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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

Andrew Cuomo, Secretary

Cardell Cooper, Assistant Secretary

EZ/EC News Flash

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VICE PRESIDENT GORE ANNOUNCES OVER \$35 MILLION IN BROWNFIELDS GRANTS TO REVITALIZE CONTAMINATED PROPERTIES

On May 18th, Vice President Gore awarded over \$35 million in grants to 102 communities across the country to clean up brownfields abandoned, lightly contaminated properties often found in economically distressed areas and return them to economically thriving, community hubs.

"The success of this Administration's efforts to revitalize brownfields clearly demonstrates that economic progress and the protection of our nation's environment work hand-in-hand," said Gore. "The grants that I am announcing today will provide even more communities with the tools they need to create new jobs and new opportunities, while preserving the environment for future generations."

Since 1993, the Clinton-Gore Administration has taken significant steps to clean up brownfields and return them to productive use. EPA has awarded over \$157 million in grants to cities, counties, tribes, states, non-profits and educational institutions nationwide. HUD has awarded \$50 million to 44 communities across the country through its Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI). This BEDI money is leveraging over \$240 million in Section 108 loan guarantees and \$1.4 billion in private and other investment. According to an independent study conducted by the Council for Economic Development, the revitalization of brownfields has created over 22,000 permanent jobs, and leveraged \$2.48 in private investment for every \$1 spent by federal, state, or local governments.

Congratulations to these EZ/EC Cities for winning this round of Brownfields Grants:

Pulaski County, AR; Los Angeles, CA; Oakland, CA; Denver, CO; Chicago, IL; East St. Louis, IL; Gary, IN; Baltimore, MD; Flint, MI; Kansas City, MO; Albuquerque, NM; Akron, OH; Philadelphia, PA; Providence, RI; Charleston, SC; Tacoma, WA

Proposals for HUD's Brownfields Economic Development Initiative are still being accepted until June 13, 2000. For information on the BEDI call Tony Johnston at 202-708-0614 x4560, and check out the Brownfields program's home page at: www.hud.gov/bfields.html.