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Region IV Development Receives \$750,000 for Brownfield Revitalization Program

TWIN FALLS, ID – May 13, 2021 – Region IV Development Association (RIVDA) was awarded \$750,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a Brownfield revitalization program. RIVDA, an economic development organization that was founded to encourage the development and diversification of South-central Idaho’s economy, will establish a Revolving Loan Fund to assist with the cleanup of contaminated Brownfield sites. Brownfields are abandoned or underutilized properties where reuse is complicated by contamination or the perception of contamination.

“With today’s announcement, we’re turning blight into might for communities across America,” **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan.** “EPA’s Brownfields Program breathes new life into communities by helping to turn contaminated and potentially dangerous sites into productive economic contributors. Thanks to President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we are significantly ramping up our investments in communities, with the bulk of our funding going to places that have been overburdened and underserved for far too long.” For more information on this funding award, visit <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-administration-announces-254-million-tackle-polluted-brownfield-sites>. This is the second EPA Brownfield grant RIVDA has received. In 2021, RIVDA received a \$300,000 grant to complete environmental assessments on Brownfield properties. Together, the two grants will allow the region to make significant progress in revitalizing blighted areas. **RIVDA Community Development Planner Dr. Michele McFarlane said** “Region IV is committed to the continued prosperity of South-Central Idaho through the securement of funds to complete belated projects.” Properties eligible to participate in the program must be located in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Elmore, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, or Twin Falls counties. To learn more about Region IV Development and Brownfield opportunities, visit www.rivda.org.

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