receive Social Security and 31% utilize Food Stamps. Following a common pattern for textile mill communities, homes are close together on small lots, the majority within close distance of the former mill site. A high proportion of these residents are minority and in poverty with limited ability to leave the area. In 2013, CDC statistics indicate elevated health problems throughout the city including high levels of obesity, high blood pressure, chronic pulmonary and lower respiratory disease and diabetes (2013 CDC data as shown in Policymap.com, 2014). In spite of these challenges, the city and its residents are working to improving their future.

A second targeted community is the **Greenwood Mill Foundry** in the City of Greenwood (population 23,206). In addition to the 15-acre Mill Foundry site, this section of the city is home to other nearby abandoned mill sites around which active neighborhoods of former worker housing remain. Located adjacent to the Foundry site is a 144 unit two story public housing complex plus a relatively new community center. While the city is on the rebound after the decline of textiles, its population still shows distress. **The City's population is 43.7 percent minority. The estimated 2013 median household income for the city was only 46 percent of the national average.** Many of the residents come from minority or other sensitive groups such as high poverty, women of child bearing age, and single parent households. CDC statistics for this census tract indicate elevated levels of diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and coronary heart disease (see 2013 CDC data as reported in Policymaps.com, 2014). One of the critical needs as identified by the city for this area is for public open space and recreational facilities, the city's intended redevelopment for this site.

The third targeted community is the neighborhood surrounding the abandoned **Toxaway Mill** in upstate Anderson County. While the 13.7-acre mill site is not within the incorporated city of Anderson (this was commonly done by textile mills to avoid municipal taxes) it is surrounded by the city, and statistics are provided at the tract and city levels. Adjacent to the site are former mill housing, of which some of the housing is still occupied. Other lower income housing is also in the neighborhood. The blighted condition of the large old mill which was destroyed by fire and vandalism has a negative impact on the nearby residential community which has essentially stagnated. Soil contamination on the mill site possess a public health hazard. Airborne and soil contamination pose threats to various sensitive groups in the neighborhood including a population characterized by high minority and poverty status (including Food Stamp/SNAP usage), a high percentage of women of child bearing age, older residents, and a population with various health problems such as obesity, high blood pressure, and chronic pulmonary disease as shown in CDC indices for this area (see 2013 CDA data as shown in Policymap.com 2014).

Adding to area distress is that new development or investment within the general area of the mill is practically non-existent with residential property values remaining depressed.

ii. Demographic Information

The following chart provides key demographic data for each of the three targeted communities as well as comparison to town, state and national statistics.

	Springsteen Mill		Greenwood Mill Foundry Greenwood		Toxaway Mill		SC	US
	Chester				Anderson			
	City	County	Tract 9708	City	Tract 123	City		
Population	5,494	33,140	8,011	23,206	3,759	27,181	4,679,602	311,536 594
% Minority	66.4	37.5	52.2	43.7	45.6	18.8	28.7	5.3
% Children(5-under)	7.9	6.4	9.3	7.6	8	6.8	6.4	6.5
% Elderly(65-over)	13.7	15.3	13.5	15	9	18.1	14.2	13.4
% Women of Child Bearing Age(15-44)	36.1	35.9	39.8	42.8	47.7	42.3	38.7	39.6
Poverty Rate	38	24.5	34.3	34.5	34.3	16.8	18.1	11.3
Median Household Income	\$22,237	\$33,101	\$22,288	\$24,584	\$21,849	\$41,579	\$44,779	\$53,046
Unemployment Rate (2014)	N/A	9.5	N/A	6.9 *	N/A	5.9*	6.4	5.3
Median Home Value	\$66,900	\$82,700	\$82,000	\$89,400	\$90,600	\$122,100	\$137,400	\$181,200
% Renter Occupied Homes	37.5	33.7	45.9	52	54.4	49.3	30.7	36.1
% Food Stamps/SNAP	31	20.9	29.5	24.1	40.1	23.9	13.8	11.4
% Female Headed Households	47.8	40.8	59.4	49.9	23.4	58.2	35.6	30.1
% with Social Security	45.3	39.2	41.1	36.3	31.7	37.2	28.5	28.3
*county rate								
Sources:								
US Census, American Community Survey (2013 estimates); US Bureau of Labor Statistics (yearly average unemployment, 2014)								

	Anderson	Chester	Greenwood
	City	City	City
Adult Health Indices (five reporting categories of increasing incidence)			
% with Diabetes	highest	highest	highest
% with High Blood Pressure	highest	highest	2nd highest
% with High Cholesterol	highest	highest	highest
% diagnosed with Stroke	highest	highest	2nd highest
% Obese	highest	2nd highest	2nd highest
% with Asthma	moderatehighest	highest	moderate
% with Lung Cancer	highest	2nd highest	moderate
Source: CDC Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System for 2011-2013, as reported in Policymap.com 2014			

iii. Description of Brownfields

The Springsteen Mill Project: The Springsteen Mill site is in downtown Chester. The site is on a major thoroughfare but is adjoined by close-in lower income housing areas and two churches. What once was an imposing 80,000 sq.ft. multi-story brick building, the mill operated from the 1890s until 1980. After closure, subsequent owners used the mill building for non-textile manufacturing and storage. The last owner stripped the mill and demolished about 75 percent of the structure, leaving a residue of unsightly and environmentally dangerous rubble. The City of Chester, after an extensive public charrette in 2006 to strategize for the town's overall future, identified the clearance and reuse of this property as one of its top priorities. Also, a new neighborhood non-profit, New Genesis, was formed by the local pastor of an area African American church to promote the clearance and reuse of this site

In 2009, the city acquired the remains of the property after entering into a Voluntary Cleanup Contract (VCC) with SC DHEC. At this point, the site was contaminated with elevated concentrations of VOCs, semi volatile organic compounds (SVOC), metals and/or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB). Asbestos containing material was scattered and mixed with debris on the site. In 2009, the city received a \$500,000 CDBG grant to clear the above-ground debris. Both city and county provided local funds totaling \$125,000 as project match. A follow-up 2014 EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment indicated the continued presence of contaminated soil and sediment throughout the property. Identified surface pollutants at elevated levels included SVOCs, PCBs, arsenic, and chromium. Sub surface soils contained benzo(a)pyrene, arsenic and chromium at concentrations that exceed site reuse standards. An ABCA has been completed as well. The property poses a potential environmental threat to both the nearby residents and their families and also to the adjacent downtown. With debris removed, the contaminated soils are exposed. The proximity of this site to nearby residential areas poses a health risk to the neighborhood. Attendance of all age groups at the neighboring churches also increases the possibility for unintended exposure.

The Greenwood Mill Foundry Project: The Foundry site is surrounded by a combination of public housing and former mill housing. There were four separate buildings on the site encompassing 16,000 sq. ft. Also included on the property was a disposal area for foundry waste. The Foundry closed in 1985. The site was eventually bought by the Greenwood Housing Authority which has a multifamily 144 unit public housing project located across from the Foundry property. The Housing Authority also has a relatively new \$1.3 million community center adjacent to the site. This section of the City is essentially a collection of small mill villages. While all the mill operations are gone, the mill housing is still in use. Part of the importance of this site is its location. It is at the intersection of the major arterial road traversing this section of town and is central to residential areas of three individual former mill neighborhoods.

In terms of Foundry site cleanup, the City of Greenwood has already utilized \$44,870 in CDBG funding for debris removal. The site is cleared of buildings and the City commissioned an updated Phase II Study and ABCA. The 2014 Phase II report indicated that the site had both surface and subsurface contaminants above suitable levels for general reuse. The study found "blank sand" containing elevated TAL metals of cobalt iron and selenium as well as concentrations of aluminum, arsenic manganese and vanadium, all the result of the Foundry operations. Additionally Chromium VI and PAHs including benzo(a)anthracene were reported above their respective industrial or residential RSLs. Whether by direct site contact or through air or storm water conveyance, these pollutants represent both real and perceived environmental risks to the immediate neighborhood of close in housing. The Phase II study expressed concern that in its current condition "surface contaminants may be picked up by runoff and carried down-gradient to potential receptors." These receptors include the nearby housing. With the concentration of public housing units and mill homes nearby, the contamination on the site poses

both a real and perceived threat to area residents including the many children and other sensitive groups in this area.

Toxaway Mills Project. Toxaway Mills in Anderson, which dates to the early 1900s, closed in 1982. The unoccupied building deteriorated over time and was finally destroyed by fire in 2000. Complicating its current condition, illegal dumping also has occurred on the site. The mill property is currently owned by Anderson County as a non-responsible party with a VCC. This 13.7-acre site is separated by a rail line, from companion mill (Riverside) which also experienced a similar fate but has completed site cleanup. Toxaway's other boundaries are close to mill village residences. A 2009 Phase II ESA confirmed the presence of semi-volatile organic compounds, inorganic materials and metals in both surface and sub surface soils. Many on-site contaminants are associated with the site's 80 years of service as a textile mill. Asbestos and lead based paint are scattered over the site debris.

The proximity of area residents, many of whom come from sensitive groups, to the exposed burnt-out and contaminated mill property are at risk from a combination of soil, and airborne contamination dangers. Additionally, the remaining debris on the property creates significant visual blight. While Anderson County was recently awarded an EPA Cleanup grant of \$200,000 for the Toxaway property, actual cleanup cost has exceeded the grant amount. As a result, the county is in the process of applying for BRLF funding from SC DHEC to help fill the financing gap. A leveraged grant from the federal Appalachian Regional Commission also will be used.

iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues

In addition to the impacts from the abandoned mill sites, these small towns are home to a variety of adverse environmental degradation. Review of the SC DHEC environmental sites database indicates there is a total of 93 CERCLA sites in the three cities - 12 in Chester, 28 in Greenwood, and 53 in Anderson; and, there are 108 confirmed releases from underground storage tanks - 24 in Chester, 39 in Greenwood, and 45 in Anderson.

The communities are also impacted by active railroads adjacent to and through their neighborhoods. Diesel exhaust from locomotives contains dozens of contaminants, carcinogens, ozone smog-forming compounds and fine particulate matter. Exposure to fine particles is known to cause asthma attacks, heart attacks, lung cancer, strokes and even premature death. Plus, neighborhood residents and business are affected by the noise and vibrations from the trains passing at all hours. The residents of the area are thus exposed or potentially exposed to contaminants from the railroad, Brownfields sites, underground storage tanks, leaking underground storage tanks, state listed dry cleaning sites, and from other operating industries. The neighborhoods who desire to maintain a safe and healthy environment in which to live, work, and play are dealing with many and substantial contaminant exposure pathways.

