



South Carolina Brownfields Environmental Site Testing (BEST) Program

Program Overview

Catawba Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG) has received a sub grant from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) for the implementation of the SC BEST program to fund environmental assessments of brownfield sites across the state of South Carolina. As the Program Administrator CRCOG and will allocate funding to the ten COG regions in the state. An Environmental Consultant will be procured by the Administrator and will conduct assessments selected for funding under the BEST.

Eligible Activities

Activities funded through the SC BEST Program may include site selection, assessments (Phase I & Phase II ESAs, ABCAs, etc.), and approved planning (including cleanup planning) relating to brownfield sites, public outreach, and implementation. In general this program has the same eligibility as existing EPA programs.

Funding Allocation

ACOG will receive approximately \$164,000 to use for projects in the region over a 24 month period ending September of 2024.

Deadline

Applications will be accepted at any time. It is anticipated that project selection for SC BEST funding will be approved on a semiannual basis.

Project Selection

Projects will be assessed using the following criteria

- 1) Potential economic redevelopment opportunities (tax revenues/job creation/capital investment potential after clean up)
- 2) Potential to identify and eliminate environmental hazards (reduction of potential imminent public health risk)
- 3) Potential to redevelop a property for public benefit/use (i.e. park/recreation space)
- 4) Potential to eliminate slum and blight in a community
- 5) Potential benefit to low-moderate income and/or rural communities

Other Program Guidelines

- Site assessments are capped at 50K
- A locality cannot have more than 5 assessments funded by the program
- A single locality cannot utilize more than 50% of allocation
- Private sector applications are allowed but cannot exceed 30% of allocation
- Projects cannot duplicate assessments being funded by an open EPA grant
- These funds cannot be used as a match for and EPA grant

Contact Information

For questions about BEST or to submit a proposal for funding consideration, please contact:

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