

## **BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN AND GRANT FUND**

### **LOAN AND GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Introduction to Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Grants Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainability reuse brownfields. A brownfields is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. As part of the Program, the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grants are to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. The purpose of the RLF grants is to enable agencies such as the REDC to make low interest loans as well as sub-grants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields properties.

#### **Applicant Eligibility and Loan Criteria**

In order to be recommended and approved for a Revolving Loan, applicants must meet the Eligibility Criteria, listed below. Loan applications will also be evaluated based on the Loan Criteria, also listed below, which will help REDC prioritize loan applications if loan requests exceed available funding.

#### **1. Eligibility Criteria**

In order to receive a loan, the applicant or project **MUST** meet all the following criteria:

- Use of RLF loan funds are limited to brownfields properties that have been determine to have an actual release or substantial threat of release of a hazardous substance. Loans may also be used at sites with a release or substantial threat of release of a pollutant or contaminant that may present an imminent or substantial danger to public health or welfare.
- RLF loans exclude the following three (3) types of properties from funding: (1) facilities listed (or proposed for listing) on the National Priorities List (NPL); (2) facilities subject to unilateral administrative orders, court orders, administrative orders on consent or judicial consent decrees issues to or entered in by parties under CERCLA; and (3) facilities that are subject to jurisdiction, custody or control, of the United States Government.
- While the redevelopment of the site is considered in the application and must be identified, grant funds can only be used towards site remediation. The activities for which loan funds will be used are limited to environmental cleanup. Demolition is only allowed if it is necessary to conduct remediation or cleanup beneath a building itself. Only activities necessary to facilitate redevelopment of the property will be approved for loan funds.
- The location of the brownfields property has to be within the service region of the REDC, which comprises 42 municipalities in Rockingham County and Hillsborough County of New Hampshire.

#### **2. Loan Criteria**

Applications will be subjected to a comprehensive evaluation using the following criteria:

- Review of the reductions or elimination of potential threat to human health and the environment due to cleanup of the site.
- The incorporation of sustainable design principles into site redevelopment.
- Whether the loan project includes a firm development proposal involving an identified developer.

- The potential increase in property tax base of the local taxing jurisdiction as a result of development that will occur because of completion of the approved response actions.
- The social value to the community that will result from the cleanup and redevelopment of the site. Social value includes the project's time line, the number of new jobs created, the importance of the proposed facilities and the removal of blighting influences on the site, the readiness of the project, the development potential, and the financial health of the project.
- The amount of cleanup costs for the site.
- The amount and level of commitment of municipal and other local resources to pay for the cleanup costs.

**Applicants for RLF loans should be aware of the following:**

- The REDC requires a twenty percent (20%) cost share from the project developers, which may in the form of a contribution of money, labor, material, or service for eligible and allowable costs.
- The funding of this project will not result in the relocating of jobs from one labor area to another.
- Whenever possible, considerations for employment to the long-term, underemployed and unemployed residing in the area will be given.
- Flood hazard insurance will be obtained, if required.
- The applicant give assurances of compliance with:
  - The Davis-Bacon Act applies to all construction, alteration, and/or repair work, including painting and decorating which funded wholly or partially with grant funds (Section 104(g) of CERLA). The Davis-Bacon Act requires that workers employed directly upon the site of the work to be paid no less than the locally prevailing wages and fringe benefits paid on projects of a similar character.
  - The Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. The Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, marital status, handicap, age or national origin.
  - Federal and State environmental regulations. All necessary permits and certifications for all environmental requirements will be obtained.
  - All laws insuring accessibility for handicapped on construction projects to which the public will have access.
  - All other Federal statutory and regulatory requirements that apply.