



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THREE OHIO SMALL BUSINESSES RECEIVE FINANCING APPROVAL FOR CLEAN AIR EQUIPMENT

COLUMBUS – Three small Ohio businesses in Montgomery, Franklin and Medina counties were approved yesterday by the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) for a total up to \$265,000 in bond financing and up to \$72,000 in grant assistance to purchase new air quality control equipment. The support is made possible through the small business program of OAQDA, known as the Clean Air Resource Center (CARC). One project involves a Dayton-area business that is rebuilding following tornado devastation earlier this year.

“OAQDA works closely with large and small businesses to help them comply with federal environmental standards to improve the air quality of their communities. The three projects recently approved are wonderful examples of our partnership with the small business community through our Clean Air Resource Center program that assists in financing equipment to provide safer, healthier work environments while maximizing economic opportunities,” Christina O’Keeffe, OAQDA Executive Director, said.

The projects approved include:

- KAP Signs, a Dayton-based custom manufacturer of large illuminated and non-illuminated signs, which was severely damaged by a May 27 tornado. The small business, which has served the Dayton community for 44 years from its location at 1608 Kuntz Rd., is rebuilding in a new facility because of the destruction to the building. Approved financing of up to \$125,000, and grant assistance up to \$30,000 through CARC will assist KAP Signs with a new, environmentally-friendly paint booth to assist the company in restarting operations and returning its 14 employees to work.

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Three Ohio Businesses Receive Approval

- Worthington Cleaners, 899 N. High St., Columbus, a 30-year-old dry cleaning business, was approved for up to \$60,000 in financing and \$18,000 in grant assistance to purchase and install a new efficient, multi-solvent dry cleaning equipment that eliminates the use of perchloroethylene (PERC), which is considered a hazardous chemical. The new equipment is designed to save costs of acquisition and operation, while at the same time protecting the environment.
- Superior Cleaners, a Medina County family-owned dry cleaning business in operation since 2001. The business, located at 3725 Medina Rd., Medina, will utilize up to \$80,000 in financing and up to \$24,000 in grant assistance to replace an old machine that uses PERC with a safer, environmentally-friendly machine using a safer, alcohol-based solvent.

Both dry cleaning companies are working with Ohio EPA to obtain the required permitting for installation and operation of the new equipment.

CARC is a program offered by OAQDA and tailored specifically to assist small businesses in complying with federal clean air requirements. The program 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.

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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