As demonstrated in the demographics table above, all three targeted sites in this application have environmental justice concerns. All have concentrations of low and moderate income residents and housing within close proximity to the contaminated mill properties. Residents have been living alongside these eyesores and debris-ridden areas for twenty years or more. Environmental justice concerns have been difficult to rectify because these former mill communities are reliant on grants and other outside funding to make needed improvements. Homeowners are impacted in these areas because of low home values as a result of neighborhood market condition associated with the mill property and former mill environment. Home values remain low in comparison to community, state, and national averages. These targeted areas also lack important community facilities such as neighborhood parks which is why two of these sites are already intended for this purpose. The very low household income figures for these areas is a clear indication that many in these communities rely on government assistance programs, whether Social Security, Food Stamps, or public health care. Living over an extended period in this physical environment, compounded with limited personal financial resources, can have significant mental health consequences. Some of these sites are adjacent to

high traffic corridors. For example, the Springsteen Mill Community is adjacent to a major highway, SC 9, which in 2014 had an average traffic volume of 6,900 cars and trucks passing by daily. (Source: SC Dept. of Transportation)

b. Impacts on Targeted Community

All three of the targeted sites are adjacent to at risk population groups. The mills operated for close to a century until destroyed by a combination of fire and/or salvage activities, are dealing with issues of surface and subsurface soil contamination with substances such as heavy metals, asbestos, PCBs and SVOCs, and are large pieces of property with close-in neighborhoods of various sensitive populations. The communities contain individuals and families from infants to seniors. Sensitive groups within each include the elderly, children, and pregnant women. High concentrations of minority populations are present, and the areas are characterized by high poverty rates. An indicator of the pervasiveness of poverty is the high usage of Food Stamp/SNAP benefits. (See Table above.)

In addition to the direct health risks for exposure to these sites and their contaminants, these targeted communities exhibit poor health conditions and outcomes which may be aggravated by the environmental conditions to which they are exposed (see CDC Table above). Community welfare impacts are indicated by family economies and mental health issues. In these communities, public input and the involvement of local residents have shown the frustration and anxiety that accompanies living in an area year after year close to major sites of dangerous debris and contamination. The presence of contaminants in the soil presents a risk to all who wander near or on the property. This would be particularly the case for neighborhood children using this area as a place to play. For adults, it is noteworthy that these areas exhibit a much higher than normal incidence of stroke (2014 CDC statistics reported in Policymap.com), making its senior population especially vulnerable to exposure to contaminants such as contained on the site. In all three prospective projects, cleanup of each of these large sites would remove a significant health hazard and elevate welfare by improving each area's appearance and economic viability.

c. Financial Need

i. Economic Conditions:

The applicant for this grant is the State of South Carolina which, like most states, has severe budget pressures related to Education, Medicaid, etc. Consequently, limited state resources are not available to finance a large amount of Brownfield cleanup. The financial need also is real in the cities and counties containing these target communities. All three local governments in this application have limited resources to address issues other than very basic services and need to rely on outside sources of assistance such as CDBG, EDA and EPA to help finance community development, infrastructure improvements, and Brownfield cleanup. The loss of textile mills, which at one time formed the economic backbone of these targeted communities, not only greatly reduced the local government tax base but also lost the largest customer for utility services of power, water, and sewer, reducing the ability to address the cleanup of these sites.

During most of the 20th century, and up until the early 1980s, the City of Chester's economic and tax base was dependent on its three large textile mills. By the mid 1980s, all three were closed. The closure was devastating for its residents and mill workers and for the city and county which rely on property tax income as a major revenue source. The City of Chester is still recovering from this economic dislocation. The population that remains in Chester is older, primarily minority, and with a high level of poverty. The city is living with a much diminished economic and tax base from which to make public improvements. The Foundry project in Greenwood tells a similar story. The poverty level of area residents and depressed property values (median home value of \$82,000) both indicate the financial weakness left by the demise of the textile economy. While Greenwood is progressing in attracting new industries, the drag on the local economy by the former mill closures is still felt. Its ability to tackle needed

infrastructure cleanup projects on own is very limited. Past success and current efforts to partner with state, federal agencies and other resources to achieve progress have been important.

Anderson County and City also have limited resources. With their economy historically rooted in the textile industry, these local governments are working to attract new commerce and industry. While progress is being made, city and county financial resources are still stretched, making it difficult to address these Brownfields issues on their own.

ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields

All three projects show the negative impact of large scale Brownfield sites on economic conditions in the immediate neighborhoods and also on the communities as a whole. In all three targeted neighborhoods, new investment in housing or commercial property is essentially non-existent

In Chester, the poverty rate (see table above) is over three times the national average. The Greenwood Foundry and Anderson Toxaway poverty rates are just as high. This combined with unemployment rates higher than the nation severely limits the financial resources of local governments. Their tax base is already stretched to provide the basic, minimum of public services, and only with the help of outside sources such as the BRLF program can these cleanup projects occur. With the loss of industry, the tax base falls back on the value of homes, and in each of these communities, home value is less than half the national average. While all three target Brownfields neighborhoods have long term potential for improvement, there are no nearby developments in any of the three locations which currently can offset the severe negative impact on property values.

The Springsteen site also has a direct negative impact on the redevelopment potential of Chester's downtown. With the site actually within the downtown area, its appearance and perceived health hazards are a deterrent to new commercial development within the area, as attested in the enclosed letters of support. Community disinvestment is a specific problem for Chester's downtown where store vacancy rates are high. All three targeted Brownfield sites also place an increased burden on local governments which have to secure and monitor the sites on a regular basis until cleanup occurs.

2. RLF Program Description and Feasibility of Success

a. Program Description and Marketing Strategy

SC DHEC has a successful BRLF, based in a pilot grant awarded in 2000, which has committed and/or funded over \$7.5 million of loan and sub-grant capital to catalytic Brownfields sites throughout the state of South Carolina. SC DHEC plans to continue to operate the program in the same manner to achieve excellent fund management results (no delinquencies or charge offs of the portfolio to-date) and the successful remediation of several additional Brownfields sites. As the state environmental agency, SC DHEC is also available post grant closing to provide additional information, such as ongoing leveraging of EPA funds, beyond the grant closing date. Additionally, SC DHEC is able to protect and mitigate any potential exposure from contamination to nearby populations from contaminants during cleanup work conducted on Brownfields sites under the grant through its statutory authority and active project management by Brownfields section staff.

i. Program Description

To date, SC DHEC's BRLF provides primarily loans but also some sub-grants where warranted. If awarded funds under this application, SC DHEC will use the grant proceeds exclusively for lending to borrowers remediating Brownfields sites which are contaminated with hazardous materials (i.e. non-petroleum). Loan terms generally are as follows: up to 18 months interest-only paid monthly or quarterly through remediation/cleanup; at cleanup completion (certified by SC DHEC staff), the loan converts to a fully amortizing term loan with a 10 year amortization period. Currently, up to 30% of a loan up to a maximum of \$200,000 may be

forgiven for non-profit or governmental borrowers at completion of the remediation which coincides with the loan's conversion from interest-only to amortization (term-out). Interest rates for BRLF loans can range from 1-5%, depending upon the risk of the transaction, collateral pledged, cash flow of the borrower, and impact of the project.

SC DHEC contracts with the Catawba Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG) for fund management (see Section 5 for Programmatic Capability/Past Performance). Candidates for potential BRLF funding are selected using a wide range of resources, including the SC DHEC Brownfields Program office, environmental professionals, state community development organizations, Councils of Governments, and municipal and county associations. After initial consultation with qualified prospects, CRCOG analyzes historic financial statements and underwrites each loan prospect through an assessment of primary (cash flow) and secondary (collateral liquidation/guarantor support) repayment capacity, along with the potential environmental and community impact of each project. This information is obtained through a formal application process. The environmental and community impact of each given project is confirmed by the involvement of SC DHEC in the selection process and the provision of key cleanup documentation including the VCC and work plans which both require SC DHEC approval. Environmentally sensitive sites also go through appropriate state and federal review processes which for example may include Corps of Engineers consultation. The alignment of each project with established local and regional land use plans and strategies is a new review element in the application process. BRLF funding is viewed as gap financing. As such, CRCOG determines that the prospect has the balance of funding available which may be necessary to complete the project (i.e. leveraged funds). These funds must be available and/or on hand. Leveraged funds can take various forms and are always encouraged. For example, CRCOG has reviewed grant documents for projects with corresponding CDBG grants, verified proof of legal settlement funds which might be used to complete a project, reviewed grant commitment letters from foundations, and confirmed funding/budget allocations for remediation projects conducted by local governments.

Loan memoranda (Credit Approval Reports) are prepared by CRCOG and considered by a joint committee consisting of senior SC DHEC staff and lending/credit professionals at Catawba Regional. Upon approval by the committee, loan commitment letters are prepared by CRCOG and reviewed by SC DHEC. Loan documentation (note, mortgage, loan agreement, etc.) is prepared by the fund manager's legal counsel and approved by SC DHEC staff before closing. Invoices for site and remediation work completed are reviewed by SC DHEC staff for eligibility of costs and conformity to a site's specific VCC. SC DHEC then instructs the fund manager to release funds/draws under the loan. EPA has reviewed and approved original loan documentation and cost information as appropriate on specific transactions.

Financial statements, collateral valuations, correspondence, environmental assessments, and other documentation are maintained in each borrower's loan file. Once closed, the file documentation includes the promissory note, guarantee (if applicable), mortgage and/or other security documents, borrowing resolution or equivalent, evidence of continuing hazard insurance for secured property/improvements and title insurance for secured real estate as necessary or required. Annual financial statements are also gathered and kept on file throughout the term of the loan.

Loans are serviced by CRCOG staff. Monthly or quarterly payments are received and then remitted to SC DHEC for the portfolio with documentation of individual loan payments. CRCOG also ensures continued insurance coverage and compliance with any other ongoing documentation requirements of a loan.

ii. Marketing Strategy

CRCOG markets the BRLF program state-wide through a variety of ways. One successful approach has been making personal visits with city and county governments, community and

economic development organizations, environmental professionals, and developers. The Fund Manager and SC DHEC staff also make regular presentations at state and regional government and environmental meetings. Often previous borrowers participate providing success stories. Within this past year, CRCOG has authored articles promoting the BRLF program in widely circulated magazines of the SC Municipal Association and the SC Association of Counties. This has been followed up by in-person presentations to both organizations at their annual meetings. Presentations on the program have also been given to Council of Governments (COGs) Boards of Directors throughout the state. Leads for new projects often originate with these contacts and presentations. While the cleanup and reuse of textile mill sites have been the primary recipients of BRLF funding, the Fund also is open to other types of Brownfield cleanup such as abandoned landfills, contaminated commercial operations, and the need for asbestos and lead based paint removal from older office buildings to enable reuse. The Fund looks for cleanup projects of various types where there is a significant benefit for the community and the immediate neighborhood. Applicants--based on past experience--tend to be local governments at the municipal or county level. Non-profits, such as redevelopment authorities and conservation trusts, have also been funded.

