



Brownfields 2005 Assessment Grant Fact Sheet

Nye County, NV

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Nye County was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Although Nye County's land area ranks as the third largest in the country, over 90 percent of the land is federally owned and not available for private or county use. The six target communities, which have a combined population of 38,500, are Amargosa Valley, Beatty, Gabbs, Pahrump, Round Mountain/Smoky Valley, and Tonopah. These towns historically supported the research and development activities of several federal agencies, and nearby mining operations. A recent slump in mining and the loss of several federal projects have resulted in a sudden and catastrophic economic decline. From 1992 to 1998, Nye County experienced the loss of over 9,500 jobs. The population in the target communities is 16 percent minorities, and in some areas, 20 percent of residents are considered low-income. In addition, land area available for commercial development is severely limited and further challenged by the presence of abandoned mines and their associated wastes. Even a small influx of businesses in these communities will create a substantial difference to the local and county economies. Brownfields revitalization in any of the target communities will provide a significant incentive for other communities to pursue successful brownfields redevelopment, which will create new jobs and businesses.

Assessment Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected Nye County for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances and petroleum grant funds will be used to complete a comprehensive inventory of brownfields, and perform Phase I and II site assessments in at least four of the six target communities of Amargosa Valley, Beatty, Gabbs, Pahrump, Round Mountain/Smoky Valley, and Tonopah. Grant funds also will be used for cleanup/reuse planning, land use planning, institutional controls, and community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team
(415) 972-3091
EPA Region 9 Brownfields Web site
(<http://www.epa.gov/region9/brownfields>)

Grant Recipient: Nye County, NV
(775) 482-7238

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.