

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

JEFFERSON, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD, ST. CHARLES, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,
ST. TAMMANY AND TANGIPARHOA PARISHES

1. Applicant Identification

Regional Planning Commission (RPC)
10 Veterans Memorial Blvd
New Orleans, LA 70124

2. Website URL:

RPC (lead member): <https://www.norpc.org>
Port of New Orleans (non-lead): <https://portnola.com>
Plaquemines Parish (non-lead): <https://www.plaqueminesparish.gov>

3. Funding Requested

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

4. Location

Lead member: RPC

a) Slidell, b) St. Tammany Parish, c) Louisiana

Non-lead member: Port of New Orleans

a) New Orleans, b) Orleans Parish, c) Louisiana

Non-lead member: Plaquemines Parish

a) Belle Chasse, b) Plaquemines Parish, c) Louisiana

Geographic boundary: RPC jurisdiction includes the following parishes: Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa

5. Coalition Members' Target Areas and Priority Site Information

- **RPC (lead member)** – Target area (TA) 1: Bayou Bonfouca Corridor: census tracts (CTs) 22103040900, 22103041002, 22103041103, 22103041104, 22103041105
 - Priority site 1: Former Hydralift, 30°16'22.3"N, 89°47'23.6"W, Slidell, LA 70460
 - Priority site 2: Pearl River Navigation, 36318 Old Bayou Liberty Rd, Slidell, LA 70460
- **Port of New Orleans (non-lead member)** – TA 2: Inner Harbor Navigational Canal: CTs 22071000701, 22071000702, 22071000800, 22071000902, 22071000903, 22071000904, 22071001100, 22071001302, 22071001401, 22071001402, 22071001600, 22071001701, 22071001702, 22071001751, 22071001720, 22071013600, 22071013701, 22071013702, 22071980100
 - Priority site 1: Former Brandon International, 6110–6230 Bienvenue, New Orleans, LA 70117

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- **Plaquemines Parish (non-lead member)** – TA 3:Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Corridor:
CTs 22075050202, 22075050300, 22075050201
 - Priority site 1: Walker Road Tract 1, 900 Walker Road, Belle Chasse, LA 70037
 - Priority site 2: Walker Road Tract 2, 1100 Walker Road, Belle Chasse, LA 70037
 - Priority site 3: Signature Granite and Marble, 2600 N Concord, Belle Chasse, LA 70037

6. Contacts

a. Project Director

Adam Tatar, Economic Development Manager

504-483-8533

atatar@norpc.org

10 Veterans Memorial Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124

b. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official

Jeffrey W. Roesel, Executive Director

504-483-8500

jroesel@norpc.org

10 Veterans Memorial Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124

7. Population

- RPC (lead member): City of Slidell, LA: 28,664
- Port of New Orleans (non-lead): City of New Orleans, LA: 376,035
- Plaquemines Parish (non-lead): City of Belle Chasse, LA: 11,046
(US Census 2019–2023 American Community Survey)

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8. Other Factors

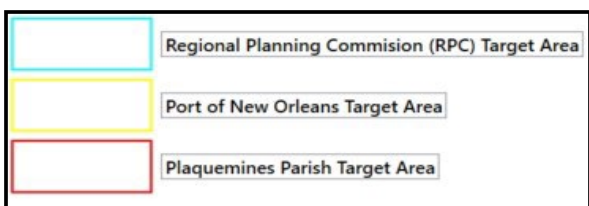
Other Factors	Page #
Community population is 15,000 or less.	6
The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian Tribe or United States Territory.	N/A
The priority site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	N/A
The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the 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).	1, 2
The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	4
The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy.	5
The reuse of the priority site(s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures.	5
The proposed project will improve local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters.	5
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.	9–11
The target area(s) is impacted by a coal-fired power plant that has recently closed (2015 or later) or is closing.	N/A

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

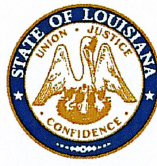
See attached.

10. Releasing Copies of Applications

Not Applicable.



Regional Planning Commission
FY 2026 EPA Coalition Grant



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Dec. 3, 2025

Jeffrey W. Roesel
Executive Director
Regional Planning Commission
10 Veterans Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124

RE: Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality acknowledgement of
Regional Planning Commission's FY26 Brownfield Grant Application to the
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Mr. Roesel:

Thank you for your efforts to enhance Louisiana's environment, economy, and quality of life by addressing environmental concerns at vacant and underutilized sites in your community through the Brownfields Program. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) acknowledges the Regional Planning Commission's application for a Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant in partnership with Plaquemines Parish and the Port of New Orleans to address sites under the federal Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act and the Brownfields Utilization, Investment and Local Development Act. LDEQ recognizes that the Regional Planning Commission will be conducting assessment activities in LDEQ's jurisdiction. In addition to providing regulatory oversight of your projects, LDEQ is also available to provide technical assistance to your Brownfield Program as resources permit.

We look forward to partnering with you to facilitate the redevelopment of Brownfield sites in Louisiana! Please contact me at (504) 736-7069 or Rebecca.Otte@LA.gov if you have any questions or need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Otte".

Rebecca Otte
Brownfields Coordinator
Remediation Division, Office of Environmental Assessment

LDEQ AI# 178641: Topic File - Brownfields General



**Regional Planning Commission, LA
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Narrative**



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1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Coalition Members, Target Areas, and Brownfields. a. Coalition Members: This coalition is led by the **Regional Planning Commission of New Orleans (RPC)** and includes two non-lead members: the **Port of New Orleans (PONO)** and **Plaquemines Parish (Parish)**. PONO is a public port authority and serves as a major transportation and economic hub for the region. Despite its critical role in maritime operations and infrastructure, PONO does not have the programmatic capacity to apply for or manage its own Brownfields Assessment Grant. PONO does not receive state appropriations or dedicated tax funding, and all revenue is self-generated through lease agreements, dockage, and cargo fees. The Parish is a unit of local government located at the southernmost end of Louisiana. It operates with constrained resources and prioritizes essential services for its dispersed population. Limited staff and budget capacity make it difficult for the Parish to dedicate personnel or funding to complex federal grant programs. RPC hosts the regional Brownfields Program on behalf of eight parishes (counties) because local municipalities lack adequate programmatic capability. Partnering with RPC allows the non-lead members to leverage regional planning expertise, shared resources, and technical support to address contaminated sites that hinder economic growth and resilience. Without coalition participation, neither PONO nor the Parish would have access to the resources necessary to pursue assessment and redevelopment.

b. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Areas: The **geographic boundary for this grant is the service area of the RPC**, which includes the following parishes in southern Louisiana: Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa. **Each coalition member has a unique target area that does not overlap.** The Bayou Bonfouca Corridor target area (TA) for **RPC (lead-member)** consists of census tracts (CTs) 22103040900, 22103041002, 22103041103, 22103041104, and 22103041105. **PONO (non-lead)** Inner Harbor Navigational Canal Corridor TA consists of CTs 22071000701, 22071000702, 22071000800, 22071000902, 22071000903, 22071000904, 22071001100, 22071001302, 22071001401, 22071001402, 22071001600, 22071001701, 22071001702, 22071001751, 22071001720, 22071013600, 22071013701, 22071013702, 22071980100. The **Parish (non-lead)** Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Corridor TA consists of CTs 22075050202, 22075050300 and 22075050201.

These areas have a long history of industrial and commercial activity, including former landfills, rail corridors, gas stations, dry cleaners, and small-scale manufacturing, that has left behind contaminants such as petroleum hydrocarbons (PHs), metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). In Slidell (**RPC TA**), historic creosote wood-preserving operations at Bayou Bonfouca further contributed to PAH-contaminated sediments and groundwater, while in the Holy Cross neighborhood (**PONO TA**), decades of discriminatory zoning and flood-control decisions concentrated vulnerable residents along an industrial corridor adjacent to shipping terminals and chemical storage facilities. In Belle Chasse (**Parish TA**), port logistics and military aviation have generated continuous freight traffic, cargo staging, and restricted roadway access that directly affect nearby homes. Post-Hurricane Katrina redevelopment and urban infill have disturbed contaminated soils across these communities, heightening exposure risks, particularly for children, and contributing to blight, disinvestment, and persistent environmental burdens in predominantly low-income neighborhoods. Given the high concentration of potential brownfield sites across the target areas, the coalition requires additional resources to remediate contamination and reverse long-standing blight. EPA Brownfield Assessment funding is essential to identify and prioritize contaminated sites, conduct thorough



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assessments, and develop cleanup strategies that reduce health risks, attract reinvestment, and restore long-term economic vitality.

c. Description of the Priority Brownfield Sites: The coalition has identified at least **20 potential brownfield sites in the RPC target area, 25 in the PONO target area and 15 in the Parish target area.** These sites include light industrial, ship repair and maintenance operations, wharfs, warehouses, gas stations, dry cleaners, and vacant commercial sites. Based on past uses, these sites may contain environmental hazards such as **asbestos-containing materials (ACM), PHs, metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).** The coalition has prioritized sites within each member's target area based on their proximity to residential neighborhoods, schools, and recreational resources **as well as confirmed site access from all property owners for assessment upon award.** These locations also offer strong potential for redevelopment that can drive economic growth.

RPC (Lead Member) Priority Sites: The first priority site, the Former Hydralift property, encompasses 5.3 acres along the waterfront and is primarily vacant, with overgrown vegetation and two deteriorated mobile homes within a fenced and gated area. The site is located only blocks from residential neighborhoods, a school, churches and a public park and is an area with heavy pedestrian traffic. The property was home to the Salmen Brick and Lumber Company from the 1890s to the 1920s, followed by ready-mix concrete operations from the 1950s through the late 1990s and heavy equipment manufacturing until around 2011. The site has remained mostly vacant since that time, occasionally being used for storage. Potential contaminants include **metals, PHs, VOCs, and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs).**

The second RPC priority site is Pearl River Navigation (PRN), which consists of 2.4 acres of overgrown vegetation and scattered debris and has a dilapidated shed on the property. The site is adjacent to residential neighborhoods and less than a mile from churches and schools. Historic operations include ship repair activities dating from at least the 1980s to recent years. Today, the property is largely unused except for storage of two deteriorating mobile homes. Based on past uses and current conditions, suspected contaminants include **metals, PHs, VOCs, and SVOCs.** The site is currently fenced and gated and located along the waterfront.

PONO (Non-lead) Priority Site: The Former Brandon International (BI) complex is a 20-acre property in the Holy Cross neighborhood and consists of a vacant, fenced cluster of former large warehouse buildings. It is adjacent to residential areas and within approximately a half mile of multiple schools and playgrounds. The site was first developed between 1893 and 1909 with single-family homes, retail stores, and a small saw and lumber yard. It was later redeveloped for industrial maritime operations under Shiplside Storage Company, supporting cotton and commodity warehousing, a boiler room with an incinerator stack, worker housing, and a gasoline storage tank. From 1983 to 1994, the site was occupied by Public Service Industries and included a repair shop and a manufacturing area. Several structures were removed during this period, converting the southern portion to an open storage yard, while warehousing was expanded. From 1998 to 2022, the site remained inactive. The incinerator stack was removed around 2005, and the southern portion was used for storage. Given the past wood-yard operations, industrial use, stormwater retention and discharge, open storage, and rail infrastructure, potential contaminants include **PHs, metals, VOCs, PAHs, and ACM.** PONO owns the site and plans to demolish the existing warehouses to redevelop the property for rail and maritime commercial use.