Projects selected for underwriting must have a non-responsible party (NRP) VCC either executed or in process with SC DHEC. Interest remains high for the BRLF program in SC, as 16 loans and sub-grants have been committed to date, and a pipeline of active prospects is maintained by the fund manager. Based upon an active pipeline of eligible and catalytic projects, we believe that capital funded under this grant will be easily deployed within a two year period. As identified elsewhere in this application, the prospective projects in Anderson County, the City of Greenwood, and the City of Chester are excellent loan candidates.

Personal marketing efforts (meetings, calls, participation at statewide conferences such as the SC Municipal Association and SC Association of Counties annual meetings) will continue throughout the term of the grant. This will maintain a pipeline of quality prospects from which the BRLF/SC DHEC may choose, thus ensuring borrower quality and high-impact community and environmental results.

b. Task Description and Budget Table

i. Task Description

The SC DHEC BRLF is well established. Therefore, almost 90% of the requested funds will be used to for loans to cover actual Brownfields site remediation costs.

TASK 1: A budget of \$28,000 will be applied to Community Involvement, Outreach, and Marketing. Funded activities include continuing marketing and promotion at public events as indicated above. Outreach and marketing will occur throughout the State with portions of the budget for travel to local conferences, educational events, and visits with COGs, state economic and community development associations, and local governments. Cost share is provided through state funds providing vehicle and travel expenses, and registration fees for EPA Brownfields conferences and workshops.

TASK 2: A budget of \$106,800 is reserved for management of the Loan Fund. The CRCOG is under contract as the fund manager. Their duties include underwriting, monitoring, and servicing all loans, marketing the fund, and assisting SC DHEC in all financial and legal issues. The budget includes expenses for personnel, travel, training, and legal costs for loan documentation. Cost share is provided through state funds and origination fees collected from loan applicants.

TASK 3: A budget of \$1,064,400 for capitalization of the BRLF for direct site cleanup activities funded through loans to eligible entities. All site cleanups are conducted in accordance with SC DHEC-approved work plans developed under VCCs. Cost share is provided by 20% cost share required of each borrower. The cost share applies only to eligible activities included in

the VCC work plan. Loan estimates for the targeted communities are: \$300,000 for Chester, \$275,000 for Greenwood, and \$300,000 for Anderson.

ii. Budget Table

Funding Type	Budget Categories	Program Tasks \$ programmatic costs for Loans - 100%			
Hazardous Substances 100%		Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Total
		Marketing & Outreach	Loan Fund Management	Targeted Loans	
	Personnel (inc. fringes)	0	0	0	0
	Travel	15,000	0	0	15,000
	Supplies	5,000	2,500	0	7,500
	Contractual	4,000	86,500	0	90,500
	Loans	0	0	887,000	887,000
	Subtotal	24,000	89,000	887,000	1,000,000
	Federal Funding	24,000	89,000	887,000	1,000,000
	Cost Share	4,800	17,800	177,400	200,000
	Total	28,800	106,800	1,064,400	1,200,000

c. Ability to Leverage

As past performance is the best predictor of future achievement, it is helpful to note the historical match rate for the existing BRLF. The BRLF has made 12 loans and 4 sub-grants, totaling \$7.573 million. BRLF funding requires a 20% match rate by federal regulation. The SC BRLF has achieved excellent leverage rates, in that of the almost \$7.6 million loaned and sub-granted, the fund has achieved a cumulative match rate of over 46%. With match and leveraged funds totaling \$6.543 million, total capital deployed for BRLF projects exceeds \$14.1 million. Match has primarily come in the form of borrower cash contribution for eligible project costs. Additionally, for the targeted projects as well as others will be realized through a combination of cash injection, eligible CDBG grants, Appalachian Regional Commission grant funds, in-kind services, historic tax credits, Federal and State Textile Mill Restoration tax credits, and job creation tax credits.

Examples of site-specific leveraging in the recent past include the following: Florence County/Lake City Park Project - The Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation is provided a leveraged match of \$191,459 for a \$500,000 BRLF loan (2013) to remediate a former local landfill for use as a community park; Town of Ware Shoals/Ware Shoals Mill Project - \$400,000 from a legal settlement by Riegel Mills to the Town of Ware Shoals is being used to highly leverage a \$400,000 BRLF loan to clean up the 20-acre Riegel Mill site and a nearby fly ash landfill for future greenspace adjacent to city hall; Aiken County/Seminole Mill Project - \$316,667 of county Local Option Sales Tax revenue is leveraging a BRLF loan of \$883,333 to clean up the burnt out and environmentally hazardous Seminole Mills site; City of Rock Hill/Bleachery Project - Tax Increment Financing Revenue Bond proceeds of \$2 million is leveraging \$1.15 million of BRLF financing as part of a \$6+ million cleanup project for the 28 acre Rock Hill Printing and Finishing (Bleachery) site in downtown Rock Hill.

Both the City of Chester and Chester County are committed to the Springsteen Mill project and to date have been able to provide seed funding or match amounts from their limited resources. The investment of \$500,000 in CDBG funding plus the local city and county government match of \$125,000, provide a good example of how committed these governmental units are in leveraging limited resources to make this site cleanup possible. Funding commitments for future remediation have been secured from The Springs Close Foundation

(minimum \$5,000, up to \$100,000), Founders Federal Credit Union (minimum \$2,500), and Chester County (in-kind use of trucks and waiving tipping fees estimated between \$11,000 and \$14,000). The Self Family Foundation has committed a minimum of \$5,000 support for the Greenwood Foundry project. An Appalachian Regional Commission Grant of \$60,000 with \$60,000 local match is committed. With an estimated BRLF loan of \$250,000, only \$50,000 is needed for match. The remainder of \$70,000 should count as leverage. Copies of letters documenting the committed leveraged resources are included in the Attachment.

3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community and Other Stakeholders; and, Communicating Progress

SC DHEC has a strong, award-winning community involvement and environmental justice program. SC DHEC was awarded the Environmental Justice Achievement Award in 2008 by the US EPA for those initiatives. As a requirement of the VCC, SC DHEC instructs borrowers to continue to cultivate local partnerships and involve stakeholders in their decision-making processes throughout the cleanup of the individual sites.

The loan agreement terms and conditions require borrowers to develop a Community Engagement Plan (CEP) covering processes, activities (e.g., public meetings), and planned deliverables (e.g., fact sheets, web page) throughout the term of the cleanup process. The CEP can be an outline of planned activities and is expected to evolve based on project needs and community feedback. The plan includes components such as identifying communities (neighborhoods, business community, property owners, etc.), timing and methods of seeking input, methods of communicating progress and education/information sharing (periodic progress reports).

For example, as mentioned above, the City of Chester held an extensive public charrette. In the City of Greenwood (Greenwood Mill remediation with BRLF funding) a very effective method of promoting community engagement and reporting cleanup progress was for the City Manager to provide an on-site TV news interview describing the project, cleanup work to date, and contact information. The CEP should include the partners and key community-based organizations that were identified in the loan application. All VCCs are public noticed in local newspapers and on-site signage. At the three targeted Brownfields, community involvement is well underway as demonstrated by the partnerships in place (described below). At each site, neighborhood associations, property owners, civic leaders, and developers have provided input through meetings, charrettes, or planning sessions to achieve a common vision for revitalization of the properties. This process is carried out for all Brownfields that receive loans through the BRLF.

b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority

SC DHEC, which will be the grant recipient, is the State's Health and Environmental authority. It has many resources available. There are eight regional offices providing health and environmental services across the state. SC DHEC has been selected by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to participate in the National Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Network. The primary purpose of participation in the EPHT Network is to provide a systematic, ongoing and sustainable approach for tracking environmental hazards and exposures to identify opportunities for public health intervention.

All environmental cleanup activities will be overseen by the SC DHEC Environmental Site Managers. Site managers conduct technical review of all documentation required and generated during site environmental cleanup. The Site Manager will be fulfilling responsibilities of EPA, CERCLA, and individual state cleanup requirements. SC DHEC staff professionals that are

assigned as project managers and will serve in Site Manager and Qualified Environmental Professional roles has between six to 13 years of environmental experience.

ii. Other Governmental Agencies

HUD CDBG funding was used for initial debris removal on the Greenwood Mills site which was a previous RLF recipient. The SC Department of Commerce, again utilizing HUD CDBG funding, provided similar support for debris removal on the targeted Springsteen site. Also related to this application, the City of Chester and Chester County are active participants in the greater Charlotte bi-state **area HUD-DOT-EPA Sustainable Communities program** through their participation in the CRCOG which is the lead partner with Centralina Council of Governments, the recipient of a PSC grant(see attached letter from Centralina Council of Governments).

The state's ten Councils of Governments also are important resources and partners in promoting Brownfield cleanup and reuse. All ten COGs are federal Economic Development Administration designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs). The three specific EDDs with coverage over the targeted sites in this application all encourage Brownfield cleanup and redevelopment as a regional and community sustainability policy in their respective Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs). Additionally, Anderson County is within the poverty related Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) district from which it is eligible to apply for funding assistance.

The COGS, because their boards are composed of local elected officials, serve as excellent forums to present the BRLF program and its benefits and to obtain leads on prospective projects. COG staff are well versed in state and federal assistance programs and are often instrumental in helping leverage additional funding to cleanup projects. An example of this type of assistance was the previously funded cleanup of the Union Mill property (City of Union, SC) in the Catawba Region. Catawba Regional COG staff prepared a successful CDBG grant application for initial debris removal and guided the city through the process of applying for Brownfield RLF funding to complete cleanup. The site is currently being repurposed for an apartment complex.

