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Cleveland Property is Cleaned Up Under Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program

Through the voluntary efforts of a Cleveland property owner, another local brownfield has been investigated, cleaned and is ready for commercial or industrial reuse.

Ohio EPA issued a covenant not to sue to 4600 Euclid Avenue LLC and the Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners (the volunteers) for cleaning up a 1.5-acre site located at 4600 Euclid Avenue. The covenant not to sue completes the volunteers' participation in Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program (VAP), where property owners take the initiative to clean up on-site contamination.

The property was previously used for a variety of commercial activities including the sale and distribution of auto parts, vehicle repair services, auto sales and a printing company.

By entering VAP, the volunteers assumed responsibility for cleaning the property. Following standards developed by Ohio EPA, they hired a certified environmental professional to assess the site and clean up any contaminated areas of concern.

A covenant not to sue protects the property's owner or operator and future owners from being legally responsible to the State of Ohio for further investigation and cleanup. This protection applies only when the property is used and maintained in the same manner as when the covenant was issued.

In the 15 years since Ohio EPA issued the first covenant under VAP, more than 4,350 acres of blighted land have been revitalized at more than 260 sites across the state. For more information on the VAP program and the properties cleaned, visit:

www.epa.ohio.gov/derr/volunt/volunt.aspx.

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