

**Application Information Sheet
Tuscarawas County, Ohio
FY2026 Coalition Assessment Grant**

1. Applicant Identification

Tuscarawas County, Ohio
125 East High Avenue
New Philadelphia, OH 44663

2. Website URL

Tuscarawas County - [Tuscarawas County Ohio](#)
Harrison County - [Harrison County Ohio - Official Website](#)
Coshocton County - [Coshocton County Government – Coshocton County, Ohio](#)

3. Funding Requested

- a. Assessment Grant Type: Assessment Coalition
- b. Federal Funds Requested: \$1,500,000

4. Location

- a. Lead Member: Tuscarawas County, Ohio
- b. Non-Lead Members: Harrison County, Ohio & Coshocton County, Ohio

5. Coalition Members' Target Areas and Priority Site Information

The proposed Brownfield Coalition includes Tuscarawas County as the lead applicant and Coshocton County, and Harrison County as the non-lead members collaborating under a multi-county assessment strategy focused on legacy coal and industrial sites along the Columbus-Pittsburgh Corridor. Each coalition member has identified priority target areas and sites requiring environmental assessment to support future cleanup and redevelopment.

Tuscarawas County

- Target Area: Oxford Township, Village of Newcomerstown, Salem Township, Clay Township, Warwick Township, Mill Township, Goshen Township, & the City of New Philadelphia.
- Priority Site: Dennison Business Park
 - Address: Dudgeon Way, Dennison, Ohio 44621
 - Former Use: Mine Land

Coshocton County

- Target Area: Jackson Township, Franklin Township, Village of Conesville, Lafayette Township, Village of West Lafayette, Tuscarawas Township, & the City of Coshocton.
- Priority Site: Conesville Industrial Park
 - Address: 47201 Co Rd 273, Conesville, OH 43811
 - Former Use: AEP Power Plant

Harrison County

- Target Area: Cadiz Township, Village of Cadiz, Archer Township, Green Township, Village of Hopedale, & German Township.
- Priority Site: Jeffco Resources, Inc.
 - CR #14 & CR#12, Cadiz, OH 43907
 - Former Use: Surface Mine Land

6. Contacts

- a. Project Director: Scott Reynolds, Community & Economic Development Director
 126 East High Avenue, Room 212
 New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663
 Office Phone: (330) 365-3219
 Direct Phone: (330) 365-3230
 Email: reynolds@co.tuscarawas.oh.us
- b. Chief Executive: Kristin Zemis, President
 Tuscarawas County Commissioners
 125 East High Avenue
 New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663
 Phone: (330) 356-3240
 Email: commissioners@co.tuscarawas.oh.us

7. Population

- a. Tuscarawas County: County population of 93,263
 - i. Target Area Population: 47,313
- b. Coshocton County: County population of 37,003
 - i. Target Area Population: 22,885
- c. Harrison County: County population of 14,483
 - i. Target Area Population: 10,106

8. Other Factors

Other Factors	Page #
Community population is 15,000 or less.	1

The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian Tribe or United States Territory.	N/A
The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	2
The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).	N/A
The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	N/A
The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy.	N/A
The reuse of the priority site(s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures.	N/A
The proposed project will improve local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters.	N/A
At least 30% of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse/area-wide planning activities, as described in Section 3.A.(2), for priority sites within the target areas.	10
The target area(s) is impacted by a coal-fired power plant that has recently closed (2015 or later) or is closing.	2

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority: Attached

Target Areas & Priority Sites in Coshocton, Tuscarawas, & Harrison

Coshocton County



Target Area (Jackson, Franklin, Lafayette, & Tuscarawas Townships, Village of Conesville, Village of West Lafayette, and the City of Coshocton)



Conesville Industrial Park

Tuscarawas County



Target Area (Oxford, Salem, Clay, Warwick, Mill, & Goshen Townships, Village of Newcomerstown, and the City of New Philadelphia)