The cooperation of the US Corps of Engineers was also instrumental in the cleanup of another funded BRLF project, the Florence County/Lake City remediation of a former landfill which is being repurposed as a new regional park and lake.

c. Partnerships with Community Organizations

i. Community Organization Description & Role

Close associations with community-based organizations are created with almost every site cleanup project. For the Springsteen Mill, partnerships have been established with the City of Chester, Chester County, both offering in-kind support; The Springs Close Foundation and Founders Federal Credit Union (both offering financial support); Chester Citizens Alliance and Downtown Development Assn. and Arts Council; and local businesses. In Greenwood, partners for the Foundry project include The Self Foundation (with financial support); Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation; Wisewood Neighborhood Association, Greenwood Housing Authority; and, Healthy Greenwood Neighborhoods, Inc. In Anderson, strong support is offered by community organizations such as Innovate Anderson, South Main Chapel and Mercy Center, Anderson University and the Appalachian Council of Governments. Many of these have indicated a willingness to provide hands-on assistance.

ii. Letters of commitment

Please see copies of letters in the Attachment detailing support from all above-mentioned partners.

4. Program Benefits

a. Health and/or Welfare and Environmental Benefits

i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits

The textile mill sites are large in size, in prominent locations, and surrounded by mill housing neighborhoods. As previously indicated, the exposure to the range of industrial contaminants on these sites threatens the nearby residents with health hazards. This compounds the negative health impact on residents who are already have been shown to be of sensitive population groups whether in terms of poverty, minority status, or existing health conditions documented by the federal CDC. Brownfield site cleanup and reuse will have a transformative effect on these areas, particularly in that revitalization of each of the three targeted sites achieve livability principals of 1) supporting existing communities, 2) promoting equitable, affordable housing, and valuing communities and neighborhoods. Cleanup will protect the people living near the sites from exposure to contaminated soils that migrate by wind, water, and animals into their living spaces. Also eliminated are exposures to asbestos and leaded paint, contaminated groundwater, and fumes or vapors.

ii. Environmental Benefits

Earlier discussion (section 1.a.i.) describes how site cleanup and reuse will reduce toxicity, illegal activity, and blighted vacant properties and enable existing residents to live without fear of sickness from contact with the sites. Improved living conditions and better environmental conditions may result in nearby commercial redevelopment with possible job creation as a byproduct. Furthermore, if residents reduce their susceptibility to sickness because of the cleanup, it also enhances their opportunity for obtaining, or not jeopardizing, jobs.

All three targeted projects focus on park and greenspace development for their communities. As a social justice issue, these projects address the need for local parks within low income communities where such parks have not been largely available in the past. The additional benefit of making these areas more walkable also supports a key Livability objective. In the case of the Greenwood Foundry project, the proposed site redevelopment into parkland will be a valuable addition to the community center which serves a predominately low income, minority population. In the case of the City of Chester, the Springsteen Mill site would provide a much needed and talked about community recreational site for area and city-wide residents. Currently there are no park facilities within walking distance of the homes nearby site.

b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

i. Planning, Policies or Other Tools

The targeted Brownfields sites are supported by comprehensive plans and related planning documents for each of these jurisdictions. These documents promote sustainable use through the revitalization of existing neighborhoods, promoting access to jobs and expanding recreational and open space areas. Infill redevelopment is seen as a sustainable method of utilizing existing infrastructure. For example, the Springsteen Mill site is located immediately adjacent to a main traffic artery, and also has available water, sewer, and natural gas lines. Sustainable reuse of the property calls for site to be used for park and open space for the neighboring communities and to enhance the downtown. The Greenwood Foundry also represents a City of Greenwood development principal by promoting infill development and using existing infrastructure (encouraging efficient land use planning). This former industrial property not only has existing water and sewer service nearby but will be reused for needed park and open space area in south side location. Plans for the Toxaway site also call for its reuse as a community park in an area of the city lacking parks and recreation for the nearby mill village residents. At each project, existing infrastructure (whether water ,sewer, storm drainage or roads) is viewed as a sustainable asset component.

ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles.

All three proposed projects promote the HUD-DOT-EPA Livability Principles of supporting existing communities, valuing communities and neighborhoods, and leveraging federal investment. All three would remediate and reuse land that currently is a health hazard and blight on their communities. All would leverage existing investments by federal agencies such as HUD

CDBG (Springsteen and the Foundry) the Appalachian Regional Commission (Toxaway), and EPA cleanup grants. All three sites, if remediated, would add to the value each of these local governments place on revitalizing existing neighborhoods, including those with high percentages of low income and minority residents. Removing and mitigating contaminants from these sites would contribute to the desired Sustainable and Equitable Development outcome of contributing to a healthier neighborhood environment including providing an enhanced environment for the affordable housing already in place, with improved walking access and mobility to nearby facilities. This also directly addresses the goal of reducing toxicity, illegal dumping and blighted vacant parcels.

c. Economic and Community Benefits (long term benefits)

i. Economic and other Benefits

All three sites also have an economic development component as well. The Chester Springsteen site, in its state of decay and unsightly appearance, is often cited by local economic development professionals as a reason why prospective businesses decide to bypass Chester. A remediated site, repurposed as a community park, can have a reinvigorating effect on downtown development. In terms of the Anderson Toxaway and Greenwood Foundry sites, the current Brownfield conditions deter development in the immediate area, whether commercial or residential. The cleanup of these properties and the fact that both are slated to be community parks would add a positive outlook for additional investment in these areas.

The cleanup and reuse of these three sites as new park sites would significantly enhance the appearance of these three targeted communities. EPA research indicates that, when Brownfields are removed from existing neighborhoods, new housing development or rehab occurs, home ownership increases, and property values throughout the neighborhood rise by 2 to 3 percent. Not only is this a benefit for existing residents as home values increase, but city governments also benefit from increased property tax revenue.

ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs

Local hiring and procurement are important to the implementation of South Carolina's BRLF projects. It is accepted practice in SC's BRLF program to promote local hiring and procurement in BRLF projects. This is accomplished in a number of ways. First, each project as part of its work program has a public outreach component which is designed to provide area residents and the general locality helpful information on the nature of the cleanup project and the opportunities to participate as either a source of services or as an opportunity for employment. As part of this effort, local residents may be directed to local SC Works Centers, which have close contact and a database of local employment opportunities. These state Centers have locations serving all three of our targeted communities, and are part of a state network sponsored by the US Department of Labor.

In the initial phases of each project, and according to the procurement policy of each governmental borrower, bids for services are publicly advertised to attract local attention in area-wide newspapers or listed in widely viewed contractor databases.

As part of its commitment to meet BRLF program and federal regulations, all loan agreements with BRLF borrowers also require that Davis Bacon requirements are met to ensure that appropriate wages are paid over the course of Brownfield cleanup.

There have not been any EPA Brownfields job training programs funded in South Carolina over the last three years, so this is not an available resource at this time within the state.

5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

a. Programmatic Capability

As the environmental regulator for the state of South Carolina, SC DHEC has the statutory authority to manage a Brownfields cleanup program and to create such vehicles as the BRLF to facilitate remediation of sites across the state. SC DHEC also monitors, measures, and reports

outputs and outcomes. Outputs include VCCs, execution of loans, environmental cleanup of sites, and project oversight and reporting. Outputs are tracked through the State's Environmental Facilities Information System and reported through **ACRES**, EPA quarterly reports, and routine State reports. This information is provided in various forms (reports/news releases/online) to citizens, partners, stakeholders, legislators, and the SC DHEC Board of Directors.

Roles and responsibilities follow: Robert Hodges, P.G. manages the SC DHEC Brownfields program staff whom will oversee all site cleanup activity. Program staff of five include licensed engineers and geologists with over 80 years combined experience in environmental site cleanup. Each will act as Qualified Environmental Professionals. SC DHEC contracts with the Catawba Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG) for fund management.

CRCOG is an active economic development lender throughout the state, originating over \$60 million of economic development loans throughout South Carolina over the past 20+ years. CRCOG has an experienced team. Key staff and functions include: BRLF Fund Manager: Randy Imler, Executive Director Catawba Regional Council of Governments. Mr. Imler has overseen the COG's involvement in the BRLF program since 2006. Previously, Mr. Imler was a Senior Vice President for Community Development Banking at Bank of America. He provides underwriting and loan structuring for all new BRLF applications and oversees all other operations of BRLF program management at the COG level. Outreach/Marketing Manager: Harold Shapiro. Mr. Shapiro has over 30 years experience with the COG including management, planning, and public engagement expertise.

SC DHEC and the Catawba Regional COG have the in-house capacity to fully manage the BRLF Fund, however, should additional outside expertise be required, the authority and flexibility exists to acquire the added assistance, as needed.

b. Audit Findings

The SC DHEC BRLF financial statements have been audited since 2008. McGregor and Company, CPAs have conducted the most recent audit for fiscal year 2015 (FY 2015) This and previous audits have had an 'unmodified/unqualified' opinions (i.e. no findings, adverse conditions, or material issues) every year. The FY2015 audited financial statements identifies total SC DHEC BRLF assets of \$5,897,135, liabilities of \$12,223, and fund balances of \$5,884,912.

c. Past Performance and Accomplishment

1. Compliance with grant requirements

SC DHEC realizes the importance of the ACRES data base and provides updated information on site and clearance activity, as it occurs. Throughout the 15-year term of the grant, SC DHEC successfully complied with all EPA Grant work plans, schedule, terms and conditions requirements, consistently met target dates for quarterly reporting and other required submittals with no notices of delinquency or non-compliance. The EPA Region has indicated that due to the age of the original grant, SC will no longer have access to supplemental funding which has been important to the statewide program's success. **Of the 12 loans which have been made, four have fully repaid. The 12 loans have returned over \$2.9 million of capital to the fund which in turn has enabled new lending.** At the time of this application, we are in the process of underwriting three loans for a total of approximately \$3 Million.

2. Accomplishments

In 2000, the SC DHEC Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BRLF) was capitalized with a \$4.75 million grant from EPA. Subsequently, supplemental funds have been awarded. As identified earlier, 16 loans and sub-grants have been made under previous BRLF awards from EPA putting over \$7.5 million to work cleaning Brownfields sites throughout the State with programmatic costs of just 5.3 percent. No delinquencies have ever occurred in the portfolio. No charge-offs or non-performing loans have ever occurred in the portfolio.

