



February 16, 2017

Ms. Shenine Mitchell  
290 Broadway, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Mitchell,

On behalf of the Brownfield Coalition of the Northeast (BCONE), I am pleased to provide this letter of support and commitment agreement for Bergen Community College's application under the Environmental Protection Agency's *Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training* grant program.

Bergen Community College is well known for its commitment to and success in enabling the community to develop a highly-skilled workforce through its job training programs. With New Jersey having the highest number of superfund sites nationally, we have a high need for skilled employees in the area of Brownfield's hazardous waste assessment and cleanup training.

BCONE's mission and objective is to provide education on the benefits of brownfield remediation and sustainable redevelopment and to work with member states from Rhode Island to Delaware and brownfield stakeholders to facilitate brownfield cleanups. BCONE members have extensive experience in the brownfield remediation and redevelopment process and include state regulatory agencies and brownfield practitioners in the fields of environmental remediation, land use consulting, real estate, law, and land development. Our member technical consulting firms have a history of employing green jobs training programs that supply well-trained, accredited, and certified entry-level technicians for a variety of brownfield and green energy jobs. BCONE is so pleased to be able to work with BCC as it applies to create a new training program in the northern part of New Jersey.

We are committed to the goals and objectives of the EPA grant and agree to provide services to help BCC's program achieve its stated outcomes. Specifically, BCONE will continue its involvement in the development of the proposed training and offer assistance in implementing the program through curriculum development, advisory council participation, and career fair participation. Our members can also provide internships, on-the-job training, and mentoring opportunities leading to the hiring of successful candidates in positions supporting Brownfield project skill demands.

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As we continue our work in this area, we will look to Bergen Community College as a preferential provider of job candidates to serve our employee recruitment professional needs. This project will create opportunities for training individuals in skill shortage areas while supporting the needs of a vital New Jersey industry. I hope you will strongly consider their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Jaffe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Steve Jaffe, President  
BCONE