Dennison Business Park

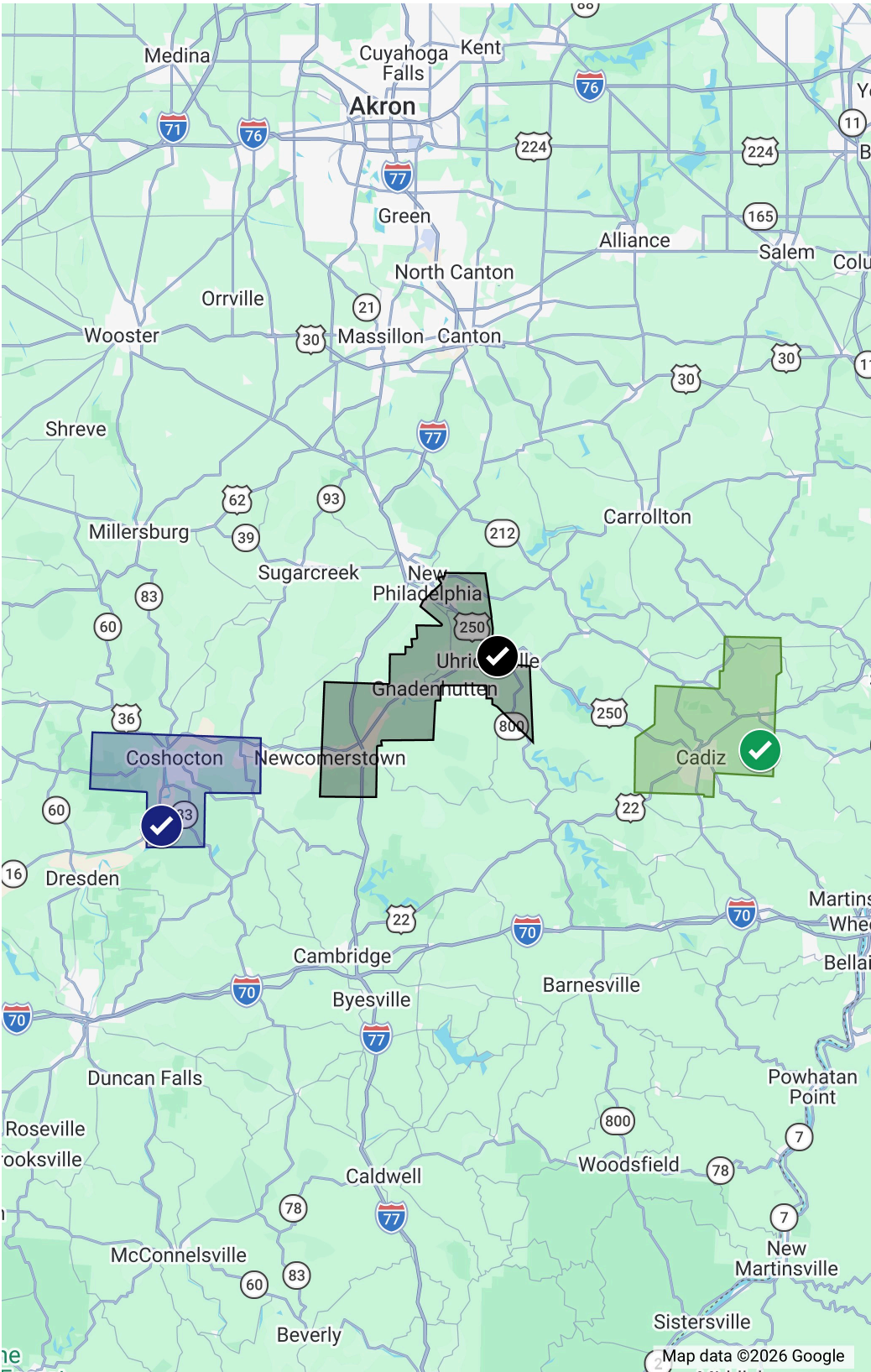
Harrison County



Target Area (Cadiz, Archer, Green, & German Townships, Village of Cadiz, and Village of Hopedale)



Jeffco Resources, Inc.



Map data ©2026 Google



January 23, 2026

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
ATTN: Torre Ippolito
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Mail Code SB-5J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

RE: Ohio EPA's Letter of Support for Tuscarawas County's Assessment Coalition Grant Proposal

Dear Torre Ippolito:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) acknowledges that Tuscarawas County, in partnership with Harrison County and Coshocton County, plans to conduct assessment activities and is applying for a FY26 U.S. EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant in the amount of \$1,500,000. Ohio EPA supports this effort under the Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant program.

If awarded, Tuscarawas County and its coalition partners will use these funds to:

- Develop a brownfield inventory and conduct community engagement.
- Perform Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, hazardous materials surveys, and cleanup planning.
- Advance reuse and area-wide planning to prepare sites for future remediation and redevelopment funding.

The proposed target areas include priority sites such as:

- Conesville Industrial Park at 47201 Co Rd 273 in Conesville, Ohio (privately owned) – former Conesville/ AEP Power Plant (coal-fired) with potential contamination from coal ash/FGD residuals in soil and groundwater (arsenic, selenium, boron, sulfate, chloride/TDS, metals), PCBs from electrical equipment, PAHs, and petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH/BTEX).
- Dennison Business Park at Dudgeon Way in Dennison, Ohio (privately owned) – former surface clay mine with potential contamination from petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH,

VOCs/BTEX), PAHs, and metals (arsenic, lead, cadmium, chromium, mercury) in soil and pit water; possible water-quality impacts from exposed overburden (pH, sulfate).

- Jeffco Resources, Inc. at CR #14 & CR #12 in Cadiz, Ohio (privately owned) – former underground coal mine with potential contamination from acid mine drainage (low pH, elevated sulfate, dissolved solids), metals (iron, manganese, aluminum, arsenic), and sediment impacts in nearby surface water.

The proposed target areas include multiple jurisdictions across Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties, with emphasis on properties associated with abandoned mine lands and legacy coal-related facilities. These communities have been significantly impacted by the decline of the coal industry, including job losses from major closures such as the Conesville Power Plant. The region faces higher poverty rates, aging populations, and elevated rates of chronic disease. By addressing environmental risks and planning for reuse, the coalition aims to reduce uncertainty, build local capacity, and support economic revitalization.

Ohio EPA supports this coalition approach because it leverages regional collaboration to overcome limited local resources and aligns with statewide priorities for environmental restoration and economic redevelopment. These assessment activities are critical first steps toward remediation and reuse, helping communities transition from legacy industrial uses to new opportunities that improve quality of life and economic vitality.

