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PORT AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES \$1 MILLION BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT FROM THE EPA

CINCINNATI (OH) – April 21, 2010 – The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority (“Port Authority”) announced today that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) has awarded a \$1 million grant to a coalition of the Port Authority, the City of Cincinnati, and Hamilton County. The grant includes \$800,000 to investigate properties contaminated with hazardous substances and \$200,000 to investigate properties contaminated with petroleum.

In partnership with the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, the Port Authority plans to use the funding to perform environmental site assessments on properties in Hamilton County. Target areas identified in the application include the Mill Creek Corridor, industrialized Hamilton County communities, and new priority areas identified in the GO Cincinnati report (Madison Road Corridor, Seymour/Reading Road Corridor, and Queensgate/Mill Creek Corridor).

“Returning brownfield sites to productive use has tremendous benefits for Cincinnati and Hamilton County,” said Port Authority President Kim Satzger, “A clean site is an enduring contribution to our environment and our economy.”

“As Greater Cincinnati’s industrial base declined, many Hamilton County communities were left with a legacy of abandoned and underutilized properties,” said Christine Russell, Director of Brownfield Development at the Port Authority. “This grant offers a unique opportunity to encourage redevelopment of these brownfields by quantifying the environmental impact of historic operations.”

Brownfields are sites where the redevelopment or reuse of the land is complicated by the presence or potential presence of contamination. When these problem sites are returned to productive use, it results in real opportunities to attract businesses, create new jobs, increase tax revenues, and promote economic activity for the region.

The grant announcement comes on the heels of another EPA grant, awarded to the City of Cincinnati earlier this month for training 60 new workers on environmental cleanup. The \$200,000 brownfield job training grant will help train people for jobs in the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields properties, including abandoned gas stations and industrial/commercial properties. The job training grant targets under-served and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods – places where environmental cleanups and new jobs are most needed.

The Port Authority has been active in redeveloping brownfield sites in Hamilton County. Since its inception in 2001, it has redeveloped or is in the process of redeveloping nine sites. From the 157 acres the Port Authority has returned to productive use, it has removed 80,661 tons of contaminated soil, captured 383,638 gallons of polluted water, and recycled more than 1.7 million tons of steel and over 164,000 tons of concrete. These projects have a \$1.35 billion annual economic impact and have supported 13,793 jobs.

For more information about the Port Authority brownfields program, see the Port Authority's website http://www.cincinnatiport.org/pa_pg5B.html.

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The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority was formed in 2001 to stimulate growth of the regional economy as an economic development organization for Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati. It enables public-private partnerships to provide infrastructure financing for development projects and to redevelop brownfields.

With certain legal exclusions and additions, the U.S. EPA defines the term "brownfield site" as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

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