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May 3, 2017

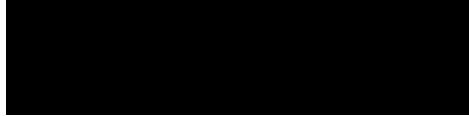
Ms. Grace Appelbe
Legislative Clerk
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Appelbe,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for the Discussion Draft:
Brownfields Reauthorization. ECOS is happy to provide the following response
for the record on behalf of Commissioner Martineau.

Please reach out if we can provide any further information.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Dapolito Dunn
Executive Director & General Counsel
ECOS

The Honorable Richard Hudson:

In the Eighth District of North Carolina, which I am proud to represent, there are many small communities that are not able to support independent brownfield programs. Luckily, we have many regional councils such as the Centralina Council of Governments that apply for community-wide brownfield assessment grants. Do you see benefit in supporting a regional approach to these brownfield cleanup efforts? Would the multipurpose grants help facilitate these regional efforts?

We have seen successful regional approaches to addressing brownfields through the Development Districts in Tennessee. Several Development Districts in Tennessee have received EPA 104(k) Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grants including the Upper Cumberland Development District (representing 14 counties), the First Tennessee Development District (representing 8 counties), the East Tennessee Development District (representing 16 counties), and the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency and the Southeast Tennessee Development District (representing 10 counties). These Development Districts have received \$1.95 million in EPA 104(k) Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grants since 2007.

To date, there have not been any Development Districts in Tennessee that have received EPA 104(k) Brownfields Cleanup Grants.

There have been many successful projects completed under the EPA 104(k) Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grants which resulted in properties being brought back onto tax rolls, jobs created in Tennessee on former brownfields, and properties being safely re-used. We support a regional approach to addressing brownfields.

It is my opinion that multi-purpose grants could potentially help facilitate these regional efforts, by giving more flexibility to the grantee in propelling a property to achieving clean up and re-use.