We look forward to working with Tuscarawas County and U.S. EPA on this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-644-2295 or via e-mail at lisa.shook@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Lisa Shook

Lisa Shook, Assistant Chief
Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

cc: Scott Reynolds, Community & Economic Development Director, Tuscarawas County
Kristin Zemis, Commissioner, Tuscarawas County
Sam Tuten, Director of Planning & Project Funding, Sunday Creek Horizons
Kerry Battershell, Project Manager, Sunday Creek Horizons
Martin Smith, Ohio EPA, DERR

1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Coalition Members, Target Areas, and Brownfields - (a.) *Coalition Members* - The Tuscarawas County Board of Commissioners is the lead coalition member of the proposed brownfields assessment coalition. The coalition is composed of the following non-lead members: Harrison County Community Improvement Corporation and Coshocton County Port Authority. Tuscarawas County is designated as Boards of County Commissioners and provides essential governmental services and oversight to meet the needs of each respective county's residents. These services include, but are not limited to, public infrastructure maintenance, land use planning, public safety, social services, and budgetary oversight to support the health, safety, and economic well-being of their communities. The Coshocton County Port Authority is a unit of government created by the City of Coshocton and the Coshocton County Board of Commissioners through the Ohio Revised Code to promote the manufacturing, commerce, distribution, and research and development interests in Coshocton County. The Harrison County Community Improvement Corporation is a non-profit economic development corporation focused on promoting industrial, commercial, and civic development, along with managing land reutilization. The coalition members recognize the importance of assessing and addressing brownfield properties, including abandoned mine lands, to support environmental protection, public health, and long-term community revitalization. However, these counties are small, rural communities with limited staff capacity and financial resources, and do not have the ability to independently operate a comprehensive brownfield program. Through this coalition approach, the members will be able to pull resources, share expertise, and collaboratively assess priority sites in order to position their communities for future cleanup, redevelopment, and economic opportunity.

(b.) *Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area* - The coalition members are composed of counties located in east-central and eastern Ohio, with the geographic boundary of the proposed assessment project including Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties, with Coshocton County having a total population of approximately 14,483 residents, meeting the EPA criterion for communities with a population of 15,000 or less. One of the first accounts of coal in Ohio was in 1748 in Tuscarawas County. This region has a long history of settlement, industrial development, and natural resource extraction and was once an important contributor to Ohio's and the nation's energy sector, particularly through coal mining and coal-fired power generation. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, these counties supported regional and national economic growth through coal mining and related industries, which shaped local economies and land use patterns. Geographically, the coalition service area is situated along the Columbus-Pittsburgh Corridor, a critical east-west transportation and economic leakage that is increasingly targeted for logistics, manufacturing, and infrastructure investment, yet remains constrained by legacy environmental conditions associated with historic coal and industrial activity. In recent decades, however, the region has experienced significant economic disruption as the coal industry declined and associated facilities closed. One notable example is the Conesville Power Plant in Coshocton County, which operated from 1957 until its closure in 2020. The shutdown of the plant resulted in the loss of hundreds of direct and indirect jobs and reduced critical local tax revenues that had historically supported public services, including school districts and local governments. Additionally, the closure of CCU Coal and Construction further affected employment and labor income across multiple eastern Ohio counties, including Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton, resulting in the loss of more than 400 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and tens of millions of dollars in lost labor income. These combined economic impacts have contributed to population decline, reduced local capacity, and

ongoing economic hardship across the coalition's service area. At the same time, historic mining and industrial activity has left behind abandoned mine lands and brownfield properties that pose ongoing environmental, public health, and safety concerns. Many of these sites are located in or near rural and disadvantaged communities that lack the financial and technical resources necessary to assess site conditions and plan for reuse. This coalition assessment grant will enable Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties to identify, assess, and prioritize potential target areas, particularly abandoned mine land sites, to support future cleanup, redevelopment, and long-term community revitalization. In Tuscarawas County, focused grant activities will occur within Oxford Township, the Village of Newcomerstown, Salem Township, Clay Township, Warwick Township, Mill Township, Goshen Township, and the City of New Philadelphia. The priority site within this county is the Dennison Business Park, located at Dudgeon Way, Dennison, Ohio 44621, which is a former mine land site. Environmental assessment activities in these target areas will support future reuse planning and redevelopment efforts by addressing legacy mining impacts and preparing sites for productive economic use. In Coshocton County, the coalition has identified Jackson Township, Franklin Township, the Village of Conesville, Lafayette Township, the Village of West Lafayette, Tuscarawas Township, and the City of Coshocton as target areas. The county's priority site is the Conesville Industrial Park, located at 47201 County Road 273, Conesville, Ohio 43811, which was formerly used as an AEP coal-fired power plant. This site represents a significant redevelopment opportunity following the closure of the Conesville Power Plant and is strategically located within the Columbus-Pittsburgh Corridor, where environmental assessment is necessary to support future industrial, logistics, or energy-related reuse. In Harrison County, focused assessment activities will target Cadiz Township, the Village of Cadiz, Archer Township, Green Township, the Village of Hopedale, and German Township. The county's priority site is Jeffco Resources, Inc., located at the intersection of County Road 14 and County Road 12 in Cadiz, Ohio 43907, which is a former surface mine land site. Assessing the property and surrounding target areas will help address environmental uncertainties associated with historic mining activity and support redevelopment in rural communities with limited technical and financial capacity. *(c.) Description of Priority*

Brownfield Sites -1. Dennison Business Park - Tuscarawas County's priority site is the Dennison Business Park, located on Dudgeon Way in Dennison, Ohio. This site is situated on former mine land and contains previously disturbed areas with limited environmental documentation. Potential environmental concerns include residual impacts from historic mining activities, soil instability, and unknown subsurface conditions. The site was prioritized for assessment due to its location within an established business park, proximity to transportation infrastructure, and strong potential for industrial or employment-generating reuse once environmental conditions are better understood.