**South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant
Threshold Criteria**

1. Applicant Eligibility: The applicant is a State.
2. Description of Jurisdiction: The State of South Carolina.
3. Letter from the State of Tribal Authority: The applicant is a State, therefore a letter is not applicable.
4. Oversight Structure and Legal Authority to manage a Revolving Loan Fund:
 - a.) Access to the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) is available only to nonresponsible parties (NRP) with whom South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) has an executed Voluntary Cleanup Contract (VCC) under the State response program. All loan agreements require that the borrower complies with the tenants of its VCC and receives a Certificate of Completion from SCDHEC for the site remediation activities or the loan will be subject to default.
 - b.) A copy of the legal opinion memorandum from the SCEHEC Office of General Counsel is included as an attachment to this document.
5. Cost Share:
 - a.) Statutory Cost Share
 - i) All loan agreements require that the borrower provides 20% of the borrowed amount in matching funds. The matching funds must be used for eligible and allowable expenses under the grant.
 - ii) A hardship waiver will NOT be requested.

-o0o-

attachment

LEGAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert F. Hodges, Jr., Manager
Brownfields Section

FROM: Jacquelyn S. Dickman
Office of General Counsel

RE: South Carolina Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant Application

DATE: December 16, 2015

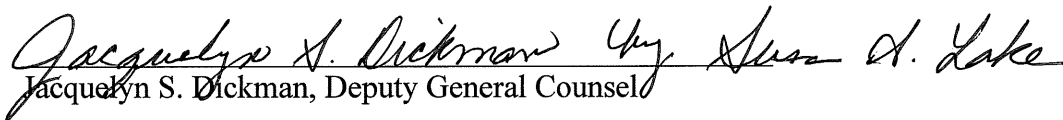
In response to the two items contained in Item 4.b. of the above referenced application:

1. Item 4.b.(1): Legal authority to access and secure sites in the event of an emergency or default of a loan agreement or non-performance under a subgrant.

The Department is empowered to take action to access and secure sites in the event of an emergency or where there exists an actual or potential threat to human health or the environment pursuant to the South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Act, S.C. Code Ann. §44-56-10 et seq., (2002), (the "Act"). The Department has a contingency fund for use in financing the costs of necessary response actions. (§44-56-140). The Department is also empowered to take action in response to an emergency pursuant to the Pollution Control Act, S.C. Ann. §48-1-290 (2008).

2. Item 4.b.(2): Legal authority to perform actions necessary to manage a revolving loan fund. At a minimum, legal authority must include the ability to hold funds, make loans, enter into loan agreements, and collect payments.

The Department is authorized to manage the revolving loan fund. The Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfields program is statutorily authorized under the Hazardous Waste Management Act. (§§ 44-56-710 to 760), and §44-56-200 of the Act empowers the Department to implement and enforce CERCLA and any amendments thereto. The Department is authorized to enter into agreements, contracts, or cooperative arrangements with federal agencies pursuant to §44-56-40 of the Act.


Jacquelyn S. Dickman, Deputy General Counsel



Catherine E. Heigel, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

LEGAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert F. Hodges, Jr., Manager
Brownfields Section

FROM: Jacquelyn S. Dickman
Office of General Counsel

RE: South Carolina Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant Application

DATE: December 16, 2015

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Jacquelyn S. Dickman, Deputy General Counsel





951 Market Street, Suite 205
Fort Mill, South Carolina 29708
(T) 803.548.2002
(F) 803.548.1797

December 7, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges, Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of The Springs Close Foundation please accept this letter of strong support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional Brownfield Cleanup Projects in the state, including potentially the contamination cleanup of the Springsteen Mill site in the center of the City of Chester.


The Springs Close Foundation was chartered in 1942. The general service areas of the Foundation are Chester, Lancaster and York Counties. The Foundation's mission is to continue Colonel Springs' legacy of giving back to the communities where Springs Mills plants were originally located.

The importance of the Springsteen site for the City of Chester is not only as a potential site for a much needed neighborhood and community wide park but also the fact that with its prominent location leading into Chester's downtown, its cleanup would remove what is now a prominent eyesore in this small community, one that leaves a very negative impression on any visitor and prospective business entering the town. Its current vacant and overgrown condition has had a depressing impact on the both Chester's downtown and on the residential neighborhoods that are adjacent to the site.

The Foundation's commitment to the City of Chester and Chester County has been long standing. As an indication of how strongly we support this project, we are willing to assist the City of Chester by providing a portion of the required local match of a minimum of \$5,000 (with the possibility of additional funds if needed) of cleanup cost up to a maximum of \$100,000 if Chester is ultimately success to being approved for Revolving Loan Funds for this project.

We understand that the Chester Project is part of a statewide application to recapitalize funds for the state's overall Brownfields Revolving Loan funds and that funding for the Chester project is not automatic but would require the City to make a formal application to DHEC for funding and meet all of the required loan underwriting requirements.

However, to the extent that The Springs Close Foundation can help make this happen by providing the local match, we are pleased to offer this support. I would be glad to be contacted to discuss our support in greater detail, if needed.

Sincerely,

Angela H. McCrae
President

Cc: Harold Shapiro
Catawba Regional Council of Governments



Bruce A. Brumfield
President/CEO

737 Plantation Road
Lancaster, SC 29720
803.289.5930
bruce.brumfield@foundersfcu.com

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Founders Federal Credit Union, I am submitting this letter in support of the proposed environmental cleanup of the Chester Springsteen site. We understand that the City of Chester may have an opportunity to apply for low interest, partially forgivable loan from the State of South Carolina's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund, if re-capitalized by EPA.

Founders Federal Credit Union has had a strong presence in Chester for over 50 years; it is a very important part of the overall operation of the credit union. Our Board and management team feel strongly about giving back with our funds and our time to the communities we serve. Historically, we have been very active in promoting the economic welfare of the Chester community and are acutely aware of the problems this site (in its current state) presents to both Chester's economic prospects and the health and wellbeing of its local residents. As lenders, we also know how difficult it is to redevelop sites where there is contamination present.

The cleanup of the Chester Springsteen mill site is needed for all the above reasons. The site is very visible, and creates an extremely poor impression in its current state of vacancy and abandonment. We are also aware of the impact that sites like this can have on neighboring property. The depression of property values that occurs hurts many of these residents who have much of their limited assets tied up in the value of their homes.

We applaud the City for pursuing funds from the state's Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund program and pledge our support in its efforts. Founders will commit a minimum of \$2,500 towards this project as well as allowing the usage of our conference room in Chester for meetings based on availability.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Brumfield
President/CEO



December 9, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Brownfields Program Director
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Robert:

As you know, Catawba Regional Council of Governments (COG) has been helping the City of Chester with the cleanup of the Springsteen site for a number of years now.

In 2009, Catawba Regional COG prepared a successful CDBG grant application on behalf of the City to provide \$500,000 for the initial debris and building removal from the site. The application pointed out the health hazards of the site to nearby neighborhoods and the negative image it had on the downtown. COG staff also helped design and implement an extensive public participation process as part of the planning and implementation of this grant.

After the initial debris removal, COG planners have been assisting the City in positioning itself for the additional cleanup needed, as identified by EPA's Targeted Assessment report and ABCA.

Catawba Regional COG is pleased to endorse this site for further cleanup through the BCRLF program and its inclusion in DHEC's application for additional EPA funding.

Catawba Regional serves as the EDA Economic Development District for this area. Catawba Regional's **2015 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** has as one of its **Vital Projects, Programs and Activities**, to "continue environmental assessment and redevelopment of abandoned textile sites into viable commercial/industrial uses or mixed use developments featuring retail space, residences and recreational facilities." The cleanup of the Springsteen site to prepare it for recreational use and possibly a housing development fulfills a need within the mixed use environment of this area.

This project is consistent with the goals and strategies of Catawba Regional's CEDS.

Should this project receive Brownfields Cleanup funding, Catawba's planning staff will be available to assist with the implementation of this project.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Imler", is written over a horizontal line.

Randy Imler
Executive Director

cc: Harold Shapiro

Serving Chester, Lancaster, Union, & York Counties

HAZEL PITTMAN CENTER

behavioral health *for life*



November 22, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Chester County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse DBA Hazel Pittman Center, please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's Brownfields Revolving Loan. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional Brownfield cleanup projects, potentially including the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

Hazel Pittman Center (HPC) is Chester County's designated local authority on matters related to alcohol and other drug abuse. The organization seeks to improve the quality of life in Chester County and the surrounding area by meeting the needs of individuals with substance use disorders and promoting behavioral health wellness. A community that is clean and thriving offers more to its citizens and also encourages them to contribute to its success. HPC staff and Board members are active in the community, serving in a variety of capacities and participating in city and countywide activities. As the organization's Director, I would be happy to serve on an Advisory Board, committees, or subcommittees connected with the Springsteen Brownfield effort.

Your consideration of DHEC's application is greatly appreciated. If you require anything further that I might be able to provide, do not hesitate to contact me at (803) 209-1024.

Sincerely,

Maria Bates
Executive Director

130 Hudson Street ▪ Chester, South Carolina 29706 ▪ Ph: (803) 377-8111 ▪ Fax: (803) 581-5380

www.hazelpittman.org



DENNIS

C O R P O R A T I O N

www.denniscorporation.com

November 20, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

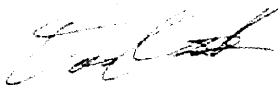
On behalf of Dennis Corporation, please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional Brownfields cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfields site in the heart of the City of Chester.

The Dennis Corporation is a Southeastern licensed engineering, surveying, and construction management firm who specializes in a broad range of services. Dennis Corporation's specific fields of expertise include aviation engineering, civil infrastructure, construction management, construction services, environmental services, expert witness, geotechnical engineering, intelligent transportation systems, program management, special projects, surveying, traffic engineering, transportation engineering and water resources. Dennis Corporation is based in Columbia, SC and operates a field office in Chester, SC.

Our interest in the Springsteen clean-up and reuse project relates to our long-standing activity in Chester County, primarily related to providing technical assistance for roadways and bridge improvements, as well as facility construction and maintenance. Dennis Corporation would be available to participate in the planning process for the reuse of the Springsteen site and is willing to serve on the project's advisory board.

Please contact our Chester Office Representative, Mr. LB Cannon, at (803) 385-5852 for any additional information and follow-up.

Sincerely,



Dan Dennis, PE, PLS
President
Dennis Corporation

1800 Huger Street • Columbia • South Carolina • 29201 • Ph 803.252.0991 • Fax 803.733.6787





Chester County, South Carolina

CHESTER COUNTY SUPERVISOR
POST OFFICE DRAWER 580
CHESTER, SOUTH CAROLINA 29706

November 25, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfields Program
SC Department of Health & Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Chester County please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the State to undertake additional Brownfields clean-up projects, including the Springsteen Mill site in the heart of the City of Chester.

