

Frequently Asked Questions

Brownfield Site Reuse & Revitalization Program

Cortez, Colorado

Which sites are eligible for grant-funded activities?

In general, the property must be potentially impacted by petroleum or hazardous substances, underutilized or undergoing transition, and meet the following criteria:

- Exhibits high potential for redevelopment and/or **other opportunities to benefit the community.**
- Is not included on the EPA National Priority “Superfund” List, under a Consent Order with the State, or targeted for federal or State enforcement action.

How long is grant funding available?

Grant funding is committed through Summer 2027 but it is available for approved sites on a first-come first-served basis.

Will the grant pay for cleanup activities?

No. Under this program, grants funds can be used to conduct assessments and develop cleanup plans but cannot be used to implement a cleanup plan.

Can I be reimbursed for previous assessment activities? No. Grant funds are not retroactive and cannot reimburse you for past assessment or related activities.

Are grant funds given to me to pay for the consultant? No. The grant is administered by Cortez and CDPHE, who will pay the consultant (Stantec) directly for approved assessment and/ or related activities on your property.

Do I enter a contract with the environmental consultant? No. If your property is approved for grant funding, you will be required to sign a Property Access Agreement that permits the consultant (Stantec) access to the site to perform the requested activities.

Disclaimer: Although this project has been funded wholly or in part by the EPA, the contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA.

Will an assessment affect my property value?

It depends. An assessment itself does not directly affect property value. Property values are often negatively affected by uncertainty regarding site history and the financial and legal risks of potential environmental impacts. ESAs allow property owners to quantify the amount of contamination (or lack thereof) on a property. For properties with little to no contamination, this knowledge may increase marketability. For sites with significant contamination, having an assessment completed using EPA funding removes this as a potential cost to be paid for by the property owner or an interested buyer as part of their due diligence process. Having assessments completed can help to better position properties for grants or tax incentives that can be used to pay for cleanup and support redevelopment.

How will decisions be made on whether work at a specific site will be funded?

In general, all sites that are nominated will be given consideration for funding. Upon receipt of a nomination form, an initial review will be conducted to determine whether the site is a good fit for the program (based on its potential to support economic, environmental, or community goals), as well as whether it likely to meet the EPA site eligibility requirements. Sites/projects will also be evaluated on the likelihood that they will be deemed eligible for use of funding, the certainty of securing site access to perform assessment activities, and other factors.

How do I obtain additional information?

For more information or [to submit a site for grant funding consideration](#), please contact us or visit our project webpage: <https://www.cortezco.gov/863/brownfields>

Contact Information

Helen West, Community and Economic Development Specialist, Cortez
phone: 970-331-0213
email hwest@cortezco.gov

Dave Laney, Principal, Stantec
phone: 602-670-7009
email dave.laney@stantec.com