Parish (Non-lead) Priority Sites: *The Parish has prioritized three sites in Belle Chasse due to their proximity to the proposed Peters Road bypass bridge, a critical infrastructure project that will improve connectivity between Jefferson Parish and Plaquemines Parish.* The **first priority**



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site, Walker Road Tract 1 consists of 205 acres of vacant, overgrown grassland with pits that were used for levee construction and drainage functions. The site itself was originally used for agriculture and plantation operations in the early 1800s and later transitioned into the Walker Road Borrow Pit complex in the 1950s to supply soil stabilization and materials for regional levee and floodwall construction. From the 1950s to the present, the site developed as an infrastructure corridor for the railway, supporting logistics for chemical and energy products. The unfenced site is within two miles of residential areas. Suspected contaminants include **PHs, metals, VOCs, PAHs, and SVOCs**.

The **second priority site, Walker Road Tract 2**, consists of 234 acres adjacent to the first site. It shares a similar history and function, transitioning from agricultural use to heavy industrial operations anchored by the Walker Road Borrow Pit complex. Today, the site consists of vacant, unmanaged pasture with pits, evidence of prior drainage and landfill functions, and asphalted areas. Suspected contaminants include **PHs, metals, VOCs, SVOCs, and PAHs**. Redevelopment planning will be coordinated with **Walker Road Tract 1** to package both sites for mixed-use residential, commercial development, and light industrial reuse.

The **third priority site** is the **Signature Granite and Marble (SGM)** property. This 1-acre site hosts a dilapidated 6,300-square-foot structure in a mixed industrial and commercial corridor near the proposed Peters Road bypass. The now vacant site was occupied from approximately 2010 to 2016 by Signature Granite and Marble, which produced custom kitchen and bath countertops and cabinetry from granite, marble, and quartz. Fabrication involved cutting, grinding, and polishing stone slabs, typically using wet methods to suppress silica dust during processing. Potential contaminants at this site include **PHs, metals, ACM, VOCs, and SVOCs**. All sites are owned by the Parish and have been granted access for assessment.

d. Identifying Additional Sites: The coalition, in coordination with community residents and project partners, will create a ranking tool to rank brownfield sites in each target area, giving priority to sites that most benefit sensitive populations. Referencing parish property-appraisal websites, community input, and census data, the coalition will identify and rank additional sites within the target areas and geographic boundary with critical issues such as health disparities, pollution, and poverty. Any grant funds that remain after appropriate allocation to all target-area assessment work will be used to address additional sites found throughout **RPC's geographic boundary** that most benefit these vulnerable populations.

Revitalization of the Target Areas. e. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans: **RPC's reuse strategy for the Hydralift and PRN sites advances the Olde Towne Slidell Master Plan** by revitalizing the Bayou Bonfouca area and reconnecting the waterfront to Olde Towne Slidell. Redeveloping the **Hydralift and PRN** sites into **bayou-facing restaurants and shops with outdoor dining, balconies, and storefronts opening to plazas and trailheads** will deliver family-friendly anchors that will be complemented by businesses such as outfitters, kayak rentals, and ice cream and coffee shops. This development strategy also aligns with the **St. Tammany Parish 2040 Comprehensive Plan's** call for mixed-use, waterfront-oriented development and the **St. Tammany Bicycle Master Plan's** focus on safe, connected routes through the extension of the 31-mile St. Tammany Trace into the Bayou Bonfouca corridor. Integrating retail and restaurant reuse with trail expansion supports active transportation, tourism, reduced automobile dependency, and advances sustainable growth, public access, and economic progress for residents and visitors. Together, **Hydralift and PRN will become public-facing anchors** that convert underused shoreline into a vibrant, trail- and street-connected district and deliver economic vitality aligned with local land use and revitalization priorities. This reuse



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strategy also creates new public waterfront amenities that expand recreational access for residents and visitors, supporting community health and tourism goals.

PONO's reuse plan for the BI complex advances the Port of New Orleans 2020 PIER Plan (PIER Plan) for the Inner Harbor by removing obsolete, vacant warehouse structures and **redeveloping the site into a rail and maritime-ready logistics campus** centered on light industrial, packaging/processing, and waterfront-related operations. Leveraging the New Orleans Public Belt's integrated connectivity to six Class I railroads and proximate Inner Harbor railyards, the strategy positions the site for high-velocity intermodal transfers and gateway commerce across a 130,000-mile national rail network. The BI site plan operationalizes the PIER Plan's identified ideal future land uses for Inner Harbor campuses by attracting freight-based investment and delivering community-benefiting jobs.

The Parish plan to transform its two Walker Road and SGM priority sites into mixed-use residential, commercial and light industrial uses advances the **Plaquemines Comprehensive Master Plan (Parish Plan)** by catalyzing the proposed Peters Road Bypass Corridor with brownfield cleanup. This combination will unlock mixed-use redevelopment that brings homes, shops, services, and light-industrial workplaces together in walkable, village-style neighborhoods. This connection with the proposed bypass corridor will divert through-traffic from the most congested segments of LA-23, reducing freight and commuter trips while providing access to the Walker Road sites, making them more visible to employers and investors. The redevelopment strategy for these sites directly supports the Parish Plan's approach to job creation, targeting transportation, warehousing, and manufacturing. Residential development strategies across the sites will create connected street networks that link homes to schools, transit, and community services while executing the Parish Plan to deliver workforce housing near everyday services. Although the two Walker Road priority sites are located in the **FEMA flood plain**, the Parish will ensure flood mitigation strategies are considered in all redevelopment plans.

f. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy: The coalition's redevelopment strategy knits together waterfront activation, modern logistics, and mixed-use neighborhood reinvestment to deliver measurable economic benefits, improved public access, and enhanced extreme-weather resilience. Redevelopment of the **Hydralift and PRN waterfront** sites into retail and restaurant destinations will catalyze **economic benefits** like local commerce, create accessible employment, increase tourism business, and increase the local tax base. Development is estimated to support 80–100 temporary construction jobs. Once opened, the destinations are projected to sustain 70–80 permanent low-barrier jobs in food service, retail, and site operations. By co-locating businesses with public waterfront amenities, the projects will draw visitors while creating everyday value for nearby residents. **These improvements will also create new recreational spaces and expand public access to Bayou Bonfouca, supporting community health and tourism. The BI complex** will deliver **economic benefits** of increased tax base and accessible logistics employment with local hire and paid training pathways designed for residents without diplomas, pairing entry-level roles with clear advancement ladders and wraparound supports. Site preparation, including demolition of existing warehouses on the 20-acre site is expected to generate 40–60 temporary jobs. Construction of the rail and maritime campus will create 400–600 construction jobs, and when operational, the campus is projected to sustain 350–500 permanent jobs spanning rail operations, maritime logistics, warehousing, and support services. The mixed-use plans for the **Parish sites, Walker Track 1 & 2 sites, and SGM** will deliver phased residential, neighborhood-serving retail, and clean light-industrial space with local-hire pathways. The development of the sites is expected to stimulate **economic benefits** such as the employment of 600–800 construction