For several years, the abandoned Springsteen site has been both unsafe and unsightly, and requires the clearance of contaminants and overall clean-up. Chester County will be able to provide in-kind labor to this effort, specifically in the hauling of debris from this property. In short, the County of Chester is committed to be part of this clean-up and transformation process.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (803)385-5133.

Sincerely,


K. Shane Stuart

Chester County Supervisor
1476 J.A. Cochran Bypass
Chester, SC 29706
ssstuart@chestercounty.org

cc: Mr. Harold Shapiro, Catawba Regional Council of Governments
Mrs. Sandi Worthy, City of Chester Administrator

CLEMSON
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

This letter is written in support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

We represent Eat Smart Move More Chester County, a coalition that seeks to work with community partners to create healthy eating and active living options locally. Our current efforts with a city walkability project certainly fit with the cleanup and renovation of this site. With our project, a future map of walking trails and systems will be prepared. If the Springsteen site becomes a park (or a portion becomes a park), this will be a great addition that will add another avenue for healthy living. Eat Smart Move More Chester County can assist with public outreach, participate in planning, and the like.

If you have any questions, please contact us at these numbers: Robin Currence, Clemson Extension Service, 803-209-0538 or Melody Reid, Hazel Pittman Center, 803-377-8111.

Sincerely,



Robin Currence
Co-Chair, ESMM Chester County



Melody Reid
Co-Chair, ESMM Chester County

CHESTER COUNTY

109 Ella Street Chester, SC 29706 P 803-385-6181 F 803-385-2556 www.clemson.edu/chester
Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.
Public Service Activities

"This institution is an equal opportunity provided."



SUMMER FEEDING SERVICE PROGRAM

100 W. End Street
Chester, South Carolina 29706
(803) 235.3063

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Summer Feeding Service Program (SFSP), please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for the EPA grant funds to add to the South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. I understand that this additional funding can be used to enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in Chester.

During the school year, a large number of children and youth in the City of Chester and Chester County receive free and reduced lunches through school lunch programs. When the school year ends, food insecurity becomes prevalent for children and youth who participate in these programs. The SFSP contributes to alleviate nutritional gaps and makes free meals available that meet federal guidelines at approved SFSP sites in areas with significant concentrations of low income children when school is not in session. Meals are transported and served at SFSP approved sites, both urban and rural.

The Springsteen Brownfield is adjacent to two family developments, Round Tree Circle and Ballpark Community. The SFSP used this ideal location for several years as a drop point, where at least 10 sites would pick up their food. We changed location once the location became overgrown and hideous with tall grass and rodents. The use of this location would benefit the program with transportation issues, physically and financially.

This clean up would create significant improvement in the community, and the SFSP would love to assist.

Sincerely,

Peggy Johnson, Director
City of Chester Summer Feeding Service Program



Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

November 19, 2015

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Arts Council of Chester County, please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

The Arts Council is dedicated to promoting Chester County, while continuing our mission to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts by all citizens of Chester County through the advancement of arts in education, community arts, and individual artist development.

The Springsteen project would be a transform this empty, abandoned lot into a usable, functional, beautified area. It is one of the major areas seen by travelers coming into downtown Chester. It is important to clean this up and transform it into an area that will benefit the community.


The Arts Council pledges to help the City of Chester with this project via participating in the planning for its future and reuse, including outreach to artists for community art installations. We will also assist with marketing.

Sincerely,

Lauren Medlin, Director
803-581-2030
artschester@truvista.net

123 Main Street
803-581-2030

PO Box 804

Chester, SC 29706
 www.artschester.com

Chester Citizens Alliance Inc.

639 Mockingbird Lane, Chester, SC 29706

Phone (803) 374-3779 • Fax (803) 789-7021

November 20, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Chester Citizens Alliance, Inc. (CCA), please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

CCA's goal is to enhance and revitalize of the City of Chester. As founders of the Catawba Farm and Food Center here in Chester, it is hoped that jobs will be created through not only the sale of fresh food at the new center but also creation of new products at the food manufacturing kitchen located here.

Restoration of the Springsteen Brownfield site mirrors the goals of the CCA. By having land available in the downtown area for building apartments, shops and parks, revitalization of downtown Chester will be enhanced tremendously. The Board of the CCA endorses this project and will assist in anyway it can include serving on planning boards, helping with marketing as well as community outreach.

Sincerely,



Brenda T. McBrayer
Chairperson
Chester Citizens Alliance

CC:
Sandi Worthy
Harold Shapiro

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

The Gateway
3200 Commerce Drive, Suite B
Richburg, SC 29729

p. 803.377.1100
f. 803.377.2100

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Chester County Economic Development please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

The mission of the Chester County Department of Economic Development (CCED) is "to create an environment that supports existing industry expansion, encourages new industry investments, fosters entrepreneurialism, and welcomes visitation by others—all of which support the provision of public services and otherwise improves each citizen's prosperity and overall quality of life."

While we are a county department, each municipality and town are important to our efforts. The City of Chester is considered the County Seat and as such consultants and prospective new industrial clients often ask for a tour of the City. When we conduct a tour we pass the Springsteen Site. They often ask about what was at that site before and what the future plans for redevelopment are. It would be helpful to be helpful to convey a plan. Having a plan shows vision.

During the Strategic Planning Process in 2008, 2011 and again in the new 2016 Plan, Downtown Development has been mentioned. Please see an excerpt from those plans below:

Downtown Development

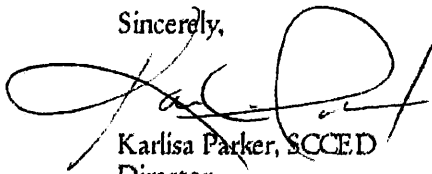
- Review examples of downtown redevelopment incentive programs.
- Consider active storefront ordinances.
- Explore examples of retail incubators.
- Review building codes to ensure codes encourage redevelopment.
- Maintain a public commitment to downtown by retaining public services in downtown.

We have been successful in meeting most of the goals established in the CCED Strategic Plan and would like to see momentum in accomplishing the bullet points listed above. The CCED would offer to:

- Participate in the planning process for the Springsteen Project's reuse;
- Assist in marketing the proposed and final project; and
- Would be willing to serve on an advisory board as it relates to the development of the Springsteen Project.

If you should have any questions or would like more information on how Chester County Economic Development may assist with this endeavor please feel free to contact me at 803-377-1216.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karlisa Parker', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Karlisa Parker, CCED
Director
Chester County Economic Development



Christ Central Missions

Enriching Communities

144 Gadsden St., P. O. Box 478, Chester, S. C. 29706

Phone 803 581-5890 Cell 803 385-1556

November 19, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges, Manager
Brownfield Program
S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, S. C. 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

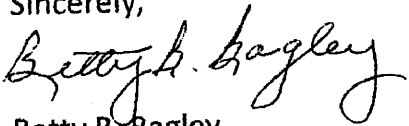
On behalf of Christ Central Missions please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

Our organization, Christ Central Missions was started in Chester in 2007 for the purpose of helping needy folks. Our Vision Statement is as follows: The vision of Christ Central Missions is to create a caring and healthy community where every citizen's needs are met. Our Mission Statement: Our mission is to be good Samaritans of Chester County by creating opportunities for hope and change.

This Springsteen site is really an "eye sore", as it is on the street that comes right into the town and if this was cleaned up and made attractive, I believe we would have more businesses to come into our City. We at Christ Central have purchased and renovated four (4) buildings and we believe it has already helped our business owners, as some of them are renovating their buildings now. We at Christ Central will be willing to help with conducting public outreach, help with marketing and I believe some of our Board Members will be happy to serve on any advisory boards or committees that are connected with this effort.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 803 385-1556 and we can discuss more of what our organization can help with our support for this project.

Sincerely,



Betty B. Bagley
Executive Director

Cc: Mr. Harold Shapiro, Catawba Regional Council of Governments ✓
Mrs. Sandi Worthy, City Administrator, Chesterr



"The front door to our community"

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of The Chester County Chamber of Commerce please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

Our organization The Chester County Chamber of Commerce is always excited when some entity, especially The City of Chester, reaches out to find a way to improve facilities for our community. We have seen plans for the re-use of the Springsteen site and the positive impact it will have on the city. The multi-use potential of softball fields, soccer fields, and general park facilities for this area will be very uplifting.

Our contributions could be varied. We have a number of areas in which we would be glad to offer assistance, including marketing, serving on advisory boards, and other areas as requested by Ms. Curtis or Mrs. Worthy.

I will be glad to discuss with you or a member of your staff any particulars concerning this project. You may contact me by phone at (803) 581-4142, or by e-mail, at preschamber@truvista.net.

Sincerely,

Jim Fuller
President
Chester County Chamber of Commerce



November 20, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges

Manager, Brownfield Program

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

2600 Bull Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges,

Our sincere wishes to you for a prosperous New Year.

The Chester Downtown Development Association, CDDA, is pleased to present our letter of support for DHEC's application to obtain EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's Brownfields revolving loan fund. We understand that with this additional funding, the State would be able to undertake additional Brownfield cleanup initiatives, which could potentially include the Springsteen Brownfield site here in Chester.

Established in 1992, the CDDA is a non – profit 501 c 3 organization which strives to encourage and facilitate the revitalization and development of greater Downtown Chester. CDDA works in four strategic program areas: Education and Youth; Tourism; Revitalization and Beautification; and Business and Economic Development. Through CDDA's programs and actions, historical buildings and public spaces will be enhanced and optimized, and Downtown Chester will convert into a viable place for education, dining, retail specialties, living and entertainment. As a result, Downtown will attract local residents, tourists and investors, with an increase in jobs and opportunities for economic and social development for the men, women and children of Chester.

With 36.7% of Chester's population living below the poverty line, CDDA aims to build greater citizens' participation, effective partnerships and alliances around development efforts to overcome this situation. One major CDDA initiative during 2014 – 2015 is the Al Grant Park, located at the corners of Saluda and Hudson Streets, an entryway into Downtown Chester. Through partnership with the Clemson University Landscape Architecture Department, during January – March 2014, graduate students will complete a conceptual design for the future park in an exercise that includes research, local student participation and broader community consultation. CDDA met with Senator Creighton Coleman last year to request support for the Al Grant Park initiative. An important aspect has been the cooperation with the County of Chester throughout the two years of DHEC testing at the site, where a gas station had been situated. This testing process is expected to finish in early 2014.