2. Conesville Industrial Park - Coshocton County's priority site is the Conesville Industrial Park, located at 47201 County Road 273, Conesville, Ohio. The site was formerly used as the AEP Conesville coal-fired power plant, which operated for several decades prior to its closure in 2020. The property includes large industrial structures, utility infrastructure, and extensive disturbed land areas. Potential environmental concerns include coal combustion residuals, petroleum and chemical storage impacts, and other industrial contaminants typical of large-scale power generation facilities. This site is prioritized due to its size, strategic location along the Columbus-Pittsburgh Corridor, availability of existing infrastructure, and its significance to regional economic recovery following the plant's closure. ***3. Jeffco Resources, Inc.*** - Harrison County's priority site is located at the intersection of County Road 14 and County Road 12 in

Cadiz, Ohio. The property is a former surface mine land site with limited environmental assessment completed to date. Potential environmental concerns include soil and groundwater impacts from mining operations, altered drainage patterns, and physical hazards associated with disturbed land and remaining infrastructure. The site is prioritized due to redevelopment potential, proximity to local road networks, and the need to address environmental uncertainties that currently hinder investment in the surrounding rural community. **(d.) Identifying Additional Sites** - As part of the coalition's approach to identifying additional sites, the coalition members will collaborate closely with their respective county governments, land banks, and local development partners, leveraging existing data, institutional knowledge, and local expertise to identify additional brownfield sites. Where applicable, existing brownfield inventories, abandoned mine land records, and area-wide or regional planning efforts will be used to inform the identification and evaluation of potential sites. Given the region's extensive history of coal mining and related industrial activity, large portions of Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties are characterized by mine-scarred lands and legacy industrial impacts, creating a substantial pool of potential sites requiring further assessment. Through collaboration with local partners, the coalition will consider factors such as environmental conditions, economic redevelopment potential, community need, and environmental justice considerations when identifying and prioritizing additional sites. This coordinated approach will allow the coalition to make informed, transparent decisions regarding the use of assessment resources while reinforcing a shared commitment to addressing brownfield challenges across the target area.

Revitalization of the Target Area - (e.) Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans - The reuse strategy for the priority sites in the target areas holds an important role in advancing this coalition's land use and revitalization plans, aligning with each member's overarching priorities. The core component of the coalition's mission is to foster economic development and bolster regional economies in areas that have been vacated, contaminated, or dilapidated due to coal mining or other industrial activities within the target areas. In recognition of the potential of brownfield sites as untapped resources for revitalization, the coalition is committed to transforming these areas and sites into hubs of economic activity and community enhancement. By repurposing these sites, the coalition reduces the environmental burden and creates new opportunities for businesses, job creation, and infrastructure improvement, all in line with the shared vision of creating a more sustainable and prosperous future for the region. This effort shows the coalition's dedication to addressing local governments' objectives and fulfilling the community's need for growth and revitalization.

(f.) Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy - Through this coalition assessment project, the coalition members will assess and plan for the reuse of brownfield properties, including abandoned mine lands, in ways that support economic revitalization and long-term recovery in communities impacted by the decline of the coal industry. By focusing on assessment and planning activities, the coalition will help position underutilized and environmentally impacted sites for future cleanup and redevelopment, enabling local governments and partners to pursue reinvestment opportunities that can help diversify local economies and reduce reliance on extractive industries. The anticipated outcomes of the reuse strategy include improved understanding of site conditions, identification of viable reuse options, and increased readiness for future public and private investment. Beyond economic benefits, the reuse and revitalization of brownfield sites will contribute to environmental protection and climate resilience by reducing environmental hazards, encouraging sustainable land use practices, and limiting development pressure on undeveloped land. Collectively, these outcomes will support healthier communities, improved environmental conditions, and greater

opportunities for residents in Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties. **Strategy for Leveraging Resources - (g.) Resources Needed for Site Reuse** - Leveraging existing local and regional resources is a priority for all coalition members and reflects the coalition's strategic approach to community revitalization and economic growth. County land banks and port authorities, where applicable, play an important role in addressing vacant, abandoned, and blighted properties and will be key partners in advancing site reuse efforts. Land banks support the acquisition, stabilization, and repurposing of underutilized properties, helping to return environmentally impacted sites to productive use. Port authorities can serve as drivers of regional economic development by providing expertise related to industrial reuse, infrastructure planning, transportation access, and redevelopment strategy, all of which are relevant to many of the coalition's brownfield and abandoned mine land sites. In addition to local resources, the coalition will leverage available state and federal brownfields and redevelopment funding programs to support future cleanup and reuse activities. These resources may include additional U.S. EPA brownfields funding opportunities, the Ohio EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessment Program, and the Ohio Brownfield Remediation Program, among others. Each county within the coalition has experience accessing and administering state and federal funding to support infrastructure, environmental, and community development projects. This collective experience positions the coalition to effectively coordinate assessment activities, pursue complementary funding, and support long-term site reuse and revitalization efforts across Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties. **(h.) Use of Existing Infrastructure** - As a predominantly rural region, the coalition recognizes that leveraging existing infrastructure is a practical and sustainable approach to redevelopment. Given the limited availability of resources to construct new infrastructure, the coalition will prioritize the reuse of sites that are already served by established systems, including transportation networks, utilities, and existing structures, where applicable. Many of the potential priority brownfield and abandoned mine land sites are located in areas with existing infrastructure capacity, making them suitable for future redevelopment without the need for significant new infrastructure investment. By repurposing these sites, the coalition will promote efficient use of public resources, reduce development pressures on undeveloped land, and support responsible economic growth. The availability and capacity of existing infrastructure will be a key consideration during the assessment process to ensure that identified sites are viable for future reuse and aligned with local and regional revitalization goals.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need - (a.) The Community's Need for Funding - The coalition encompasses Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties, a largely rural region of east-central and eastern Ohio that has experienced long-term economic challenges associated with the decline of the coal industry. These communities are characterized by small populations, limited local tax bases, and constrained public resources, which make it difficult for local governments to independently fund environmental assessment, planning, and brownfield reuse activities. The financial limitations of these counties, combined with the scale and complexity of abandoned mine lands and brownfield sites, reduce the ability to attract private investment or secure conventional financing for early-stage assessment work. Additionally, many available state and federal funding programs do not fully address the distinct needs of small, rural communities seeking to evaluate legacy environmental conditions and prepare sites for future redevelopment. This EPA brownfields assessment grant is therefore critical to bridging this funding gap. The funding will enable the coalition to assess and prioritize environmentally impacted sites, build local capacity, and lay the groundwork for future cleanup and redevelopment efforts that support economic

