



CLEAN AIR & CLEAN ENERGY  
ARE GOOD BUSINESS

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**Fifty-year-old Cleveland Small Business Approved for Financing from OAQDA**  
*Protecting the Environment Motivates Dry Cleaner to Replace Old Equipment*

COLUMBUS – A family-owned dry cleaning business which has operated in Cleveland for 50 years was approved at the April meeting of the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) for up to \$48,000 in clean air financing for new equipment.

Henry’s Cleaners, 11601 Kinsman Rd., was approved for up to \$48,000 purchase and install equipment that uses environmentally-friendly cleaning solvents to preserve and protect the environment for customers and employees. The financing was approved through OAQDA’s Clean Air Resource Center (CARC).

“The Henry’s Cleaners project is a wonderful example of the partnerships that OAQDA develops with small Ohio businesses through the Clean Air Resource Center to help them tackle the financial challenges of meeting federal regulations and encourage their economic growth,” Christina O’Keeffe, OAQDA executive director, said.

The business, originally established in 1969 by Henry Bufford, grandfather of current owner Eric Warren, has operated at the same Kinsman Rd. location for 50 years. Henry’s Cleaners will use the CARC financing to purchase and install a new cleaning system that uses biodegradable, environmentally-friendly solvents and eliminates the use of perchloroethylene (PERC), which is considered a hazardous chemical. Elimination of PERC is a priority of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the dry cleaning industry.

“I began working with my grandfather in 1994, and we worked diligently together in the business and in the community. When my grandfather died in 2005, I became sole proprietor of the business

and continue his commitment to the community in customer service,” Eric Warren, president of Henry’s, said.

“This financing from OAQDA allows us to create a safer environment for employees and customers by eliminating hazardous waste and preserving the quality of the air,” he added.

“Henry’s Cleaners is taking a step in the right direction with this project to preserve our air quality, in an effort to sustain a healthy environment for employees and customers. I am pleased to see Ohio businesses making clean air and energy efficiency a priority for our communities,” said State Sen. Sandra Williams, (D-Cleveland).

“We are pleased by the energy efficiency commitments of Henry’s Cleaners to preserve Ohio’s environment and to reduce energy consumption,” State Rep. Janine Boyd, (D-Cleveland Heights).

Henry’s Cleaners has two fulltime employees. Warren said his family, including his mother, whose father was the founder, helps with much of the day-to-day work of the business.

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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](http://www.ohioairquality.org).