



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OAQDA Approves up to \$5.2 Million in Bond Financing for Five Clean Air Projects

COLUMBUS – Two Columbus office buildings and three small Ohio businesses in Hamilton, Richland and Franklin counties were approved today by the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) for a total up to \$5,210,000 to install new equipment that will save energy, improve energy efficiency and preserve air quality. The projects were approved by the Authority members during the July board meeting.

“OAQDA is pleased to support these five Ohio businesses as they work to improve the environment for employees, customers and their communities. The projects include both large and small private sector companies that are using different financing mechanisms available through the Authority aimed at preserving air quality while attaining operational efficiencies for economic growth opportunities,” Christina O’Keeffe, OAQDA Executive Director, said.

An office building located at 200 Civic Center Dr., Columbus will utilize up to \$3.4 million in property assessed clean energy (PACE) to upgrade air handlers, modernize elevators, and replace the building’s chillers. The building’s owner, CC 13, LLC, will work with the PACE lender, Clean Fund, to implement the financing.

PACE enhances financial transactions by securing the energy-saving technologies and improvements to the building through a voluntary assessment requested by the property owner and in coordination with local approvals by the community.

A second office building, located a 5165 Emerald Parkway in Dublin, OH and owned by 970 High Ridge Associates, will utilize the PACE financing tool to undergo replacement and installation of HVAC units, installation of new LED lighting, and upgrades to the building’s automation system. The \$1.35 million project approved by OAQDA will be executed in coordination with the lender, Capital PACE Finance.

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OAQDA Approves Clean Air Financing

In addition to the PACE projects, the Authority also approved financing for three Clean Air Resource Center (CARC) projects:

- Roto Group, a small business with 76 employees located at 7001 Discovery Blvd., Dublin, OH, that designs and builds museum exhibits and interactive displays primarily for science centers, children's museums and collecting museum markets, will utilize up to \$80,000 to purchase and install a new paint booth to enhance production and control air contaminants.
- Baker's Collision Repair Specialists, a 66-year-old family-owned business located at 595 Fifth Ave., Mansfield, was approved for up to \$130,000 to purchase and install a new spray booth that will increase production and create two-three new jobs at the shop, which currently has 37 employees.
- Blue Ash Auto Body, located at 11110 Lushek Dr., Cincinnati, will utilize up to \$250,000 to replace two outdated paint booths with two new spray booths using environmentally-friendly waterborne paints and to add a double prep area. This project will allow the business, which has operated for 43 years and currently employs nine people, to double the size of its staff while providing a safer, healthier environment for employees and customers.

CARC provides funding to qualified small businesses that emit less than 75 tons of regulated pollutants and less than 50 tons of any single regulated pollutant annually and have fewer than 100 employees. In addition to the financing approval, each CARC project is eligible to receive grants to cover closing costs and the first principal payment, up to \$30,000, related to the OAQDA bond financing.

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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