growth, environmental protection, and long-term community revitalization. **(b.) Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations** - The communities within Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties include sensitive populations whose health and welfare are affected by both socioeconomic conditions and environmental risk factors. A notable portion of residents in these counties lack health insurance coverage, which limits access to preventive care and treatment and increases vulnerability to adverse health outcomes associated with environmental exposures. In addition, these counties have a higher proportion of residents aged 65 and older, a population that is more susceptible to chronic disease and environmental stressors, and often relies on fixed incomes and limited healthcare resources. Housing conditions further contribute to community vulnerability, as the median value of housing units in these counties falls below state and national averages, reflecting limited household wealth and reduced capacity for residents to address housing-related environmental hazards. Collectively, these factors indicate that sensitive populations within the coalition’s service area face heightened risks and reduced resilience, underscoring the importance of assessing and addressing brownfield and abandoned mine land sites that may contribute to cumulative health and welfare impacts.

County	Variable	Value	State	US
Tuscarawas	Without Healthcare Coverage	10.6%	6.7%	8.2%
	Percent 65 and Up	20.9%	19.1%	17.7%
	Median Value of Housing Units	\$185,500	\$236,963	\$433,175
Harrison	Without Healthcare Coverage	10.6%	6.7%	8.2%
	Percent 65 and Up	22.5%	19.1%	17.7%
	Median Value of Housing Units	\$118,000	\$236,963	\$433,175
Coshocton	Without Healthcare Coverage	10.9%	6.7%	8.2%
	Percent 65 and Up	19.7%	19.1%	17.7%
	Median Value of Housing Units	\$142,300	\$236,963	\$433,175

(c.) Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions - As a result of legacy contamination from coal, nuclear, and other closed industrial operations, these communities face significant adverse health effects. The majority of the target areas suffer from higher rates of stroke, heart disease, asthma, diabetes, and disabilities than the state or national average. The low-income populations are especially sensitive to these adverse health conditions due to their proximity to legacy sites. Addressing brownfields will spur economic growth and bring improvement to poverty and education in the community. Cleaning up legacy coal contamination will improve the health of the residents.

County	Variable	Value	State	US
Tuscarawas	Prevalence of Stroke	4.9%	3.9%	3.1%
	Prevalence of Asthma	11.6%	10.4%	7.7%
	Prevalence of Heart Disease	10.7%	5.6%	

	Prevalence of Disabilities	15.2%	14.5%	13.5%
	Prevalence of Diabetes	15.0%	11.3%	11.6%
Harrison	Prevalence of Stroke	4.5%	3.9%	3.1%
	Prevalence of Asthma	11.6%	10.4%	7.7%
	Prevalence of Heart Disease	10.1%	5.6%	
	Prevalence of Disabilities	16.1%	14.5%	13.5%
	Prevalence of Diabetes	15.3%	11.3%	11.6%
Coshocton	Prevalence of Stroke	4.7%	3.9%	3.1%
	Prevalence of Asthma	11.5%	10.4%	7.7%
	Prevalence of Heart Disease	10.1%	5.6%	
	Prevalence of Disabilities	16.1%	14.5%	13.5%
	Prevalence of Diabetes	15.3%	11.3%	11.6%

(d.) Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations - The three coalition members are home to vulnerable, aging populations facing high levels of poverty, with 13.4%, 14.6%, and 16.2% of the population being classified as low income for Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton Counties, respectively. This, coupled with the fact that the three counties all fall under the state and national average for median household income, and have low rates of education, means that these counties are particularly vulnerable to harmful contaminants. The impoverished conditions of these areas can be seen as a result of the closure of coal-fired power plants, other industrial facilities, and the remnants of mine-scarred lands. As people lost their jobs, they were forced to look for lower-paying jobs, some even leaving the areas entirely in search of work. For example, the closure of the Conesville Power Plant in Coshocton County is estimated to have caused 370 direct job losses and an additional 761 losses in the broader local economy. Additionally, the closure of CCU Coal and Construction resulted in a total loss of 422 jobs in Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Coshocton counties, along with others in the Appalachian region. By advancing the assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites, the coalition will help these communities overcome legacy environmental challenges and build the foundation for sustainable economic growth and population retention.

