



May 12, 2022

Dear Chairs Hansen and Ingebrigtsen, and Conference Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HF4492/SF4062, the Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Bill. We are writing in support of the creation of a Community Based Brownfield grant program at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). We believe this grant program will encourage additional redevelopment opportunities throughout the state of Minnesota.

Minnesota is a leader among states in the redevelopment of brownfields. On average 38 private dollars are leveraged for every dollar in grant funding from DEED's current Contamination Cleanup and Investigation grant program. We would expect a similar result and benefit from the proposed Community Based Brownfield grant program. When brownfields are successfully redeveloped, local businesses thrive and new businesses open, providing jobs and tax base for Minnesota communities.

Minnesota Brownfield's mission is to promote, through education, research and partnerships the efficient cleanup and reuse of contaminated land. The organization was established in 2006 to promote the voluntary investigation, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites throughout the state of Minnesota.

Thank you for your ongoing support of remediation and redevelopment policy for the state of Minnesota. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, ekluesner@mnbrownfields.org

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Kluesner

Executive Director