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workers during the build phase, and the completed projects are estimated to support 700–900 permanent on-site jobs in light industrial, logistics, and neighborhood-serving retail. Across all sites, the coalition advances a unified, resident-centered approach that reduces barriers to work and stretches household budgets for residents with low incomes, limited formal education, and those relying on SNAP benefits.

In addition to economic benefits, the reuse strategy will improve local resilience to **extreme weather events and natural disasters** by incorporating flood mitigation measures such as raised foundations, dry floodproofing, bioswales, and green infrastructure across all sites. These measures will reduce flood risk, improve stormwater management, and enhance natural-disaster resilience in accordance with local hazard mitigation plans. Where feasible, redevelopment will integrate **energy-efficient** building practices and explore **renewable energy options** such as rooftop solar for commercial spaces and logistics facilities, reducing long-term operating costs and advancing **sustainability** goals.

Strategy for Leveraging Resources. g. Resources Needed for Site Reuse: RPC, as a public regional planning agency and the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for Southeast Louisiana, and non-lead members as public entities, are all eligible to apply for state, federal, and private grant funding. RPC is making every effort to secure additional funding to further its Brownfield Program redevelopment goals through the following funding options:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Funding Purpose</u>
US EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant (maximum award \$4,000,000)	Cleanup for remediation of assessed properties.
US EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant	Site preparation, industrial/commercial facilities, utility extensions, design/engineering.
LA Department Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF)	Low interest loans with flexible terms to support the environmental cleanup of vacant and underused properties.
Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Economic Development (maximum award \$1,100,000)	Grants for infrastructure improvements including sewer, water, and street/road access on public property that will facilitate the location of a particular business.
Delta Regional Authority Community Infrastructure Fund	Grants for basic public infrastructure (water, sewer, broadband, utilities) and transportation infrastructure (roads, bridges, ports, etc.)

h. Use of Existing Infrastructure: RPC, along with the coalition non-lead members have determined the existing infrastructure (water, power, broadband, sewer, streets) is sufficient throughout the target areas and priority sites for redevelopment. In the event additional infrastructure improvements are needed during the redevelopment of the sites, the coalition members will look to state and federal funding.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need. a. The Community’s Need for Funding: **RPC does not have sufficient funds to assess key brownfield sites in the region** and lacks taxing authority, leaving it unable to generate local revenue for environmental assessments. Additionally, RPC receives only limited financial support from municipalities, which must prioritize long-range transportation planning. PONO does not receive any state appropriations or dedicated tax funding; all revenue is self-generated through lease agreements, dockage and cargo fees. This revenue is limited and dedicated to the maintenance and construction of critical infrastructure. Similarly, the Parish serves a low-income population that cannot absorb higher tax rates, and its existing revenues are already committed to essential services such as police, fire, and public works. The target areas **small populations** are PONO (31,278), Parish (14,195), and RPC (18,198) with each census tract within



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these **target areas having an average population of only 2,358 residents.**¹ This results in limited tax bases and constrains local budgets. These communities cannot generate sufficient revenue to support brownfield assessment or remediation activities.

Income levels in the target areas are well below national averages. **The statistics in this section are averages of the target area census tracts.** The median household income is \$64,717 compared to the US (\$78,538), and the **per capita income is \$31,997** compared to the national average of \$43,289.¹ Poverty rates are also disproportionately high, with **17% of all people living below the poverty level**, national rate of 12%.¹ These economic realities leave local governments with no discretionary funds for environmental due diligence, as budgets must prioritize essential services. **Due to these small average census tract population sizes and low-income conditions**, the coalition cannot draw on other sources of funding to carry out environmental assessments or plan for cleanup and reuse. EPA Coalition Assessment Grant funding is the only viable path to address contamination, protect public health, and unlock redevelopment opportunities in these suffering communities.

b. **Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations:** Sensitive populations in the target areas include **women, residents living in poverty, individuals with limited formal education, and families relying on public assistance. Females make up 53% of the population (US 51%).** Poverty is significantly elevated, with **19% of families (US 14%) and 21% of those under 18 (US 16%) living below the poverty level.**¹ The target areas are in the **70th percentile for unemployment**, and reliance on public assistance is also high with **19% of residents receiving government assistance**, compared to 12% nationally.¹ In addition to these sensitive populations, there is a high **Black population of 38% (US 12%).**¹

The **lack of affordable housing in the target area has become a significant welfare issue**, compounded by broader socioeconomic challenges that limit residents' stability and upward mobility. Although median home values (\$254,353 – US \$303,400) and monthly housing costs—\$1,712 for mortgages (US \$1,902) and \$1,280 for rent (US \$1,348), are lower than national averages, they remain burdensome for a community where **15% of adults lack a high school diploma (US 5%) and unemployment reaches 8% (US 5%),** both of which reduce earning potential and make even “lower-cost” housing unattainable for many families.¹ The area's higher rental vacancy rate (7% compared to 5.5% nationally) does not translate into safe or suitable options, as **54% of homes were built before the 1979 bans on lead paint and asbestos (US 51%),** exceeding the national rate and increasing health risks for vulnerable households.¹ These combined factors, limited income, lower educational attainment, higher unemployment, and aging, potentially hazardous housing stock—underscore the urgent need for affordable, healthy housing to protect community welfare and provide a foundation for long-term stability. The reuse strategies for all of the priority sites will deliver new employment opportunities tailored to the educational attainment of residents, small business growth, and long-term benefits such as affordable housing and resilient public spaces. Redevelopment will prioritize equitable access to jobs and amenities, reduce exposure to environmental hazards, and create healthier neighborhoods for residents most affected by poverty, unemployment, and limited education.