County	Variable	Value	State	US
Tuscarawas	Persons in Poverty	13.4%	12.7%	10.6%
	Less than HS Education	8%	8.1%	6.7%
	Median Household Income	\$64,494	\$69,680	\$83,730
Harrison	Persons in Poverty	14.6%	12.7%	10.6%
	Less than HS Education	10%	8.1%	6.7%
	Median Household Income	\$53,851	\$69,680	\$83,730
Coshocton	Persons in Poverty	16.2%	12.7%	10.6%

	Less than HS Education	15%	8.1%	6.7%
	Median Household Income	\$54,687	\$69,680	\$83,730

Community Engagement - (e.) Project Involvement/(f.) Project Roles

<i>Name of Organization/Entity/Group</i>	<i>Point of Contact (Name & Email)</i>	<i>Specific Project Role</i>
Tuscarawas County, Ohio	Scott Reynolds, reynolds@co.tuscarawas.oh.us	Community & Economic Development Director
Harrison County Community Improvement Corporation	Nick Homrighausen, nhomrighausen@harrisoncountyo.org	Executive Director, Community Economic Development
Coshocton Port Authority	Tiffany Swigert, tiffanyswigert@coshoctonportauthority.com	Executive Director
Tuscarawas County Economic Development Corporation	Marla Akridge, makridge@tuscedc.com	Executive Director

(g.) Incorporating Community Input - Communities, as the most direct stakeholders, possess insights into the historical, environmental, and social aspects of brownfield sites. Their lived experiences and local knowledge provide a perspective that goes beyond data and reports. By actively engaging with the community in the assessment process, we will ensure that the brownfield remediation efforts align with their needs and concerns, but also provide a sense of ownership in the outcome. This approach enhances the quality and comprehensiveness of brownfield assessments but also strengthens the bond between agencies, organizations, and the community, making way for successful and sustainable redevelopment. The members of this coalition plan to conduct the following community engagement activities: press releases, posts on social media, in-person meetings, and information sessions. Interested individuals will be able to provide input at these meetings and online.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs:

Task/Activity: Grant Administration
a. Project Implementation: This task will include the oversight and supervision of the grant program for the Coalition. Activities include the management of the Cooperative Agreement, procuring the Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP), conducting regular meetings with the QEP and US EPA, reporting to the non-lead members throughout the grant period, output tracking for all Tasks, Assessment Cleanup Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) database entries, review and approval of invoices, eligibility determinations, review of

<p>completed technical reports, annual financial reporting, quarterly program reports to US EPA, a final closeout report, and attending EPA Brownfields training conferences and related workshops.</p>
<p>b. Anticipated Project Schedule: This activity will be initiated at project inception. QEP selection will occur within three (3) months of securing the Cooperative Agreement. Quarterly meetings with the US EPA (including the QEP) and separately with the Coalition members will begin within the first quarter after grant approval and continue through project closeout (32). Other activities will occur concurrently throughout the grant period.</p>
<p>c. Task/Activity Lead: Tuscarawas County will rely on QEP to lead Grant Administration with support from Key Lead Scott Reynolds.</p>
<p>d. Outputs: Outputs for this Task will include documentation of QEP selection, completion of quarterly meetings and preparation of meeting notes with US EPA representatives and separately with Coalition members throughout the grant period, ACRES documentation, technical reports for sites investigated, documentation of Outputs for all Tasks under the Grant, annual financial tracking summary prepared for US EPA, eligibility determinations, closeout report, and summary of training conferences/workshops.</p>
<p>Task/Activity: Brownfield Inventory</p>
<p>a. Project Implementation: A Brownfield Inventory will be prepared in at least each of the Coalition’s Target Areas, up to a total of twelve (12) for the grant, and presented at Stakeholder and Public meetings to gain input on identifying and prioritizing sites for further assessment. The Brownfield Inventory Tool (BiT) or similar system will be utilized.</p>
<p>b. Anticipated Project Schedule: The initial Brownfield Inventory for the selected Target Area(s) will be completed within one year of QEP selection. Additional Inventories will be conducted at least annually or as needed.</p>
<p>c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP will execute the inventories with support from Coalition members in each Target Area.</p>
<p>d. Outputs: Output for this task will be a comprehensive Brownfield Inventory for the selected Target Area(s) produced using the BiT or similar tool.</p>
<p>Task/Activity: Community Engagement</p>
<p>a. Project Implementation: This task will include the formation of a Brownfield Advisory Committee (BAC) among the Coalition members and convening quarterly meetings of that group to review actions and progress (16). Additionally, it will include at least nine (9) community meetings - six (6) associated with Area Wide Plans (one in each of the Target Areas), and three (3) additional meetings – one (1) at the beginning, middle, and at the end of the project. Communication of the program will include website and social media postings, and the creation of fact sheets, and will include presentations at Coalition member County Commission and applicable city council meetings.</p>

<p>b. Anticipated Project Schedule: This Task will be initiated within three (3) months of completion of Consultant selection and continue throughout the grant period. The BAC will have their first meetings within three (3) months of QEP selection and then quarterly thereafter during the grant period for a total of 16 meetings. The nine (9) community meetings will occur during the grant period, as determined by the schedule for the Area Wide Plans and general meetings.</p>
<p>c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP will lead, supported by Representatives from all Coalition members.</p>
<p>d. Outputs: Outputs for this task will include a list of BAC Group members, documentation from quarterly BAC meetings and nine (9) community meetings, information postings and documentation from County Commission and City council meetings.</p>
<p>Task/Activity: Re-Use/Area-Wide Planning</p>
<p>a. Project Implementation: Brownfield re-use/area-wide planning will be conducted in each of the Target Areas. Community input will be garnered through public meetings and/or past planning processes specific to each Target Area.</p>
<p>b. Anticipated Project Schedule: The planning projects will be prioritized and scheduled over the course of the grant period. The first will be initiated within the first year of the grant and completed by the end of the first grant year, with others to follow, at least two (2) annually until all are completed. At least one (1) community meeting will be conducted as part of each planning process.</p>
<p>c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP will lead. Representatives from all Coalition members along with the QEP will participate in the coordination of meetings within all Target Areas.</p>
<p>d. Outputs: Outputs will be the six (6) Re-use/Area Wide Plans and documentation of at least five (5) community meetings specific to the planning process.</p>
<p>Task/Activity: Environmental Assessments</p>
<p>a. Project Implementation: The Coalition will conduct Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) and Hazardous Materials surveys. All work will be conducted under the QEP's approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), and site-specific Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAPs) and Health and Safety Plans (HASPs) where applicable, and consistent with All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) and with the Ohio Voluntary Action Program (VAP) or other applicable statutes (e.g., Ohio Department of Health [ODH] asbestos, lead-based paint, etc.).</p>
<p>b. Anticipated Project Schedule: Assessments will be initiated throughout the grant based on Brownfield Advisory Committee recommendations, site eligibility, and priorities developed by the Coalition during the Inventory and Brownfield Planning tasks.</p>
<p>c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP will lead. Representatives from applicable Coalition members where the site is located, along with the QEP will coordinate the physical work activities.</p>

