



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **OAQDA Approves Three Ohio Businesses for a Total of up to \$11.77 Million in Financing**

COLUMBUS – Businesses in Hamilton, Clermont and Defiance counties seeking to preserve the quality of the state’s air and become more energy efficient were approved today by the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) for up to \$11.77 million in clean air financing.

“We are excited about the projects approved today because they are representative of the variety of financing opportunities OAQDA offers to Ohio small and large businesses seeking to become clean air facilities. Our mission leverages both economic and environmental opportunities to serve business and public entities across Ohio,” Christina O’Keeffe, OAQDA Executive Director, said.

Two large projects, Forest Hills Care Center and Clermont Realty Health, will utilize property assessed clean energy (PACE) in coordination with their lenders. PACE is an innovative mechanism for securing energy efficiency improvements through voluntary assessments placed by owners on commercial or residential property.

JZB Realty Holding Co., LLC (doing business as Forest Hills Care Center), 8700 Moran Rd., Cincinnati, received approval for up to \$4.7 million in PACE financing for energy efficiency improvements and the addition of a solar array on the roof of the senior assisted living facility. These improvements are part of a \$12.34 million investment being made by parent company Premier Health Care Management. The project is an addition of 80,000 square feet to the existing facility.

Clermont Health Realty, 100 Pond View Dr., Amelia, was approved for up to \$7 million for energy efficiency financing at a new 109,000 square foot, 113 bed skilled nursing facility that will employ 55-60 full time positions. The PACE financing at the new facility will be used for an HVAC system, windows, lighting, wall insulation and a high efficiency domestic hot water system.

A family-owned dry cleaner in Defiance County was approved for up to \$76,000 from the Clean Air Resource Center (CARC). Mercury Cleaners, 123 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Defiance, will replace an existing dry cleaning machine with a new system that will reduce energy consumption and also cut hazardous emissions.

CARC provides funding to qualified small businesses that emit less than 75 tons of all 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](http://www.ohioairquality.org)