For CDDA, the reuse and development of the Springsteen Brownfield site would be an important opportunity to build on lessons learned during the Al Grant Park experience and to link efforts to reuse and develop public spaces and green areas in Chester. It also provides the CDDA with the chance to engage in partnership with the City of Chester and other organizations around such a goal. CDDA is interested in contributing to this effort, including participation in discussions, planning, outreach and networking, mobilizing local participation and resources, as well as promotion of the initiative. CDDA is also willing to participate in organizational structures such as committees or advisory boards.

In closing, we thank you for your assistance in the DHEC application for EPA funds and the potential impact this could have for the Springsteen Brownfield site. For further information, please call us at (803) 581-2666.

Sincerely,



Karen Hutto

Chester Downtown Development Association, CDDA

P.O. BOX 761

Chester, SC 29706

www.cityonthehillsc@org

karensarbor@hotmail.com

(803) 581 2666



November 23, 2015

Ms. Sandi Worthy
City Administrator
City of Chester
100 West End Street
Chester, South Carolina 29706

Re: Letter of Endorsement
Brownfields Revolving Loan Program
Springsteen Site Cleanup

Dear Sandi:

As you know, I am the County Attorney for Chester and as such, am very much involved with both the County and City communities. My family and I also live in the City of Chester, as well as own a number of commercial and residential properties. My law practice is in the beautiful downtown area of the City.

I believe in this community, as evidenced by my financial commitments here and fully endorse the cleanup of the Springsteen site. There is no doubt that this cleanup would significantly impact this area since it is now an eyesore at the upper entrance into our wonderful City.

Lately, we have been blessed to have experienced industrial growth in our County, something that also impacts the City. To support these industries, the City strives to be the recipient of what I refer to as "soft infrastructure" businesses – the dry cleaner, the coffee shop, the restaurant, all of which must be a part of the economic growth of the overall county. In

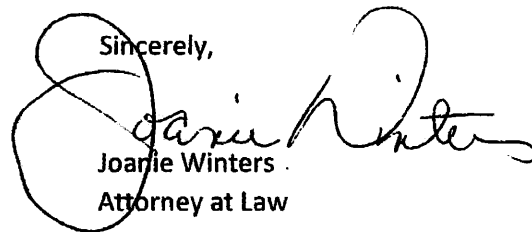
SANDI WORTHY

order to do that, our City entrances must be inviting and welcoming. This is not the current status of the Springsteen property and as such, the Brownfields program is desperately needed to make this property an attractive entrance into our community. It will be extremely difficult to entice small businesses to come into a City that appears to be stricken by urban blight. This property must be remediated or it will otherwise become a severe deterrent to entering businesses, both large and small.

I would be willing to support this effort through advertising, funding or serving on the steering committee.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joanie Winters". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned over the printed name and title.

Joanie Winters
Attorney at Law

JW/cbo
CityBrownfieldsSpringsteen

OLIPHANT & CO., Inc.

Office 803-385-3119

PO Box 519
1589 Cedarhurst Road
Chester, SC 29706

Fax 803-581-6666

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Chester County please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Springsteen Brownfield site in the heart of the City of Chester.

I am on the Chester County Council and was the catalyst for the initial cleanup of this project. This is our main entrance into the City of Chester and is critical for our success in economic development.

You may contact me at 803-374-3060.

Thank You



Alex Oliphant

Warehousing and distribution since 1929



Then, it was cotton. Today, we meet your needs.



Centralina Council of Governments

December 4, 2015
Mr. Robert Hodges
Brownfields Program Director
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: SC DHEC Application to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant

Dear Mr. Hodges:

As the recipient of a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC), Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) is pleased to support the above-referenced grant application of the State of South Carolina for its Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (BRLF), for which Catawba Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG) is the Fund Manager.

We see a strong connection between the regional planning work we and CRCOG are conducting under the HUD-PSC grant and your Brownfields grant application to the EPA. The HUD-PSC grant is funding the 14-county, 2-state regional planning effort we know as CONNECT Our Future, an effort SC DHEC and CRCOG have been engaged with from the very start – CRCOG as CCOG's co-applicant for the HUD-PSC grant and SC DHEC as provider of a letter of support. CRCOG staff is leading a key element of CONNECT, the "Brownfield-Greyfield Redevelopment Financing Toolkit for Local Government Officials," which includes as one of its deliverables case studies of 14 redevelopment sites around the region demonstrating application of various financing and redevelopment tools. The EPA Brownfields grant has the potential to provide needed capital for South Carolina communities in the CONNECT region to pair with the financial guidance the CONNECT study will provide, so they can effectively identify and remediate relevant sites.

For example, the Springsteen Mill site in Chester County, SC (one of CONNECT's 14 counties), is one of three targeted prospects identified in the BRLF grant application, and is also a likely candidate for selection by Chester County as its chosen CONNECT case study site. Located adjacent to the county seat's downtown commercial district, between two of the town's main thoroughfares, the Springsteen Mill building has been demolished with Community Development Block Grant funds, and an EPA Assessment study has reported on its remediation needs. Chester has high poverty rates and its demographics include higher proportions of minorities, making it a high priority for economic development and removal of barriers such as brownfields.

While we understand that there is no guarantee that brownfield sites within the CONNECT region like the Springsteen Mills site will receive a loan from the statewide BRLF program, we believe the chances are very

525 North Tryon Street – 12th Floor
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
Phone: 704-372-2416 Fax: 704-347-4710
www.centralina.org

strong that the SC portion of the CONNECT area will ultimately be a direct beneficiary of recapitalization of the SC BRLF program. The CONNECT area's textile mill history and location in the heart of the Piedmont means there are numerous vacant and abandoned sites that, with remediation and thoughtful planning, can resume their status as places of economic activity and job creation in historic small towns currently suffering unemployment rates higher than the national average. The investment in CONNECT means that the planning framework for successful BRLF applications is already in place.

With CONNECT, the 14-county, bi-state area is poised to move into the implementation phase of our collaborative work on regional sustainability. The EPA Brownfields grant and recapitalized BRLF program will provide an additional means to begin that implementation in a portion of the CONNECT area.

We wish the State of South Carolina and CRCOG all the best in this competitive EPA grant process. Please let me know if there is any way we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Jim Prosser, ICMA-CM
Executive Director, CCOG

Cc: Randy Imler, Executive Director, Catawba Regional Council of Government
Mike Manis, CONNECT Economic Development Working Group Team Leader

The Self Family Foundation

Helping People Help Themselves

December 3, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

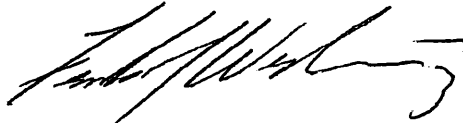
On behalf of the Self Family Foundation, please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Foundry brownfield site in the southern portion of the City of Greenwood.

The Self Family Foundation's mission is to encourage self-sufficiency among the people and communities of Greenwood County. We believe that community wellness is a critical component of self-sufficiency. To foster greater wellness, we provide support for collaborative programs that promote healthy lifestyles, prevention and health literacy.

A public greenspace park is desperately needed on the southern end of Greenwood. We believe the former Foundry property services as a central, easily accessible location. The development of the Foundry greenspace park would be eligible for funding during future Foundation grant cycles at a minimum level of \$5,000 initially.

We urge your help and assistance in this matter. Thank you for your consideration. I can be reached at (864) 941-4011.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Wideman, III
President



Post Office Box 1017 • Greenwood, South Carolina 29648-1017 • Telephone: (864) 941-4011
Fax: (864) 941-4091 • Email: info@selffoundation.org
Website: www.selffoundation.org



December 2, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Brownfields Program Director
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia SC 29201

430 Helix Road
Greenwood, SC 29646
Telephone 864-941-8050
Toll-Free 1-800-922-7729
FAX 864-941-8090

Dear Mr. Hodges:

The Upper Savannah Council of Governments supports DHEC's efforts to increase the capital available to the South Carolina Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund. This program has played a major role in the cleanup and redevelopment of derelict industrial and other contaminated sites throughout our state.

The Upper Savannah Council of Governments also supports the environmental cleanup initiatives of the City of Greenwood. Having utilized the program to clean up a textile mill site, the City is now seeking to replicate this success by performing environmental cleanup activities at the former Greenwood Foundry site. With the help of these funds, the City will be able to redevelop this property into a recreational facility that will serve a large public housing complex and a mill village neighborhood in the immediate area.

The Upper Savannah Council of Governments is available to provide planning and economic development staff assistance to the above mentioned project as well as encourage our member local governments to pursue a Brownfields project.

As the Economic Development Administration's designated Economic Development District for Greenwood the Upper Savannah Council of Governments enthusiastically supports the environmental cleanup activities supported by the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund. Furthermore, these activities are consistent with our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to expand economic development opportunities and improve the quality of life in our region.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Patricia C. Hartung
Executive Director

GREENWOOD

HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 973

South Carolina

29648-0973

TELEPHONE: (864) 227-3670

FAX: (864) 227-8270

December 3, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges, Manager
Brownfield Program
SC DHEC
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges,

On behalf of the Greenwood Housing Authority (GHA) please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Foundry brownfield site in the southern portion of the City of Greenwood adjacent to the GHA's Fairfield and Winns public housing community.

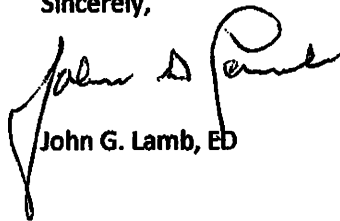
The GHA is a political non-profit agency and more precisely a Political Subdivision of the State of SC as prescribed by the Code of Laws 1976 chapter 3 beginning with part 31-3-10. We were established and authorized by vote of the Greenwood City Council in 1968 and have been in continuous operation since that time. We are governed by a five member Board of Commissioners that are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Greenwood and are funded through subsidized rent collections and subsidies and grants provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. We receive no direct financial support from the State, County or City. Our mission is to assist families in obtaining and retaining affordable decent, safe and sanitary housing when they cannot obtain and retain said housing by their own means.

The GHA, with the full knowledge and support of the City Manager and the City of Greenwood in July of 2004 purchased the property in question with the intent of demolishing the old Greenwood Mills Foundry to enhance the "gateway to the Southern entrance of the City of Greenwood" It was further planned to work in conjunction with the City, County and Parks commission to establish some sort of park, ball fields, walking trails, or green space for the residents of the south side of the City/County of Greenwood. It was and continues to be the belief that this proposal will enhance the lives of the families living in and around the area.