c. **Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions:** Residents of the coalition's target areas face elevated health risks due to environmental contamination, economic distress, and historic disinvestment. Sensitive populations are disproportionately affected by adverse health conditions linked to legacy brownfield issues and industrial activity. The priority sites are located in areas with suspected contaminants including **ACM, LBP, metals, PHs, VOCs,**

¹ US Census 2019-2023 American Community Survey



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SVOCs, and PAHs. These substances are well-documented risk factors for **respiratory disease and cancer.** The target areas rank in the **77th percentile for proximity to Superfund sites, the 70th percentile for toxic releases to air, and the 85th percentile for drinking water non-compliance,** indicating elevated exposure to contaminants that pose long-term health hazards.² Health data underscores this burden: **asthma prevalence in the target areas is approximately 17%, compared to 10% nationally,** and COPD rates are 10% versus 6% nationally.³

Cancer data across the target areas was not available. However, Louisiana’s cancer mortality rate is **165.2 deaths per 100,000,** which exceeds the **national average of 146.0,** and Orleans Parish includes census tracts with **cancer incidence rates as high as 893.5 per 100,000,** indicating disproportionate exposure risks for residents.⁴ Diabetes affects 17% of residents compared to 12% nationally, and obesity rates reach 42% (US 33%).³ These chronic conditions reduce quality of life and increase medical costs, which are particularly challenging for households already **facing high poverty and unemployment.**

These conditions are compounded by environmental stressors and aging housing stock, with **54% of homes built before 1979,** increasing the likelihood of LBP hazards.⁵ **Low life-expectancy rankings (77th percentile)** further reflect the cumulative impact of environmental and socioeconomic challenges.² By assessing and ultimately remediating these sites, the coalition will reduce exposure to hazardous substances, improve public health outcomes, and support long-term community resilience. By accessing EPA Assessment Coalition Grant funding, planned reuse strategies will incorporate green infrastructure and resilient design to improve air and water quality, create walkable public spaces, and deliver healthier neighborhoods for residents most affected by these conditions.

d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations: The target areas within the RPC service area have long histories of **industrial, governmental, and commercial policies that disproportionately impacted low-income residents with limited educational attainment.** In the City of Slidell (**RPC target area**), historic creosote wood-preserving operations at Bayou Bonfouca left sediments and groundwater contaminated with PAHs, creating long-term exposure risks for nearby neighborhoods.⁶ Historically, the Holy Cross neighborhood (**PONO target area**) was shaped by discriminatory zoning and flood-control policies that impacted vulnerable populations along the Mississippi River’s industrial corridor adjacent to shipping terminals and chemical storage facilities.⁷ In Belle Chasse (**Parish target area**), governmental and commercial operations have centered on port logistics and military aviation, resulting in constant freight traffic, cargo staging activities, and restricted roadway access that directly affect nearby residential neighborhoods.⁸ These historic industrial and governmental policies potentially exposed residents to cumulative environmental hazards, including toxic air emissions and soil contamination, while limiting access to private investment and economic mobility. Today, these impacts are compounded by the Lower Mississippi River industrial corridor, which exposes predominantly Black, low-income communities to toxic air and elevated health risks. This disproportionate burden is reflected in environmental and health indicators, including proximity to hazardous sites, poor air quality, and drinking water non-compliance, all of which contribute to reduced life expectancy and persistent health disparities. This EPA Assessment Coalition grant will allow the

² <https://pedp-ejscreen.azurewebsites.net/>

³ [CDC Places Data.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/places/)

⁴ statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/deathrates/

⁵ US Census 2019–2023 American Community Survey

⁶ <https://www.osti.gov/biblio/7141917>

⁷ https://nolaplans.com/plans/Lambert%20Final/District_8_Final_Holy%20Cross.pdf

⁸ <https://www.plaqueminesparish.gov/DocumentCenter/View/411/Community-Agenda---Multi-modal-Transportation-System-PDF>



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coalition to assess contaminated sites in these historically burdened areas and reduce threats to vulnerable populations. Redevelopment strategies will incorporate job creation, community-serving amenities while creating safer living conditions and economic opportunities for residents who have historically faced barriers to health and prosperity.

Community Engagement. e. Project Involvement & f. Project Roles: Project partners will play a vital role in advancing brownfield revitalization by supporting site identification and prioritization, assisting in community outreach and education, and guiding cleanup and reuse planning.

Name of org.	Entity’s mission	Point of contact	Specific involvement in the project or assistance provided
Olde Towne Slidell Main Street 501(c)(3)	Revitalize Olde Town Slidell by promoting entrepreneurship, preserving heritage, and creating a vibrant, sustainable community	Tiffani McManus mainstreetslidell@gmail.com	Assistance/Decision Making: Outreach and site inventory informed by local connections and historic district knowledge.
Plaquemines Association of Business & Industry (PABI)	Promote economic development in the Parish	Robert Thomas rthomas@pabigroup.com	Assistance/Decision Making: Outreach and site-reuse planning supported by local business networks and economic insights.
Greater New Orleans, Inc	Create a region with a thriving economy and excellent quality of life for everyone.	Michael Hecht mhecht@gnoinc.org	Assistance/Decision Making: Site inventory via connections to local business for input; identify resources for development phase.
Plaquemines Community Development Group 501(c)(3)	Develop spaces in the community that promote well-being and a better quality of life for community members	Michael Boudreaux, plaqcdg@gmail.com	Assistance/Decision Making: Community outreach through public meetings and site-reuse planning informed by community needs.
Lower Ninth Ward Neighborhood Association (Port of New Orleans)	Promote communication, cooperation, and collective action to address shared concerns and strengthen neighborhood well-being.	Cynthia M. Guillemet [REDACTED]	Assistance/Decision Making: Community outreach through public meetings and site-reuse planning guided by community needs.
St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce (Slidell)	Promote, support, and advocate for businesses, to be their resource of choice, and to be the catalyst for a community that prospers	Lacey Osborne lacey@sttammchamber.org	Assistance/Decision Making: Site inventory via connections to local business for input; identify resources for development phase.

