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OAQDA Closes on Project for Construction Equipment To Reduce Emissions, Project Costs

COLUMBUS – Construction and demolition sites frequently generate dust and particulate matter due to the nature of the materials involved in the building structures. JDM Services, LLC of Columbus, the company selected to remove the concrete portions from the demolition of Veterans Memorial Auditorium, faced significant challenges with such emissions.

JDM recently closed on up to \$2 million in revenue bonds from the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) to assist in covering the debt incurred in purchasing a mobile recycling plant for the collection and reprocessing of construction and demolition debris.

The reprocessing equipment, which was used on the Veterans Memorial demolition, crushes large pieces of concrete into a reusable stone product which can be left on-site and used in construction of a new building. This will be the case with the new construction on the Veterans Memorial site.

“The OAQDA funding reduces the overall cost of a project while decreasing air emissions and reducing the need to mine more natural resources,” Michael Dinneen, recycling coordinator, Frank Road Recycling Solutions, a division of JDM, said.

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The process eliminates removal of concrete waste from the site by truck and minimizes emissions. This special reprocessing equipment is required to have an air permit related to the reduction of the particulate matter it would emit. Therefore, dedicated collection equipment was critical to the project.

Dinneen estimated that in its first year of use, the mobile recycling plant will process approximately 100,000 tons of concrete waste into a reusable product. The first year of use will also eliminate an estimated 20,000-plus pounds of dust emissions from the handling of the waste material by trucks and through the transportation process. The crushing equipment has incorporated into its process a dust collection system that has the potential to reduce emissions by up to 90 percent.

Now that the Veterans Memorial demolition is complete, the reprocessing equipment can be used on projects at other Ohio locations, since the material recycling plant is mobile.

“We are pleased that JDM Services was able to utilize OAQDA revenue bond funds for this clean air equipment that will be used in many projects across Ohio. This project is a terrific example of how businesses can use low interest financing from the State through OAQDA to preserve and protect air quality while benefitting the company’s bottom line,” Chadwick Smith, OAQDA executive director, said.

Dinneen added that the cost of demolition projects and the rebuilding projects that follow can be reduced when concrete is recycled from the original site. Further, he said making the demolition and waste removal process less expensive will allow more projects to affordably reduce air pollutants that would otherwise be created.

“This funding helped us provide clean air benefits to our customers in Ohio and the people who reside in and around our projects,” Dinneen added.

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The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) is a non-regulatory government agency created to help Ohio businesses comply with clean air regulations. Since its creation in 1970, the Authority has provided technical and financial help to hundreds of large and small Ohio businesses, awarding more than \$8 billion to finance air quality projects. For more information about OAQDA and its services, please visit its web site at www.ohioairquality.org.