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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 83
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 83's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Agriculture and Conservation

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Williams and Rulli

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency will experience some administrative costs associated with completing additional brownfield assessments permitted under the bill. For that purpose, the bill appropriates \$150,000 GRF in FY 2022, which may offset those costs, either in whole or in part.

Detailed Analysis

The bill appropriates \$150,000 in FY 2022 to newly created GRF appropriation item 715603, Brownfield Assessment, to assist the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) in conducting Phase I property assessments of brownfield sites in the state. Any funds not encumbered or expended at the end of FY 2022 may be carried over for use during FY 2023. According to Ohio EPA staff, such assessments are currently offered at no cost to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis.¹ Assessments can cost between \$5,000 to \$8,000 each. However, funding constraints currently limit the number of assessments that are undertaken each year.

Under the bill, these additional assessments will be made available to a county, township, municipal corporation, or conservancy district or a park district, other similar park authority, nonprofit organization, or organization for profit that has entered into an agreement with a county, township, municipal corporation, port authority, or conservancy district to work in conjunction with that county, township, municipal corporation, port authority, or conservancy

¹ Eligibility criteria are found at Ohio EPA's website detailing the [Grant-Funded Brownfield Assistance Program](#).

district for the purposes of completing a Phase I property assessment.² Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ohio EPA is required to complete and submit a report listing the applicants that received funding for a Phase I property assessment to the General Assembly by July 1, 2023, and to make it publicly available on the agency's website.

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² Ohio Administrative Code 3745-300-06 states that the purpose of a Phase I property assessment is to determine whether there is any reason to believe that any releases of hazardous substances or petroleum have or may have occurred on or from a property including any release due to management, handling, treatment, storage, or disposal activities from on or off-property activities.