g. Incorporating Community Input: The coalition informed the public of its intent to apply for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant at the RPC meeting held on January 13, 2026. The coalition will cultivate productive and thought-provoking interactions between target-area residents, community organizations, and project partners, especially those who are vulnerable and directly impacted by the project. The coalition has and will continue to seek valuable input from residents and community organizations to help identify potential brownfield sites, as they are the most aware of the area’s most important needs. RPC will create a **Community Involvement Plan (CIP)**, which will provide an event schedule, an outline of planned community engagement activities, a project background, and a list of key players. The CIP will be made available for review at the RPC office and on RPC’s website and will ensure engagement with the distressed communities. Both non-lead members will also have copies of the CIP at their local offices and on their websites to share with the community. The **Brownfield Project Team (BPT)**, made of up RPC staff and coalition partners, will solicit, review and evaluate comments, community input, and suggested sites for the inventory during monthly meetings, recording all community-member



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suggestions and information in minutes and posting them on RPC’s Brownfield Program webpage. Brownfield updates will be posted to the coalition’s Brownfield Program webpage and social media accounts. Residents will be provided opportunities for interaction via website and social media as an **alternative to in-person community engagement**. As for those residents who have no transportation or internet access, the coalition will use mailers with information for committees and meetings, and signage throughout government and community buildings. RPC will disseminate project information through press releases and local newspapers and will update organizations and community members through monthly RPC meetings held at the RPC offices. Additionally, RPC holds regular brownfield forums and posts information on their website and social media. All promotional materials with the names and contact information of RPC’s BPT will be posted on the coalition’s brownfield webpage, facilitating community-member contact with BPT members. A translator will be available upon request to support Hispanic residents.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs:

Task 1: Outreach & Site Inventory	
a.	<i>Project Implementation: EPA-funded:</i> CIP, outreach materials, Brownfield (BF) webpage, and social media posts will be developed by the RPC’s BF Project Manager with assistance from the environmental contractor (EC). RPC staff will lead the community/educational meetings discussing project plans and updates. The RPC BF Project Director will work with target-area residents during outreach events to add to the site inventory. Identified abandoned and underused properties will be researched further by RPC staff using the property appraiser’s website. EC will work with RPC staff to create an evaluation ranking tool to determine the order the sites will be addressed. Supplies: printing of outreach materials (brochures/handouts) and supplies for the grant.
b.	<i>Anticipated Project Schedule:</i> CIP created in Q1. Community/educational meetings for each target area held Q2 in Y1–4 in each target area. BF webpage and outreach materials created in Q1 and posted throughout the grant project. Meeting held in Q2 will continue the preliminary inventory process. Evaluation ranking process begins in Q2 and continues throughout the grant period.
c.	<i>Task/Activity Lead:</i> RPC: Adam Tatar, Economic Development Manager, BF Project Director
d.	<i>Outputs:</i> CIP, BF webpage, 12 community/educational meetings, brochures/handouts, social media posts, summary of community meetings in EPA-required quarterly reports, evaluation ranking tool, site inventory list.
Task 2: Assessment	
a.	<i>Project Implementation: EPA-funded:</i> The EC conducts Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs), starting with the priority sites listed in this application. ASTM-AAI-compliant Phase Is; Generic Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP); Phase IIs will include the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP). Prior to assessment, site-access agreements and property-eligibility determinations approval will be obtained. National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultations will be addressed when applicable.
b.	<i>Anticipated Project Schedule:</i> Assessments begin Q2 and continue throughout the grant project.
c.	<i>Task/Activity Lead:</i> The EC will implement the technical aspects of the project with oversight from the RPC: Adam Tatar, Economic Development Manager, BF Project Director.
d.	<i>Outputs:</i> 30 Phase I ESAs, 1 Generic QAPP, 20 Phase II ESAs including SAP, site-access agreements, property-eligibility determinations, Section 106 determinations (if applicable).
Task 3: Reuse/Cleanup Planning	
a.	<i>Project Implementation: EPA-funded:</i> Projects identified for cleanup. The EC will prepare the Analysis for Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) and/or Cleanup Plans, which include evaluating cleanup alternatives, calculating cleanup costs, and determining site-appropriate remediation and/or reuse planning to reduce health/environmental risks. The EC will assist RPC in hosting charrettes/vision sessions. A planner will create the following EPA-approved planning documents: Site Reuse Assessments, Market Study, BF Revitalization Plan, and BF Area-Wide Plan,
b.	<i>Anticipated Project Schedule:</i> Plans and charrettes begin in Q6 and will continue throughout the grant period.



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c.	<i>Task/Activity Lead:</i> The EC will implement the technical aspects of the project with oversight from the RPC: Adam Tatar, Economic Development Manager, BF Project Director.
d.	<i>Outputs:</i> 10 ABCAs, 4 vision sessions/charrettes, 4 Site Reuse Assessments, 4 Market Studies, 2 BF Revitalization Plans, and 1 BF Area-Wide Plan
Task 4: Program Management	
a.	<i>Project Implementation: EPA-funded:</i> RPC will procure an EC to assist with the BF Grant project. RPC’s BF Finance Director will oversee grant implementation and administration to ensure compliance with the EPA Cooperative Agreement work plan, schedule, and terms and conditions. <i>RPC will</i> complete ACRES database reporting, annual financial reporting, quarterly reporting, and additional programmatic support for the four-year term of the grant. The travel budget allows for four staff to attend four BF training events.
b.	<i>Anticipated Project Schedule:</i> Procure EC in Q1. ACRES & quarterly reporting begins in Q1 and continues throughout the grant. Annual reporting and forms created in Q5, Q9, Q13, and final closeout.
c.	<i>Task/Activity Lead:</i> RPC: Adam Tatar, Economic Development Manager, BF Project Director.
d.	<i>Outputs:</i> ACRES database reporting, 4 annual financial reports, 16 quarterly reports, and programmatic support for the four-year grant period. Four staff to attend four conferences.