d. Outputs: Outputs will include the approved QAPP, SAPs and HASPs, at least 18 Phase I ESAs, at least 10 Phase II ESAs (including the SAPs), six (6) hazardous material surveys, and eligibility determinations for each site that is considered.

Task/Activity: Cleanup Planning

a. Project Implementation: The Coalition will conduct cleanup planning on at least six (6) sites, one from each Target Area. This task may also include the development of Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCAs) to support US EPA brownfield cleanup grants. The cleanup plan(s) will be consistent with the VAP or applicable regulatory agency (i.e., Ohio Department of Health, etc.) requirements.

b. Anticipated Project Schedule: A cleanup plan for at least six (6) sites will be prepared during the grant period.

c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP will lead. Representatives from applicable Coalition members where the site is located, along with the QEP will coordinate the physical work activities.

d. Outputs: Outputs will consist of at least one (1) approved cleanup plan, or ABCA in each Target Area.

Estimates - Task 1 – Project and Program Management \$84,650: The Coalition staff will be responsible for oversight and management of all grant administration tasks, we will also select a QEP to perform the bulk of grant administration tasks at an estimated cost of \$49,950 (\$150/hr x 333 hours). Coalition staff budget includes Project Director (\$60 x 520 hours=\$31,200). A total of \$3,500 is budgeted for travel of two (2) Coalition employees to the US EPA Brownfield training conference to account for flights (\$1,500), hotels (\$1,500) and meals (\$500). **Task 2 – Brownfield Inventory: \$72,000:** The QEP is anticipated to prepare one (1) Brownfield Inventory for each of the six (6) Target Areas. It is estimated that \$12,000 will be needed for each Inventory. **Task 3 – Community Engagement: \$90,650:** Coalition staff will be responsible for oversight and management and use the QEP to organize community engagement, including nine (9) public meetings (\$2,000/meeting=\$18,000), quarterly BAC meetings during project execution (16 @\$2,000/each=\$32,000). Additional activities and personnel associated with website/social media updates are estimated at \$25,050 (\$75/hr x 334 hours) over the course of the grant. Coalition staff budget includes Project Director (\$60 x 260 hours=\$15,600). **Task 4 – Re-Use/Area-Wide Planning: \$450,000:** The QEP will lead this Task completing at least one (1) area-wide plan for each of the six (6) Target Areas. It is estimated that \$75,000 will be allocated to each plan. **Task 5 – Environmental Assessment: \$652,700:** The QEP will lead this task. It is anticipated that up to 18 Phase I ESAs at an average cost of \$5,000/each, one (1) QAPP at a cost of \$10,000, 10 Phase II ESAs (including the SAPs) at an average cost of \$40,000/each and six (6) hazardous materials surveys at an average cost of \$25,450/each. **Task 6 – Cleanup Planning: \$150,000:** The QEP will lead this Task conducting cleanup planning on at least one (1) site per Target Area (6 total) at an average cost of \$25,000 each.

Project Tasks		Task 1 Project & Prog. Mgt	Task 2 Brownfield Inventory	Task 3 Comm. Engmt.	Task 4 Re-Use / AWP	Task 5 Env. Assess.	Task 6 Cleanup Planning.	Total
Budget Costs								
Direct Costs	Personnel	\$31,200		\$40,650				\$103,050
	Travel	\$3,500						\$3,500
	Construction							
	Contractual	\$49,950	\$72,000	\$50,000	\$450,000	\$652,700	\$150,000	1,393,450
Total Budget		\$84,650	\$72,000	\$90,650	\$450,000	\$652,700	\$150,000	\$1,500,000

Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results: The designated QEP will create and sustain a detailed project schedule outlining key goals, budget distribution, and deliverables. Regular monthly updates will be compiled to track the project's progress and shared with the EPA via the ACRES database. Should there be any deviation from pre-set benchmarks or timelines, joint meetings involving the EPA, coalition partners, and the QEP will be organized to address challenges, find solutions, and strategize on necessary adjustments to realign the project with its objectives. Early attention will be given to inventory and planning tasks to evaluate potential additional capacities in the Target Areas and other encompassed communities within the geographic boundary of the grant. Additionally, the Coalition will oversee project advancements by gathering documentation from all contractors and consultants, sharing this data with the EPA through regular quarterly meetings, reports, and ongoing correspondence. The collected information and benchmark tracking will be assessed at the BAC meetings and communicated through public media.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

a. Programmatic Capability (a.) Organizational Capacity - The coalition's member governments, Tuscarawas County, Harrison County, and Coshocton County, each have a longstanding role in administering and supporting public programs and funding that benefit their residents and local communities. Tuscarawas County has an active Office of Community and Economic Development that partners with state and federal programs, including Community Development Block Grants and Rural Development funding, to support infrastructure, housing, and economic growth initiatives. In Harrison County, the Board of County Commissioners regularly engages in the approval and oversight of grant-funded projects, including the allocation of state and federal funds for infrastructure and revitalization activities, such as road reconstruction and building demolition programs supported through grant awards. Local organizations and the Harrison County Community Foundation also support small-scale grant funding that benefits community projects. The Coshocton County Board of Commissioners has demonstrated its capacity and intent to pursue and manage community development funding through its plans to apply for Community Development Block Grants and Home Investment Partnership grants in multiple fiscal years, reflecting experience with federal and state program administration. The county government also operates a range of county agencies that collaborate on planning, infrastructure, health, and economic development functions, further supporting its administrative capacity.

