

ETDD EPA BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT

NEWSLETTER · WINTER 2023-24

Site Assessment Near Completion at Another Local Brownfield Site

Welcome to our newsletter, created for the purpose of keeping you informed about the East Tennessee Development District (ETDD) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Assessment Grant, which is being used to assist in redevelopment of troubled brownfield properties in our area.

WHAT IS THE ETDD EPA BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT?

A Brownfield is a property on which the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Brownfields are non-productive and often abandoned properties.

The EPA Brownfields Program provides funding that ETDD is using to facilitate the redevelopment of troubled brownfield properties in communities that cannot afford to perform costly environmental assessments or cleanup required for redevelopment.

ETDD was awarded \$600,000 for the 2021 Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant. From October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024, ETDD is using this money to perform Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) and jump start potential redevelopment in these coalition members and target areas/sites:

- Morristown/Former Roy Widener site
- Roane County/Roane State Highway
- Rocky Top/Norris Freeway sites
- Scott County/Armstrong Property



COMMUNITY MEETINGS, ROCKY TOP INVENTORY

ETDD attended the City of Rocky Top Planning Commission meeting to discuss the Rocky Top Brownfield Inventory prepared under the ETDD Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant. This meeting was held in conjunction with the Campbell County Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant. Communication with property owners and others in the community was encouraged at the meeting to discuss how to utilize the grant to best support redevelopment efforts in downtown Rocky Top.



BROWNFIELD INVENTORY FOR ROANE COUNTY, TN

Work continued on the Roane State Highway / Highway 70 Target Area Brownfield Inventory for Roane County. Discussions were continued with the Rockwood and Kingston City Managers about the benefits of the grant and how to use the funds to assess identified properties in their cities. The ETDD continues to work with the Kingston City Manager to provide support and information as they work with an identified property owner to assist with assessment for redevelopment of their property.

PHASE II ESA FOR FORMER ROY WIDENER PROPERTY

- The Phase II ESA field sampling activities started on September 19, 2023. Fieldwork is now complete and analytical results have been received and are in the process of being evaluated. It is planned for the Phase II ESA Report to be issued in February 2024.
- In December discussions were held with the City of Morristown, which is the property owner for the Former Roy Widener Property. The topic of discussion was their vision for redeveloping the property and how the ETDD Brownfield Assessment Grant can be utilized for cleanup and revitalization planning.



Roy Widener Property, Morristown, TN

Project Contacts:

Tim Hendrick
Deputy Director / Environmental Planner
East Tennessee Development District
thendrick@etdd.org



Lydia Birk
Brownfields Grant Coordinator
S&ME
lbirk@smeinc.com