e. **Cost Estimates:** Below are the anticipated cost estimates for this project *based on past brownfield projects as determined by local market standards with contractual hourly rates based on the skills needed for the specific tasks.* The budget for this project includes travel, conference registration (other), supplies, contractual costs, and personnel, with no administration costs. Personnel pay rates average \$64 per hour with 92% fringe. **Sixty percent (60%) of the budget will be spent on site-specific work and thirty percent (30%) for area-wide planning activities.**

Task 1 Outreach & Site Inventory: Personnel (\$64/hr): CIP \$192 (3 hrs); BF webpage, outreach brochure/handouts, social media posts \$192 (3 hrs); 12 community/educational meetings \$4,608 (6 hrs per meeting to include preparation and execution; \$384 each meeting); site inventory management \$768 (12 hrs). Fringe: \$5,299 (92%). Contractual: CIP \$3,600 (24 hrs × \$150); BF webpage, outreach brochure/handouts, social media posts \$3,600 (24 hrs × \$150); 12 community/educational meetings \$12,600 (\$1,050 per mtg.; 6 hours per meeting to include preparation and execution × \$175); BF site inventory and evaluation ranking tool creation \$14,000 (80 hrs × \$175). Supplies: \$2,306 (\$1,500 [1,400 printouts at \$1 each]; \$800 [8 display board printouts at \$100 each]; pens, markers, paper \$106).

Task 2 Assessment: Personnel (\$64/hr): Report review \$3,264 (1 hr per report; 51 reports), PEDs \$1,600 (0.5 hr per PED, 50 total), Meetings/site visits \$4,864 (100 hrs x \$64). Fringe: \$8,950 (92%) Contractual: 30 Phase I ESAs \$132,000 (\$4,400 each); 1 Generic QAPP \$7,000; 20 Phase II ESAs including SAP \$680,000 (\$34,000 each).

Task 3 Cleanup Planning: Personnel (\$64/hr): Vision sessions/charettes \$768 (12 hrs); plan review \$2,752 (10 ABCAs x 1hr each, 4 site reuse assessments x 2 hrs each, 4 market studies x 4 hrs each, 2 revitalization plans x 3 hrs each, 1 area wide plan x 3 hrs). Fringe: \$3,238 (92%). Contractual: 10 ABCAs \$78,750 (\$7,875 each); 4 vision sessions \$12,000 (\$3,000/meeting); 4 Site Reuse Assessment \$110,000 (\$27,500 each [Senior Planner: 52 hrs × \$200; PM Planner: 62 hrs × \$175; Support Personnel: 50 hrs × \$125]); 4 Market Studies \$80,000 (\$20,000 each [Senior Planner: 40 hrs × \$200; PM Planner: 40 hrs × \$175; Support Personnel: 40 hrs × \$125]); 2 BF Revitalization Plan \$150,000 (\$75,000 each [Principal Planner: 100 hrs × \$250; Senior Planner: 175 hrs × \$200; PM Planner: 75 hrs × \$175; Support Personnel: 15 hrs × \$125]); 1 BF Area Wide Plan \$100,000 (Principal Planner: 152 hrs × \$250; Senior Planner: 215 hrs × \$200; PM Planner: 80 hrs × \$175, Support Personnel: 40 hrs × \$125).



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Task 4 Program Management: Personnel (\$64/hr): \$24,192 (378 hrs). Fringe: \$22,257 (92%). Travel: 4 staff to attend 4 conferences for a total of \$28,000 (flights at \$600, 3 nights in hotel at \$250/night, incidentals and per diem at \$100 per day × 4 days × 4 staff × 4 events). Other: \$3,200 conference registration (\$200 per person per 4 events).

Category	Tasks				Totals
	Outreach & Site Inventory	Assessment	Cleanup Planning	Program Management	
Personnel	\$5,760	\$9,728	\$3,520	\$24,192	\$43,200
Fringe	\$5,299	\$8,950	\$3,238	\$22,257	\$39,744
Travel				\$28,000	\$28,000
Supplies	\$2,306				\$2,306
Contractual	\$33,800	\$819,000	\$530,750	\$0	\$1,383,550
Other				\$3,200	\$3,200
TOTAL	\$47,165	\$837,678	\$537,508	\$77,649	\$1,500,000

f. Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results: To maintain adherence to the project schedule, coalition representatives, including the EC will convene on a quarterly basis to review all outputs identified in Section 3.d. Progress will be documented in an Excel spreadsheet, and comprehensive updates on the scope of work, goals, and objectives will be submitted to EPA through quarterly reports. Project activities and expenditures will be routinely evaluated against the approved schedule to ensure timely completion within the four-year grant period. Site-specific data will be entered and maintained in the ACRES database in accordance with EPA requirements. Outputs to be monitored include the number of neighborhood meetings, public meetings, engagements with community groups and partners, environmental assessments, ABCAs, and cleanup/redevelopment plans. Outcomes will include metrics such as community participation, acres assessed, acres prepared for reuse, redevelopment dollars leveraged, and jobs created. The coalition will hold monthly calls with the EPA Project Officer to provide updates, and if progress falls behind schedule, a Corrective Action Plan will be implemented to realign the project with established timelines and performance goals.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