In conjunction with this concept, the GHA has constructed a 14,500 sq. ft. community enrichment center adjacent to the foundry property. This facility is currently being used as an after school tutorial center for the youth of the community through a program called "High Hopes" operated by the greater Greenwood Family YMCA. We also use volunteers to provide hot lunches to the youth of the community during the summer months when schools are out. The center is also a voting precinct for elections and is used by members of the community at large for wedding and receptions, non-profit fundraisers, class and family reunions, birthday and anniversary parties, etc. The County is currently using the basketball gymnasium as part of its parks and recreational basketball program and the City Council has used it for a retreat and training facility. It is the belief that the development of the foundry property for public use will enhance the lives of the families in and around the south side of the City/County of Greenwood.

The GHA will assist the City with publicizing the Brownfield project and park/greenspace development to our residents and the residents of the surrounding communities. Additionally, we will continue to provide meeting space in our enrichment center for on-site meetings, serve on and advisory committee to guide cleanup efforts and work with the City to design the future park/greenspace. We urge your help and assistance in this endeavor. Thanks you for your consideration and I can be reached at 864-227-3670 ext. 23 if you have questions or concerns about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Lamb". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a prominent flourish at the end.

John G. Lamb, ED



Greater Greenwood Parks & Trails Foundation

PO Box 1444 Greenwood, SC 29648

www.greenwoodparks.org

greenwoodparksfoundation@gmail.com



December 3, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges

Manager, Brownfield Program

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

2600 Bull Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation, please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Foundry brownfield site in the southern portion of the City of Greenwood.

Our organization consists of volunteers that are working to move the parks movement forward in Greenwood. We have been involved in public meetings to discuss the future of the Foundry site as a public greenspace/park. In 2003, the Foundation completed a similar redevelopment project when we secured funding and administered the construction of the nearly 10 acre West Cambridge Park, a former railroad switchyard located in the heart of Greenwood.

The Parks Foundation is willing to participate in any way possible to facilitate the future reuse of the Foundry property. We are willing to help conduct public hearings, provide members to serve on public advisory boards or committees and find ways to seek funding for future redevelopment.

We urge your help and assistance in this matter. Thank you for your consideration. I can be reach at (864) 993-1266.

Sincerely,

Billy Nicholson

The Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which consists of volunteers that are working to move the parks movement forward in Greenwood

EIN 57-1080243

258 Wisewood Circle
Greenwood, SC 29646

December 3, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

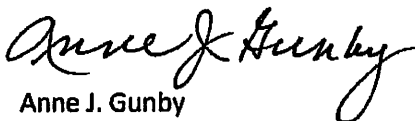
On behalf of the Wisewood Neighborhood Association of Greenwood please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Foundry brownfield site in the southern portion of the City of Greenwood.

The mission of Wisewood Neighborhood Association is to promote the interest of and caring for our neighbors and the neighborhood as well. Wisewood represents nearly 90 single family homes. Our neighborhood is approximately one (1) mile from the Foundry Site.

A public greenspace/park is desperately needed on the southern end of Greenwood. We believe the former Foundry property services as central, easily accessible location. Our neighborhood association is working to organize other neighborhood associations in the area to "rally behind" the development of this park/greenspace. We are prepared to help share information regarding the Brownfield redevelopment. We will also provide citizens to serve on any advisory board for this project.

We urge your help and assistance in this matter. Thank you for your consideration. I can be reach at 864-227-3172.

Sincerely,



Anne J. Gunby
President

Healthy Greenwood Neighborhoods, Inc.
C/O 110 Phoenix Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
864-941-3370 864-229-9785 (Fax)



2014 Board of Directors

Mr. Mark Warner – 2013 Chair
- Davis & Floyd, Inc.,

Ms. Brooke Holloway - 2013 Co-Chair
- Carolina Health Center

Ms. Elyse Benson - 2013 Secretary/Treasurer
- Retired USDA/NRCS

Mr. Charlie Barrineau
- Greenwood City Manager

Ms. Christine Martin
- Wheatfields Neighborhood/Saddle Hill

Mr. Phil Lindler
- Greenwood City/County Planning Ofc.

Mr. Michael G. Monaghan
- Commissioner, CPW

Ms. Mamie Nicholson
- Self Family Foundation, Program Officer

Mr. Chad Charles
- Greenwood Habitat for Humanity

Our Vision

Greenwood neighborhoods are the foundation for healthy, safe, active and inspired living.

Our Mission

Greenwood neighborhood residents address issues and celebrate successes through partnerships and learning opportunities.

Mr. Robert Hodges
Manager, Brownfield Program
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Healthy Greenwood Neighborhoods, please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Foundry brownfield site in the southern portion of the City of Greenwood.

Healthy Greenwood Neighborhoods' mission is to assist Greenwood neighborhood residents to address issues by developing community partnerships. The neighborhoods that surround the former Foundry textile property deserve to have this property productive again.

We commit to include information regarding the brownfields project in our monthly newsletter and will provide a committee member to serve on any brownfields committee.

We urge your help and assistance in this matter. Thank you for your consideration. I can be reach at (864) 941-3370.

Sincerely,

Toni Able
HGN Executive Director



Providing Quality Services To Local Governments Since 1965.

December 1, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
Brownfields Program Director
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

The Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG) fully supports DHEC's application to EPA for funds to recapitalize the South Carolina Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program. This program has been very beneficial to several communities in the six-county SC Appalachian Region, as well as numerous communities throughout the State of SC.

One of the projects proposed for funding through the RLF program is the cleanup of the Toxaway Mill/Gossett Street brownfield site in Anderson County. The federal Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), upon the recommendation from Governor Haley's ARC Alternate, recently awarded Anderson County \$60,000 towards the cleanup of the site. The additional funds from the Brownfields RLF will be used to fill the funding gap to complete the project.

The cleanup of brownfields and the redevelopment of those sites will enhance the economic development potential of our communities and is consistent with the Appalachian Region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Please let me know if there is anything we can do to assist you in seeking these funds to cleanup the environment and boost local economic development efforts.

Sincerely,

Steve Pelissier
Executive Director



Robert Hodges
DHEC Brownfields Program
2600 Bull St. Columbia, SC 29201

11/20/15

Mr. Hodges,

I am pleased to provide my support for Catawba COG's Brownfields Cleanup and Revitalization efforts, specifically for Anderson County.

The Brownfields Revitalization effort in Anderson County will create new housing and economic development opportunities and improve the health and quality of life for the residents around the sites in these disadvantaged neighborhoods. Anderson County will be able to continue the momentum that previous grant funding has provided.

I strongly encourage DHEC continues its support for Catawba's Brownfields program. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Reverend Kurt Stutler

2408 South Main Street
Post Office Box 13545
Anderson, South Carolina 29624
(864) 437-8298



December 10, 2015

Mr. Robert Hodges
DHEC Brownfields Program
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of Anderson University, please accept this letter of support for DHECs application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. The additional funding would allow the state to embark on brownfields cleanup projects like the Toxaway Mill site and others.

Anderson University is an academic community, affiliated with the South Carolina Baptist Convention, providing a challenging education grounded in the liberal arts, enhanced by professional and graduate programs and a co-curricular focus on the development of character, servant leadership and cultural engagement. Anderson University is an integral part of the community, a community we share with many unused and dilapidated brownfields. The school has been directly involved through efforts with Anderson County to clean up and reuse sites in and around the community we share.

As such, Anderson University is willing to provide members to serve on public advisory boards or committees and to continue finding ways to seek funding for future redevelopment.

We urge your help and assistance in this matter and thank you for your consideration. I can be reached any time at (864) 231-2068.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Dean Woods".

R. Dean Woods
V.P. Principal Gifts and
Special Assistant to the President

INNOVATE ANDERSON

Designing the Future 

Robert Hodges
DHEC Brownfields Program
2600 Bull St. Columbia, SC 29201

December 10, 2015

Dear Mr. Hodges,

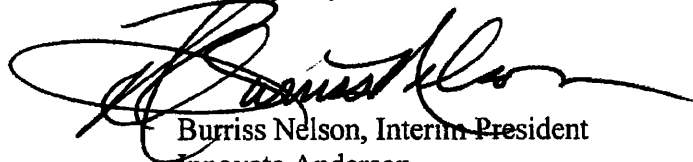
Innovate Anderson is a public/private community development organization that supports the endeavors to bring jobs and investment into Anderson County. On behalf of Innovate Anderson, I am offering my support for DHEC's Brownfields Cleanup and Revitalization efforts.

The cleanup and community-oriented reuse of the old Gossett Street brownfield sites has been a long-standing goal of our community, and the Revolving Loan Fund will be a key funding component in the completion of this project.

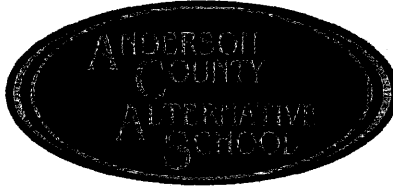
Innovate Anderson has a long history of collaboration with Anderson County on efforts to improve brownfield sites all throughout our area. We stand ready to assist Anderson County in their efforts by providing appropriate research and contacts necessary to facilitate community-oriented redevelopment of targeted brownfield sites.

Based on their proven record of accomplishment and success, I encourage DHEC to continue its Brownfields program. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,



Burriss Nelson, Interim President
Innovate Anderson



805 East Whitner Street • Anderson, South Carolina 29624
Phone: (864) 260-4888 • Fax: (864) 260-4004

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

December 10, 2015

**Mr. Robert Hodges
DHEC Brownfields Program
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201**

Dear Mr. Hodges:

On behalf of the Anderson County Alternative School, please accept this letter of support for DHEC's application for EPA grant funds to add to the capital of South Carolina's brownfields revolving loan fund. It is our understanding that this additional funding would enable the state to undertake additional brownfield cleanup projects, including potentially the Toxaway brownfield site on Anderson's east side.

Our school has established itself—since 1996—as a place where students who have been expelled or removed from an Anderson County school district or ordered to attend by a Family Court judge can get back on track in a safe and structured environment. The School is an integral part of the East Side community and has been involved in public meetings to discuss the future of the Toxaway site as a public green space/park, and has been working with Anderson County official for the past decade to make this happen.

The Anderson County Alternative School is willing to participate in any way possible to facilitate the future reuse of the Toxaway project. We are willing to continue helping to conduct public hearings, assist with the outreach and provide a local voice for the suitable cleanup and redevelopment of this site.

We sincerely ask for your help and assistance in this matter. Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Dillingham", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Randolph H. Dillingham
Director**