

# Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



## *Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark, NJ*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

### Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program

EPA is piloting an area-wide planning approach to community brownfield challenges, which recognizes that revitalization of the area surrounding the brownfield site(s) is just as critical to the successful reuse of the property as assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of an individual site. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation.

### Pilot Project Description

EPA has selected the Ironbound Community Corporation as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. The Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) will focus its project on the Ironbound community, in the East Ward of Newark, home to over 50,000 residents. The community contains the remnants of a once vibrant economy, anchored by a large brewery that closed in the 1970s. Many manufacturing operations have closed, leaving behind contaminated sites and deteriorating infrastructure. The area is economically distressed with the poverty rate as high as 55 percent. The community

### Pilot Program Description

EPA is awarding approximately \$4 million in total across 23 recipients. Recipients will each receive up to approximately \$175,000 in EPA cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance. Assistance will help recipients initiate development of an area-wide plan and identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan.



### Contacts

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

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The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the project proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance have not yet been negotiated. Activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

contains more than 100 brownfields, many located near residential and recreational areas. The ICC will build upon existing revitalization and redevelopment efforts to develop a brownfields area-wide plan to create sustainable recreational and mixed-use development throughout the Ironbound community. Development of the plan is expected to facilitate brownfield assessment activities, identify cleanup goals based on the anticipated reuse of properties, assess reuse and linkages to infrastructure, and reconnect the community to local job opportunities, commercial, and recreational areas.