(b.) Organizational Structure - The Tuscarawas County Board of Commissioners is a three-member board of elected officials responsible for the governance and administration of county operations. If funds are awarded, the Board of Commissioners will serve as the grantee and will oversee grant administration through appropriate county staff to ensure that all technical, administrative, and financial requirements of the project are met. Grant-related activities will be managed in accordance with established county policies and

procedures to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. All major grant-related decisions will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Commissioners during regularly scheduled public meetings. The Board will coordinate grant decision-making and project oversight in collaboration with coalition partners and designated representatives through planned coordination meetings, ensuring transparency, accountability, and alignment with the goals of the brownfields assessment project. **(c.) Description of Key Staff** - Scott Reynolds, Community and Economic Development Director for Tuscarawas County, has extensive experience supporting community development, economic revitalization, and grant-supported projects at the county level. In his role, Mr. Reynolds is responsible for coordinating development initiatives, working with local governments and regional partners, and supporting projects that advance redevelopment, infrastructure improvement, and economic growth. He has experience overseeing grant-funded activities, supporting compliance requirements, and coordinating with multiple stakeholders to ensure projects are implemented effectively and in alignment with county priorities. Mr. Reynolds will serve as the Applicant and Authorized Representative for this project and will provide overall coordination and oversight of the grant. His familiarity with county operations, redevelopment needs, and regional economic conditions will support responsible grant administration, effective communication with the U.S. EPA, and successful implementation of the brownfields assessment activities. **(d.) Acquiring Additional Resources** - The Tuscarawas County Board of Commissioners, in conformity with 2 CFR 200.318, maintains documented procurement policies and procedures governing the acquisition of goods and services using federal grant funds. In support of strong labor practices, Tuscarawas County complies with Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements or applicable state prevailing wage standards, whichever is highest. When allowable under federal and state guidelines, the county supports the use of local contractors and vendors and encourages local hiring practices to the extent feasible. These practices help ensure that grant-funded activities are implemented responsibly while supporting the local workforce and economy. **Past Performance and Accomplishments (ii.) Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant OR Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements OR Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements** (1) **Accomplishments** (2) **Compliance With Grant Requirements** - Tuscarawas County has not received an EPA Brownfield Grant but has received a non-federal award through the Ohio Department of Development's Building Demolition and Site Revitalization program. This program is designed to provide grants for the demolition of commercial and residential buildings and revitalization of surrounding properties on sites that are not brownfields. Tuscarawas County has used two funding cycles of this grant to complete the following, and has applied for a third round of funding for additional projects. In the first round, the county completed 14 projects in the Cities and Villages of Dover, New Philadelphia, Dennison, and Newcomerstown. In the second round, the county completed 10 projects in the Cities and Villages of Dover, New Philadelphia, Dennison, Newcomerstown, and Mineral City. The county has applied for a third round of funding, but the projects have not yet been selected. Tuscarawas County is in compliance with all of the grant requirements associated with these awards.

**FY2026 US EPA Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant
Tuscarawas County Coalition Brownfield Planning**

RESPONSES TO THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1. **Applicant Eligibility**

The Tuscarawas County Board of Commissioners, the lead entity (grantee) for this coalition assessment grant, is a general-purpose unit of government within the State of Ohio.

Number and Eligibility of Non-lead Coalition Members: There are two coalition members, The Coshocton Port Authority is a public agency that manages, develops, and promotes transportation, industrial, and economic development assets to support regional commerce and redevelopment, and the Harrison County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC), is a non-profit, economic development corporation established under Ohio Revised Code chapter 1724.

2. **Target Areas:**

Tuscarawas County – Oxford Township, the Village of Newcomerstown, Salem Township, Clay Township, Warwick Township, Mill Township, Goshen Township, and the City of New Philadelphia.

Coshocton Port Authority - Jackson Township, Franklin Township, the Village of Conesville, Lafayette Township, the Village of West Lafayette, Tuscarawas Township, and the City of Coshocton.

Harrison County CIC - Cadiz Township, the Village of Cadiz, Archer Township, Green Township, the Village of Hopedale, and German Township.

3. **Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received an EPA MARC Grant**

The Coshocton Port Authority and the Harrison County CIC, each a non-lead coalition member, are not the recipients of an open cooperative agreement for MARC Grant funding.

4. **Legal Authority to Expend Grant Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Coalition Members**

The Tuscarawas County Board of Commissioners affirms that it has the legal authority to expend grant funds on behalf of the non-lead members to conduct the proposed grant activities.

5. **Coalition Agreement** - See Attached

6. **Community Involvement**

The coalition plans to release press releases upon receiving funds to inform the community and to provide information on the purpose of the grant to assess the brownfields in their designated target areas with the help of community partners identified within the grant application.

7. **Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds**

None of the coalition members have an open EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant or Multipurpose Grant.

8. **Contractors and Named Subrecipients** - N/A