Programmatic Capability. a. Organizational Capacity, b. Organizational Structure, & c. Description of Key Staff: The Regional Planning Commission of New Orleans (RPC) serves as the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for the Greater New Orleans region and has decades of experience administering complex federal, state, and local programs. The RPC’s organizational structure is designed to ensure accountability, transparency, and timely completion of grant activities. The RPC is governed by an executive board composed of representatives from each of the eight member parishes, ensuring regional collaboration and equitable decision-making. This type of governance model guarantees meaningful involvement of coalition members and ensures that grant funds benefit each participating community equitably. **Adam Tatar**, Economic Development Manager, will serve as **Brownfields Project Director**, responsible for grant oversight, day-to-day operations and coordination with coalition partners. Mr. Tatar brings over 10 years of experience in public sector and currently serves on the board of the Louisiana Brownfields Association, reflecting his deep expertise in brownfields redevelopment. Mr. Tatar has applied for and administered various economic development grant programs from EPA, EDA, and Delta Regional Authority. **Susan Simon**, RPC’s contracted accountant, a licensed CPA with 25 years of experience, will act as **Financial Director**, managing all financial reporting, draw downs through ASAP.gov, and ensuring compliance with federal accounting standards. Ms. Simon’s is responsible for RPC’s grant requisitions and draw downs



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with all current grants. Ms. Simon has extensive background in auditing and grant financial management, which ensures strong internal controls and fiscal accountability. Together, this team's experience and qualifications will result in the successful administration of the grant and achievement of all technical, administrative, and financial requirements. An environmental contractor (EC) will assist with the technical portions of the project.

For this project, the coalition will establish a **Brownfields Project Team (BPT)** that includes representatives from all coalition members and key partners. The BPT will provide input on site selection, community engagement, and resource allocation in accordance with the coalition's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will be created upon award of the grant. The coalition partners will collaborate to identify priority sites for assessment, support local communities, and allocate resources to meet assessment needs. They will engage private, public, nonprofit, and local stakeholders to raise awareness of the coalition's mission and available resources, while ensuring compliance with all reporting requirements. RPC will manage and disburse funds in accordance with the coalition's MOU and established best practices. The BPT will provide guidance to ensure representation of distressed populations and will actively seek input from members with expertise in brownfield assessment and redevelopment, fostering a collaborative approach to addressing sites across the region.

d. Acquiring Additional Resources: RPC will hire a qualified EC to support the technical and reporting aspects of the Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant, adhering to EPA's Professional Service procurement process and local contracting requirements. Throughout the project, additional resources or contractors will be acquired as needed.

Past Performance and Accomplishments. e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant: (1) Accomplishments: RPC has a history of successfully obtaining, managing, and executing EPA Brownfields Grants. In FY22, RPC was awarded an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant in the amount of \$500,000 for assessment efforts in St. Bernard Parish. RPC is using this funding to complete 12 Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs), 10 Phase II ESAs, 1 Analysis Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives and an inventory of target-area brownfield sites. In FY18, RPC was awarded a \$600,000 EPA Assessment Coalition Grant for assessment activities in the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Corridor. Outputs included 10 Phase I ESAs, 7 Phase II ESAs, 1 Supplemental Phase II ESA, and 1 Cleanup Plan. In FY17 RPC was awarded a \$300,000 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. Outputs included 13 Phase I ESAs, 4 Phase II ESAs and 3 Supplemental Phase II ESAs.

(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements: RPC has been in full compliance with all of its past EPA Brownfields Grants. RPC was in full compliance with both its FY18 EPA Assessment Coalition Grant and its FY17 EPA Assessment Grant. For each grant, all workplan, schedule, terms and conditions, and deliverable information was entered into ACRES, and all required reports were completed and submitted to the EPA Project Officer. Throughout both grant periods, RPC conducted monthly check-ins with the Project Officer to review milestones and track progress. The FY18 grant closed out in September 2022 with all funds expended and expected results achieved. The FY17 Assessment Grant closed out in September 2020 with all funds expended with expected results achieved. RPC is currently managing an FY22 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant and has fully updated ACRES with all relevant grant information and outputs. All required reporting has been completed to date and entered into the ACRES database. RPC has drawn down over 70% of the existing grant as of October 1, 2025. The FY22 grant is expected to close in September of 2026. The remaining funding of \$149,129.60 will be spent on assessment and planning activities.



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Threshold Criteria**



Threshold Criteria

1. Eligibility of Lead and Non-Lead Coalition Members

a. (Lead Member) The Regional Planning Commission (RPC), LA, is eligible to apply for the EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant as a regional form of government created by state statute. **Please see attached Municipal Ordinance 118-46 for the establishment of RPC.**

(Non-Lead) The Port of New Orleans is eligible to apply for the EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant as a government entity created by state legislature. **Please see attached Louisiana Revised Statute 34:1.**

(Non-Lead) Plaquemines Parish is eligible to apply for the EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant as a general purpose unit of local government.

b. RPC (lead member), The Port of New Orleans (non-lead), and Plaquemines Parish (non-lead) are not exempt from federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2. Target Areas

All target areas are unique, do not overlap, and are in three distinct jurisdictions.

- RPC (lead member) – Target area 1: Bayou Bonfouca Corridor: census tracts (CTs) 22103040900, 22103041002, 22103041103, 22103041104, 22103041105
- Port of New Orleans (non-lead member) – Target area 2: Inner Harbor Navigational Canal: CTs 22071000701, 22071000702, 22071000800, 22071000902, 22071000903, 22071000904, 22071001100, 22071001302, 22071001401, 22071001402, 22071001600, 22071001701, 22071001702, 22071001751, 22071001720, 22071013600, 22071013701, 22071013702, 22071980100
- Plaquemines Parish (non-lead member) – Target area 3: Gulf Coast Intracoastal Waterway Corridor: CTs 22075050202, 22075050300, 22075050201

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

Plaquemines Parish (non-lead member) has never received an EPA MARC Grant.

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

- a.** RPC (lead member) has legal authority to expend grant funds on behalf of the non-lead members to conduct the proposed grant activities, as they are active members of the RPC organization.
- b.** Not Applicable.

5. Coalition Agreement

Letters signed by each coalition member citing the agreement to participate in the EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant are attached.

6. Community Involvement

The coalition informed the public of its intent to apply for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant at the RPC meeting held on January 13, 2026. The coalition will cultivate productive and thought-provoking interactions between target-area residents, community

