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Newsroom: Press Releases

Press Release of Senator Lautenberg

Senators Lautenberg and Corzine Announce 800 Thousand Dollars for Brownfield Sites in New Jersey

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, United States Senators Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Jon S. Corzine (D-NJ) announced \$800,000 in new federal grants from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for three Brownfield sites in New Jersey.

The three grants will go to help revitalize blighted areas in Essex County, Roselle and Trenton. Officials of these three municipalities will determine how best to use these grants to assist in the clean up of Brownfield sites in their areas.

"In order to effectively clean up these contaminated sites federal investment is essential. These grants will help clean up the neighborhoods where families live, and they will create much needed jobs and stimulate the economy," said Senator Lautenberg.

"Brownfield redevelopment is one of the most important tools we have to bring economic activity back to blighted areas by creating jobs, increasing tax revenues and cleaning up pollution. There are thousands of Brownfield sites throughout our state, and it is essential that the federal government partner with the state and counties and municipalities to foster clean ups and redevelopment," said Senator Corzine.

Brownfield sites are not heavily contaminated Superfund-type sites. Often they are moderately or lightly contaminated industrial and commercial sites that could be productively re-used if cleaned up. In addition, investment in the cleanup of these sites creates jobs, and preserves green space and open land.

There are potentially one million Brownfield sites in the United States, and at least 10,000 in New Jersey. EPA has estimated that remediation costs for all these sites exceed \$650 billion. The Chamber of Commerce estimates that, at the current rate of cleanup, it could take 10,000 years to clean up these properties

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